

HOUSE BILL 2

By Travis

AN ACT to designate a segment of U.S. Highway 27 in Rhea County as the "Veterans Memorial Highway".

WHEREAS, since the birth of our great nation, hundreds of thousands of brave American men and women have served their country in the United States Armed Forces, and many continue this legacy of service today, defending the most inviolate principles of human freedom and democracy; and

WHEREAS, their meritorious service continues the time-honored tradition of Tennessee volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, throughout the years, the intrepid and valiant members of the United States Armed Forces have continued to inspire our confidence, loyalty, and support; and

WHEREAS, from Valley Forge to Iraq, Afghanistan, and the war-torn nations of Africa, Eastern Europe, and the Middle East, our armed forces have unselfishly paid the price of freedom for their friends and families and for all of us; and

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that we should honor those courageous men and women who have made many sacrifices to preserve the blessed freedoms we enjoy today and that our progeny will hopefully continue to cherish for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, Public Chapter 607 of the Public Acts of 2012 named a segment of U.S. Highway 27 in the City of Dayton and Rhea County the Veterans Memorial Highway; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly wishes to name the remaining portion of U.S. Highway 27 in the City of Dayton and Rhea County that is not otherwise designated in memory of those brave sons and daughters who sacrificed personal concerns and their safety, with many of them giving their lives, so that we might enjoy the many bounties of democracy and the American way of life; now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. The segment of U.S. Highway 27 within Rhea County that is not otherwise named pursuant to Chapter 607 of the Public Acts of 2012, or any other law, is hereby designated the "Veterans Memorial Highway" in honor of their many brave sons and daughters who have served this great country in the United States Armed Forces.

SECTION 2. The department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating the segment of U.S. Highway 27 described in Section 1 as the "Veterans Memorial Highway".

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 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 act. 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.

SECTION 6. The appellation "Veterans Memorial Highway" provided for in this act is for honorary purposes only and nothing contained herein shall be construed as requiring the alteration of any address, or the governmental system for assigning addresses, in any county, municipality or other governmental entity affected by this act.

SECTION 7. Nothing contained in this act shall be construed as requiring the alteration of any previously named segment or segments of any highway described in this act as the "Veterans Memorial Highway".

SECTION 8. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.