

SENATE BILL 3689

By Yager

AN ACT to name a bridge on State Route 62 in Morgan County in honor of the late Sergeant First Class Scott James Brown, 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 while serving our nation; and

WHEREAS, no person is more deserving of this honor than the late Sergeant First Class (SFC) Scott James Brown, United States Army, who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country on May 18, 2007, in Iraq while serving his fifth combat tour of duty; and

WHEREAS, SFC Brown followed the patriotic tradition for which Morgan County and the Volunteer State are renowned by enlisting in the United States Army in March 1998; and

WHEREAS, after completing basic training, SFC Brown was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division, 1st Battalion, 325th Parachute Infantry Regiment as an automatic rifleman; and

WHEREAS, he then served with distinction as a platoon leader with Alpha Company, 2nd Brigade Combat Team; a natural leader, his tactical experience was a great asset to his commanders and an excellent example for his subordinates; and

WHEREAS, from February 15 to July 31, 2003, during Operation Iraqi Freedom, SFC Brown served as the 3rd Squad Leader for 3rd Platoon, A Company during combat and stability and support operations in Iraq, and his continuous personal efforts were instrumental in accomplishing the Company's mission and the 82nd Airborne Division's drive on Baghdad, which resulted in the desired regime change; and

WHEREAS, fondly remember by his colleagues and subordinates alike for his energy, humor, and personal attention to them, SFC Brown was a highly decorated soldier who had

been awarded the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Army Good Conduct Medal with one clasp, the Army Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the National Defense Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Kosovo Campaign Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War an Terrorism Service Medal, the Non Commissioned Officer's Professional Development Ribbon W-2, the Army Service Ribbon, the NATO Medal, the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Expert Infantryman Badge, the Master Parachutist's Badge, the Senior Parachutist Badge, the Presidential Unit Citation Award, and the Valorous Unit Award; and

WHEREAS, SFC Brown served with great courage and gallantry, giving his life for his country and for the cause in which he believed, and for that ultimate sacrifice, he deserves proper recognition; 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, SFC Brown's dedication to excellence in the military and his love of his family, his fellow soldiers, and country, exemplified in his sacrifice of life itself in defense of all that he held dear, 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, Scott Brown selflessly gave his life while serving his country, and it is thus most appropriate that a certain bridge on State Route 62 in his home county of Morgan, should be named to honor his memory; now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. Upon the adoption of a resolution by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) majority vote by the Morgan County Commission, Bridge No. 65-SR062-22.60 spanning Flat Fork Creek on State Route 62 in Morgan County is hereby designated the "Scott James Brown Memorial Bridge" in recognition of the life of valor and death in combat of Sergeant First Class Scott James Brown, United States Army, one of Tennessee's most heroic citizens.

SECTION 2. Upon the Morgan County Commission adopting a resolution as provided for in Section 1, the department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating the bridge described in Section 1 as the "Scott James Brown Memorial Bridge". The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, § 54-1-133.

SECTION 3. The erection of such 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.