

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1099 Session of 2022

INTRODUCED BY LANGERHOLC, FEBRUARY 24, 2022

REFERRED TO TRANSPORTATION, FEBRUARY 24, 2022

AN ACT

1 Designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 8672, on that
 2 portion of State Route 3045 over the South Branch Blacklick
 3 Creek, Vintondale Borough, Cambria County, as the John
 4 "Sonny" Kuhar, Jr., Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge,
 5 identified as Bridge Key 45635, on that portion of State
 6 Route 1036 over Howells Run at Lake Rowena, Ebensburg
 7 Borough, Cambria County, as the Ross W. Dixon Memorial
 8 Bridge; and designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key
 9 8604, on that portion of State Route 2014 over U.S. 22,
 10 Cambria County, as the Sheriff Bob Kolar, Sr., Memorial
 11 Bridge.

12 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 13 hereby enacts as follows:

14 Section 1. John "Sonny" Kuhar, Jr., Memorial Bridge.

15 (a) Findings.--The General Assembly finds and declares as
 16 follows:

17 (1) John Kuhar, Jr., was born on May 29, 1941, in
 18 Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

19 (2) Mr. Kuhar graduated from Nanty Glo-Vintondale Joint
 20 High School in 1959.

21 (3) In 1960, Mr. Kuhar began to work in law enforcement
 22 while working at Nevy Brothers Store in Vintondale.

23 (4) Mr. Kuhar served as a police officer in Vintondale

1 Borough from 1960 to 1976, Nanty Glo Borough from 1976 to
2 1988 and Blacklick Township from 1980 until his retirement in
3 2013.

4 (5) Mr. Kuhar served as Chief of Police in both
5 Vintondale Borough and Blacklick Township.

6 (6) In 1987, Mr. Kuhar joined the Cambria County
7 Sheriff's Office and served honorably until his death in
8 2020.

9 (7) During his dedicated 60-year law enforcement tenure,
10 Mr. Kuhar received numerous awards.

11 (8) Mr. Kuhar also received a Valor Award from the
12 Volunteer Firemen's Association of Cambria County and
13 Vicinity and the Police Officer of the Year Award from the
14 Nanty Glo Borough Police Department.

15 (9) Mr. Kuhar's Cambria County Deputy Sheriff's badge
16 number 13 is now retired.

17 (10) Mr. Kuhar was a lifelong resident of Vintondale
18 Borough, serving as mayor and constable, while also being a
19 lifetime member of the Vintondale Volunteer Fire Department.

20 (b) Designation.--The bridge, identified as Bridge Key 8672,
21 located on State Route 3045 in Vintondale Borough, Cambria
22 County, over the South Branch Blacklick Creek is designated the
23 John "Sonny" Kuhar, Jr., Memorial Bridge.

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

27 Section 2. Ross W. Dixon Memorial Bridge.

28 (a) Findings.--The General Assembly finds and declares as
29 follows:

30 (1) Mr. Ross W. Dixon was born on October 19, 1952, in

1 Spangler, Pennsylvania.

2 (2) Mr. Dixon followed in his father's footsteps,
3 serving as a part-time police officer with the Ebensburg
4 Borough Police Department.

5 (3) Mr. Dixon began his career with the Cambria County
6 Sheriff's Office in 2005, working several positions
7 throughout the Cambria County Courthouse.

8 (4) Throughout Mr. Dixon's nearly 50-year career in law
9 enforcement, he served as his father did with unconditional
10 kindness.

11 (5) Mr. Dixon was very active, well known and loved
12 throughout the Ebensburg community.

13 (6) Mr. Dixon taught karate, as well as coached baseball
14 and track.

15 (7) Mr. Dixon passed away from an on-duty exposure of
16 COVID-19 on February 9, 2021.

17 (8) At the time of his death, Deputy Ross Dixon was
18 employed full-time with the Cambria County Sheriff's Office.

19 (9) Mr. Ross W. Dixon's name will be formally dedicated
20 on the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial Wall in
21 Washington, DC in May of 2022.

22 (b) Designation.--The bridge, identified as Bridge Key
23 45635, located on State Route 1036 in Ebensburg Borough, Cambria
24 County, over Howells Run at Lake Rowena is designated the Ross
25 W. Dixon Memorial Bridge.

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

29 Section 3. Sheriff Bob Kolar, Sr., Memorial Bridge.

30 (a) Findings.--The General Assembly finds and declares as

1 follows:

2 (1) Robert "Bob" Alan Kolar, Sr., was born on February
3 14, 1945, in Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.

4 (2) Sheriff Kolar was a graduate of Bishop Carroll High
5 School located in Ebensburg.

6 (3) Sheriff Kolar went on to attend Mount Aloysius
7 College and Indiana University of Pennsylvania graduating
8 with a degree in criminology.

9 (4) Following graduation, Sheriff Kolar joined the
10 Marine Corps and served honorably for two years.

11 (5) When his military service came to an end, Sheriff
12 Kolar began his law enforcement career joining the
13 Pennsylvania State Police in 1968.

14 (6) Sheriff Kolar served as a Pennsylvania State Trooper
15 for 25 years.

16 (7) In his 25 years of service, Sheriff Kolar was
17 assigned to various Troops across this Commonwealth, but he
18 mainly served in Troop A based in Ebensburg and retired in
19 1992.

20 (8) Sheriff Kolar was first elected as Cambria County
21 sheriff in 1998.

22 (9) During his tenure, Sheriff Kolar served as a board
23 member of the National Sheriff's Association Domestic
24 Violence Committee, as the president of the Cambria County
25 Prison Board for 15 years and he was the first Sheriff
26 appointed to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and
27 Delinquency by the Governor in 2008.

28 (10) In 2016, Sheriff Kolar entered into a partnership
29 with the U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force and in 2017 he
30 received recognition for removing 150 criminals off the

1 street in the first year.

2 (11) During his time in office, Sheriff Bob Kolar was
3 chosen to provide security for United States Presidents
4 George W. Bush, Bill Clinton and Donald Trump when the
5 Presidents visited Cambria County.

6 (12) Sheriff Kolar served as the manager for Ebensburg
7 Little League Baseball for nine years.

8 (13) Mr. Kolar was a member of many clubs and
9 organizations and served on many committees such as the
10 Chiefs of Police Association, Fraternal Order of Police, the
11 Pennsylvania Sheriffs' Association, the National Sheriffs'
12 Association, the VFW, Marine Corps League, Vietnam Veterans
13 of America, the Moose, the Elks, the Eagles, the American
14 Legion and the National Rifle Association.

15 (14) Sheriff Kolar passed away on May 6, 2020, while
16 still serving the people of Cambria County as sheriff.

17 (15) Sheriff Kolar left behind a legacy of service and
18 commitment to the community that will be remembered for years
19 to come.

20 (16) Sheriff Kolar had the longest tenure as sheriff in
21 Cambria County history.

22 (b) Designation.--The bridge, identified as Bridge Key 8604,
23 located on State Route 2014, over U.S. 22, Cambria County, is
24 designated the Sheriff Bob Kolar, Sr., Memorial Bridge.

25 (c) Signs.--The Department of Transportation shall erect and
26 maintain appropriate signs displaying the name of the bridge to
27 traffic in both directions on the bridge and under the bridge
28 along U.S. 22.

29 Section 4. Effective date.

30 This act shall take effect in 60 days.