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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 1034 Session of  
2024

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INTRODUCED BY BAKER, ARGALL, CULVER, FLYNN, BOSCOLA, COMMITTA,  
PENNYCUICK, YAW, J. WARD, FARRY AND BROWN, JANUARY 5, 2024

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REFERRED TO TRANSPORTATION, JANUARY 5, 2024

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AN ACT

1 Designating a portion of State Route 3046, also known as the  
2 South Valley Parkway, from the intersection with Middle Road  
3 to the intersection with State Route 2008 in Hanover  
4 Township, Luzerne County, as the Senator John Yudichak  
5 Commerce Parkway.

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

8 Section 1. Senator John Yudichak Commerce Parkway.

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

11 (1) John Yudichak was elected to three terms in the  
12 Pennsylvania State Senate, serving from 2010 to 2022.

13 (2) Prior to his service in the Senate, he was elected  
14 to six terms in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives,  
15 serving from 1999 to 2010.

16 (3) Collectively, John Yudichak admirably and honorably  
17 represented Luzerne County in the General Assembly for 24  
18 years.

19 (4) During his time in office, John Yudichak tirelessly

1 worked on numerous projects benefiting not only the residents  
2 of his legislative district, but also those of Luzerne County  
3 and all of northeastern Pennsylvania.

4 (5) Of these endeavors, the largest and farthest-  
5 reaching project involved the remediation and redevelopment  
6 of the South Valley Corridor, located in the broader Wyoming  
7 Valley of Luzerne County.

8 (6) This work included founding the South Valley  
9 Partnership to develop a strategic economic development plan  
10 for the communities of the City of Nanticoke, Hanover  
11 Township, Newport Township, Ashley Borough, Sugar Notch  
12 Borough and Warrior Run Borough.

13 (7) The strategic plan fostered a spirit of regional  
14 collaboration to address the many challenges of municipal  
15 governments and led to the creation of the Lower South Valley  
16 Council of Governments.

17 (8) John Yudichak regularly worked closely with the  
18 Earth Conservancy and Federal, State and local governments on  
19 funding and projects to reclaim and remediate thousands of  
20 acres of mine-scarred land in the Wyoming Valley.

21 (9) Tens of millions of dollars were secured for this  
22 work which included the South Valley Corridor.

23 (10) Within the South Valley Corridor, John Yudichak  
24 worked with Federal, State, county and local officials to  
25 secure \$90 million in Federal and State transportation  
26 funding to construct the South Valley Parkway.

27 (11) The South Valley Parkway was constructed to  
28 alleviate traffic congestion and improve traffic safety along  
29 State Route 2008 and the project consisted of a new four-lane  
30 highway with a split diamond interchange, two bridges, one

1 culvert and several roundabouts.

2 (12) The economic development attached to the South  
3 Valley has netted \$1 billion in private investment, including  
4 numerous national and international companies locating to the  
5 immediate area.

6 (13) This surge of economic development has attracted  
7 more than 6,000 new jobs to Luzerne County, leading the  
8 Governor's Action Team, in 2021, to recognize northeastern  
9 Pennsylvania as the leading economic development region in  
10 this Commonwealth for private investment and job growth.

11 (b) Designation.--The portion of State Route 3046, also  
12 known as the South Valley Parkway, from the intersection with  
13 Middle Road to the intersection with State Route 2008 in Hanover  
14 Township, Luzerne County, is designated as the Senator John  
15 Yudichak Commerce Parkway.

16 (c) Signs.--The Department of Transportation shall erect and  
17 maintain appropriate signs displaying the name of the designated  
18 highway to traffic in both directions on the highway.

19 Section 2. Effective date.

20 This act shall take effect in 60 days.