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SENATE BILL 231 By
Jackson

HOUSE BILL 390
By White

AN ACT to designate a bridge on US Highway 43 in Lawrence County as the "Walt Watters Memorial Bridge".

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name certain highways and bridges in honor of those exemplary public servants who have contributed significantly to the growth and prosperity of their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, no Tennessean is more deserving of this honor than the late Mr. Walt Watters of Lawrence County; and

WHEREAS, known throughout Lawrenceburg as a fine gentleman and patriot, Mr. Watters fell victim to the July 1998 flood at the age of 73 years old; and

WHEREAS, a distinguished veteran, Mr. Watters served with distinction as a member of the United States Armed Forces during World War II, as he bravely fought to protect his country and the rights and freedoms of others suffering from oppression; and

WHEREAS, before his untimely death, Mr. Watters was an active member of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Walt Watters was a person of impeccable morals and irreproachable integrity, who worked assiduously to establish a brighter future for the good people of Lawrenceburg; and

WHEREAS, he was known to be a generous man who loved to share the bounty of his blessings with his friends and neighbors; an avid gardener and a man with a big heart, Mr. Watters was known to have provided homegrown vegetables from his garden to over fifty families in the Lawrenceburg community; and

WHEREAS, in appreciation of his meritorious service to this country and for his generosity to the people of Lawrenceburg and Lawrence County, the Board of Commissioners of the City of Lawrenceburg has petitioned this Body to name the aforementioned bridge as the "Walt Watters Memorial Bridge" to permanently commemorate Mr. Walt Watters's bountiful life of purpose and commitment; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly most heartily concurs with this excellent proposal; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the bridge spanning Shoal Creek on US Highway 43, which intersects with Garner Lane, Lee Avenue, and Evergreen Street, in the city of Lawrenceburg, in Lawrence County, is hereby designated as the "Walt Watters Memorial Bridge".

SECTION 2. The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating such bridge as the "Walt Watters Memorial Bridge".

SECTION 3. The erection of such directional signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not

render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001, the public welfare requiring it.