

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2207 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY SIMMONS, HENNESSEY, GREINER, DUSH, SONNEY, COHEN, REGAN, PICKETT, MURT, KINSEY, VEREB, CORBIN, MACKENZIE, D. COSTA, LONGIETTI, BAKER, DRISCOLL, WATSON, HICKERNELL, O'NEILL, NEILSON, JAMES, READSHAW, GROVE, CONKLIN, MILLARD, KNOWLES, PAYNE, HARHART, WHEELAND, DONATUCCI, MARSICO, MAJOR, SAYLOR, STAATS, HAHN, GILLEN, PHILLIPS-HILL AND WHITE, JUNE 22, 2016

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, JUNE 22, 2016

AN ACT

1 Designating a portion of State Route 378 in Lehigh and
 2 Northampton Counties as the Charles P. Bednarik Memorial
 3 Highway.

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

6 Section 1. Charles P. Bednarik Memorial Highway.

7 (a) Findings.--The General Assembly finds as follows:

8 (1) Charles P. Bednarik was born May 1, 1925, in
 9 Bethlehem and later graduated from Bethlehem (Liberty) High
 10 School, where he was an outstanding scholar athlete.

11 (2) Mr. Bednarik proudly served in the United States
 12 Army Air Corps during World War II as a gunner aboard a B24
 13 bomber, flying in 30 missions over Germany. He earned an Air
 14 Medal with four oak leaf clusters as well as five battle
 15 stars.

16 (3) Upon his return from service with the Army, Mr.

1 Bednarik continued his academic and football career at the
2 University of Pennsylvania, where he was a two-time All-
3 American and earned the Maxwell Award as the nation's most
4 outstanding player.

5 (4) The last of pro football's 60-minute men, Mr.
6 Bednarik was the first player picked in the 1949 National
7 Football League (NFL) draft, selected by the Philadelphia
8 Eagles.

9 (5) During his 14 seasons with the Eagles, Mr. Bednarik
10 won two NFL championships.

11 (6) Mr. Bednarik's performance in the 1960 championship
12 game is one of NFL legend. He was on the field for every
13 offensive and defensive play, making the game-saving tackle
14 of Jim Taylor to preserve the Eagles' 17-13 victory.

15 (7) In 1967, Mr. Bednarik was elected into the Pro
16 Football Hall of Fame, and his election into the College
17 Football Hall of Fame followed in 1969. Mr. Bednarik is also
18 a member of both the University of Pennsylvania Hall of Fame
19 and the Lehigh Valley Hall of Fame.

20 (8) The college football defensive player of the year
21 award, given annually, is named after Mr. Bednarik.

22 (b) Designation.--The section of State Route 378 in Lehigh
23 and Northampton Counties from the Bethlehem city line to State
24 Route 309, Segment 0010, Offset 0021, to Segment 0050, Offset
25 1077, is hereby designated the Charles P. Bednarik Memorial
26 Highway.

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

30 Section 2. Effective date.

1 This act shall take effect in 60 days.