

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Indiana Department of Transportation to rename a bridge overpass over US 31 in Marshall County the "Owen Abbott Memorial Bridge".

**DORIOT, BOHACEK, DONATO,
MISHLER**

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



Introduced

Second Regular Session 123rd General Assembly (2024)

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RESOLUTION No. _____**

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Indiana
2 Department of Transportation to rename a railroad bridge
3 overpass over US 31 in Marshall County the "Owen Abbott
4 Memorial Bridge".

5 *Whereas, Owen Abbott was born May 2, 2005, in Winamac,*
6 *Indiana, to Dean Abbott, Jr., and Britni Fritz;*

7 *Whereas, An active eighth-grade student at Winamac*
8 *Community Middle School, Owen was a member of the school*
9 *football team, played baseball for Star City Little League on the*
10 *All-Star team, was a member of the Pulaski County 4-H*
11 *program, and enjoyed both hunting and shooting;*

12 *Whereas, On December 5, 2018, Owen was traveling to*
13 *Warsaw on a field trip with other Winamac Community Middle*
14 *School students when the school bus he was riding in made a*
15 *mandatory stop at a rail crossing on US 31 near Argos,*
16 *Indiana, and was hit from behind by a truck driver, fatally*
17 *injuring Owen;*

18 *Whereas, Between 2018 and 2022, there were seven major*
19 *crashes involving vehicles legally required to stop at this*
20 *particular railroad crossing, resulting in 38 injuries and the*
21 *loss of Owen;*

22 *Whereas, On April 21, 2023, The Indiana Department of*
23 *Transportation (INDOT) broke ground to begin a \$28 million*
24 *project including the construction of a railroad overpass in*
25 *place of the dangerous intersection, with an expectation for the*



1 *overpass to prevent similar tragedies in the future; and*

2 *Whereas, It is fitting for INDOT and the State of Indiana to*
3 *honor Owen by naming the new railroad bridge overpass over*
4 *US 31 in Marshall County the "Owen Abbott Memorial*
5 *Bridge": Therefore,*

6 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly*
7 *of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives*
8 *concurring:*

9 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly urges the
10 Indiana Department of Transportation to rename a bridge
11 overpass over US 31 in Marshall County the "Owen Abbott
12 Memorial Bridge".

13 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed
14 to transmit copies of this Resolution to Britni Fritz, Nick Fritz,
15 Dean Abbott, Jr., and the Commissioner of the Indiana
16 Department of Transportation.

