
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2631 Session of
2022

INTRODUCED BY BURNS, HILL-EVANS, KINSEY, LONGIETTI, RIGBY,
ROZZI, RYAN AND NEILSON, MAY 27, 2022

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, MAY 27, 2022

AN ACT

1 Designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 45635, on that
2 portion of S.R. 1036, also known as Rowena Drive, over
3 Howells Run at Lake Rowena, Ebensburg Borough, Cambria
4 County, as the Charles J. Vizzini Memorial Bridge.

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

7 Section 1. Charles J. Vizzini Memorial Bridge.

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

10 (1) Charles J. Vizzini was born March 8, 1924, to John
11 and Lillian Vizzini in Colver.

12 (2) He served in the United States Army during World War
13 II as a Private and was wounded twice.

14 (3) While fighting in France, Mr. Vizzini was struck in
15 the chest by bullets from a German automatic pistol and was
16 saved from serious injury and possible death by a Catholic
17 Bible in his left breast pocket and a Catholic missal in his
18 right breast pocket when bullets penetrated both books.

19 (4) After returning to Cambria County, Mr. Vizzini went

1 on to graduate from Cambria Rowe Business College and later
2 worked for a time as a coal miner and steelworker, in this
3 Commonwealth's Ebensburg Center and eventually at the
4 Department of Auditor General for more than 25 years.

5 (5) A passionate advocate for his fellow veterans, Mr.
6 Vizzini served as Commander of Ebensburg Post 4963, Veterans
7 of Foreign Wars, and organized annual Veterans Day memorial
8 services as well as memorial services for the anniversary of
9 the bombing of Pearl Harbor and to honor the memory of fellow
10 Cambria County native Marine Sergeant Michael Strank, who
11 helped to raise the United States flag at Iwo Jima.

12 (6) A caring member of his community, Mr. Vizzini
13 organized memorial services to honor the 63 miners who died
14 in the 1940 Sonman Mines explosion in Portage and was
15 influential in honoring the 112 individuals who lost their
16 lives in the Cambria Steel Company's 1902 Rolling Mine Mill
17 explosion in Johnstown.

18 (7) Mr. Vizzini was well-known throughout his community,
19 most notably for his passionate advocacy for his fellow
20 veterans and for the residents of Cambria Township,
21 including, but not limited to, his efforts to keep this
22 Commonwealth's Ebensburg's Center open, his work with
23 Ebensburg's annual Christmas celebrations, particularly the
24 life-size nativity scene, his organization of the Northern
25 Cambria County Immigrants Day in Nanty Glo and his efforts to
26 clean Sandyvale Cemetery.

27 (8) Charles J. Vizzini passed away on August 11, 2009,
28 at the age of 85.

29 (9) A decorated military veteran, Mr. Vizzini's awards
30 include two Purple Hearts and one Bronze Star.

1 (b) Designation.--The bridge, identified as Bridge Key
2 45635, on that portion of S.R. 1036, also known as Rowena Drive,
3 over Howells Run at Lake Rowena, Ebensburg Borough, Cambria
4 County, is designated as the Charles J. Vizzini Memorial Bridge.

5 (c) Signs.--The Department of Transportation shall erect and
6 maintain appropriate signs displaying the name of the bridge to
7 traffic in both directions on the bridge.

8 Section 2. Effective date.

9 This act shall take effect in 60 days.