

HOUSE BILL 23
By Bunch

AN ACT to designate a segment of State Route 58 in Hamilton County as the "Bobby Wood Parkway".

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

WHEREAS, no Tennessean is more deserving of this honor than our beloved colleague, Bobby G. Wood, who represented the 26th House District in Hamilton County with distinction for 28 years; and

WHEREAS, having served with great distinction in the 90th through the 103rd General Assemblies, Representative Wood has taken a much deserved retirement from his legislative duties; and

WHEREAS, as the senior member of the House Republican Caucus, his service to and concern for his constituents was indeed unparalleled; and

WHEREAS, during his long career in the House of Representatives, Bobby Wood served at one time or another on the House standing committees of State and Local Government, Commerce, Education, Transportation, Finance, Ways and Means, and Government Operations, as well as on the Fiscal Review Committee and a number of important subcommittees; his colleagues on both sides of the aisle accorded him high marks for his legislative acumen, skill in debate, and thorough knowledge of complex state government issues; and

WHEREAS, Representative Wood sponsored or supported such important legislation as the Home School Act, the Tennessee Public Television Act, the Tennessee Environmental

Clean-Tennessee Act, and the Tennessee Uniform Discipline Code, a seven-bill package to combat school violence, to name a few; in 2000 he sponsored legislation to bring TennCare benefits in line with the state healthcare plan; and

WHEREAS, possessing a deep religious faith and a pristine sense of ethics and honor, he was recognized as the "Conscience of the House," and he founded the weekly Legislative Devotional, a revered institution on Capitol Hill; and

WHEREAS, throughout his long and estimable legislative career, Representative Wood demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his constituents and his colleagues in the House of Representatives, as well as the members of the Senate; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Wood is truly a man of the people, and his commitment to the health and prosperity of his fellow citizens is both stalwart and exemplary; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should commemorate the bountiful legislative career of Bobby G. Wood, a gentleman who continues to live a life of purpose and conviction; now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, that segment of State Route 58 in Hamilton County from such route's intersection with State Route 153 northeasterly to the Hamilton County – Meigs County boundary is hereby designated the "Bobby Wood Parkway" as a lasting tribute to an excellent legislator and even more accomplished human being.

SECTION 2. The department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating such segment of State Route 58 in Hamilton County as the "Bobby Wood Parkway".

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 upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.