

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 472

By Casada

A RESOLUTION to name a bridge in Williamson County in honor of the late Staff Sergeant Timothy H. Walker, United States Army.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name certain highways and bridges to honor the memory of those courageous members of the United States Armed Forces who gave their lives in the defense of our nation; and

WHEREAS, no person is more deserving of this honor than the late Staff Sergeant Timothy H. Walker of Headquarters and Headquarters Company 64<sup>th</sup> Brigade Support Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Combat Team, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, United States Army; and

WHEREAS, on November 8, 2008, Staff Sergeant Timothy H. Walker lost his life in combat while serving his second tour of duty in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, in the years following his enlistment in 1990, Staff Sergeant Walker, a combat medic, received numerous awards and commendations, including a Purple Heart, two Bronze Stars, a Meritorious Service Medal, six Army Commendation Medals, and six Army Achievement Medals; and

WHEREAS, those who best knew Timothy Walker, a native of Fairview, ascribe to him many of those qualities that make not only a fine soldier but a good man as well: caring, dedicated, present, supportive, humble, and joyful; and

WHEREAS, like thousands of others of this nation's sons and daughters, Staff Sergeant Walker did not shrink from serving in combat, believing in the justice of the cause to protect our national security and to secure the freedom of the Iraqi people; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Walker served with great courage and gallantry, and as a member of the United States Army, he proudly continued an essential tradition of American society: the concept of the citizen-soldier; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Walker's dedication to excellence in the military and his love of his family, his fellow soldiers and his country stand as enduring examples of all the characteristics that have ensured the continued freedom of our nation and the preservation of its ideals over the course of our history; and

WHEREAS, in a supreme expression of these noble qualities, Staff Sergeant Timothy Walker gave his life for his country, so that its people might enjoy all the fruits of freedom and democracy, and his sacrifice stands as a testament to the power and beauty of these high ideals; and

WHEREAS, this body and the Williamson County Board of Commissioners concur that Staff Sergeant Walker is deserving of posthumous recognition, such tribute to be an expression of our collective gratitude for his ultimate sacrifice in service of this nation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that the bridge presently under construction on Deer Ridge Road in Williamson County that will span State Route 840 is hereby designated the "SSG Timothy H. Walker Memorial Bridge" in recognition of the life of valor and death in combat of the late Staff Sergeant Timothy H. Walker, United States Army.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating the bridge described in the first resolving clause as the "SSG Timothy H. Walker Memorial Bridge". The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, § 54-1-133.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the

provisions of this resolution shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an enrolled copy of this resolution be transmitted to the commissioner of transportation.