

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 863

By Johnson P

A RESOLUTION to name a bridge on State Route 12 in Cheatham County in honor of the late Sheriff Dorris Weakley.

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 exemplary public servants who, during their lifetime, contributed significantly to the growth and prosperity of their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, no Tennessean is more deserving of this honor than the late Sheriff Dorris Weakley, one of the most dedicated and proficient public servants to ever hail from Cheatham County; and

WHEREAS, Dorris Weakley was a farmer and a public servant his entire adult life, serving as a magistrate, justice of the peace, and school bus driver, although he was most renowned for his exemplary service as Sheriff of Cheatham County for eighteen years; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Weakley served as Vice President of the Tennessee Sheriffs Association, was a member of the Cheatham Farmers Co-op Board of Directors, Cheatham County Farm Bureau Board of Directors, Oak Manor Senior Citizen Apartments Board of Directors, and was active in numerous other civic and charitable organizations; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Weakley touched many young lives and made a positive impact in his community through the Dorris Weakley Scholarship Fund, which he founded in 1986. These scholarships are still awarded to graduating high school seniors in Cheatham County today; and

WHEREAS, Sherriff Weakley lived his entire life within a mile of the Dry Fork Creek Bridge on State Route 12, and it is thus most appropriate that such bridge should bear his honorable name, in accordance with the wishes of the Cheatham County Legislative Body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that the bridge spanning Dry Fork Creek on State Route 12 in the Bethel community of Cheatham County is hereby designated the "Sheriff Dorris Weakley Memorial Bridge" as a lasting tribute to a singular public servant and even more accomplished human being.

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 "Sheriff Dorris Weakley Memorial Bridge".

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 this resolution shall become operative only if the cost of the manufacture and installation of such signs is paid to the department of transportation from non-state funds within one (1) year of the effective date of this resolution. Such payment shall be made prior to any expenditure by the state for the manufacture or installation of such signs. The department shall return any unused portion of the estimated cost to the person or entity paying for such signs within thirty (30) days of the erection of such signs. If the actual cost exceeds the estimated cost, an amount equal to the difference in such costs shall be remitted to the department in non-state funds within thirty (30) days of the sponsoring person or entity receiving an itemized invoice of the actual cost from the department.

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