
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1091 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY WENTLING, ROAE, BIZZARRO, MERSKI, HARKINS, SONNEY,
BOBACK, SAINATO, JAMES, HILL-EVANS, LONGIETTI, KIM, CAUSER,
MALONEY, RYAN, COX, MOUL, HEFFLEY, FREEMAN, PENNYCUICK,
SOLOMON, MILLARD, JOZWIAK AND SAYLOR, APRIL 5, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, APRIL 5, 2021

AN ACT

1 Designating the entire portion of US Route 20 in Pennsylvania,
2 beginning at the Pennsylvania-Ohio State Line and ending at
3 the Pennsylvania-New York State Line, as the Pennsylvania
4 Medal of Honor Highway.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Pennsylvania Medal of Honor Highway.

8 (a) Findings.--The General Assembly finds and declares as
9 follows:

10 (1) The Medal of Honor is our nation's highest award for
11 valor presented to veterans of the armed forces of the United
12 States for acting with conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity
13 above and beyond the call of duty at the risk of one's life
14 during combat with an enemy of the United States.

15 (2) The Medal of Honor is widely respected by the
16 military and public alike.

17 (3) Three hundred twenty-one Medal of Honor recipients
18 were born in Pennsylvania, 382 recipients entered service

1 from Pennsylvania and 241 recipients were laid to rest in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 (4) Pennsylvania's Medal of Honor recipients served
4 during 14 wars, from the Civil War to the Iraq War, over a
5 period of more than 145 years.

6 (5) The nonprofit Bend Heroes Foundation and the Oregon
7 Legislature created a law designating all 451 miles of the
8 border-to-border US Route 20 in Oregon as the Oregon Medal of
9 Honor Highway, a first in our nation to honor all of a
10 state's Medal of Honor recipients.

11 (6) The Oregon law proposes a national Medal of Honor
12 Highway to be created on US Route 20 at 3,365 miles in
13 length.

14 (7) If all 11 states east of Oregon through which US
15 Route 20 traverses designate border-to-border Medal of Honor
16 Highways in their states, the highway would constitute the
17 longest highway in the United States dedicated to our Medal
18 of Honor heroes.

19 (8) Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska, Iowa and Indiana
20 have designated and dedicated state Medal of Honor Highways
21 and, together with Oregon, account for nearly 70% of the
22 distance across our nation. Massachusetts is currently
23 proposing the dedication of its state Medal of Honor Highway.

24 (9) Pennsylvania has the second-highest number of Medal
25 of Honor recipients of any state but has not dedicated a
26 border-to-border highway honoring all of Pennsylvania's Medal
27 of Honor recipients.

28 (10) A 45-mile, border-to-border Pennsylvania Medal of
29 Honor Highway designated on US Route 20 would honor our
30 Commonwealth's current and future Medal of Honor recipients

1 and advances a 3,365-mile National Medal of Honor Highway
2 across America between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.

3 (11) Pennsylvania deeply appreciates the service and
4 sacrifice of its Medal of Honor recipients and the positive
5 roles they played in their communities for more than 145
6 years.

7 (b) Designation.--The entire portion, 45.433 miles, of US
8 Route 20 in Pennsylvania, beginning at the Pennsylvania-Ohio
9 State Line and ending at the Pennsylvania-New York State Line,
10 is designated as the Pennsylvania Medal of Honor Highway.

11 (c) Signs.--The Department of Transportation shall erect and
12 maintain appropriate signs displaying the name of the highway to
13 traffic in both directions on the highway.

14 Section 2. Effective date.

15 This act shall take effect in 60 days.