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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

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A N A C T

RELATING TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- RENAMING STATE ROUTE 37

Introduced By: Representatives Palumbo, Mattiello, and Marcello

Date Introduced: February 09, 2010

Referred To: House Constituent Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The House of Representative hereby finds and declares that:

2 (1) State Archeologists have determined that there are more than four thousand eight  
3 hundred people buried in "Potter's Field" cemeteries located on and nearby the John O. Pastore  
4 Center in Cranston; and

5 (2) These deceased citizens were, in life, wards of the State of Rhode Island and were  
6 subjected to involuntary servitude, stigma and shame; and

7 (3) Three thousand of these Potter's Graves were covered by fill and concrete during the  
8 construction of Route 37 across the Pastore Campus.

9 SECTION 2. Chapter 22-7.4 of the General Laws entitled "Permanent Joint Committee  
10 on Naming All New Buildings, Bridges, Edifices and Other State Constructions" is hereby  
11 amended by adding thereto the following section:

12 **22-7.4-108. The Potter's Field Memorial Highway.** – [The 2.3 miles of Route 37 that](#)  
13 [runs through the State of Rhode Island, shall hereafter be named and known as "The Potter's Field](#)  
14 [Memorial Highway" in honor of the suffering and sacrifices of the deceased citizens of this state](#)  
15 [and to acknowledge the dignity of all persons, disabled or otherwise, who throughout the](#)  
16 [centuries have played a role in the development of the world in which they lived.](#)

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
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- 1 This act would name state Route 37 as "The Potter's Field Memorial Highway".
- 2 The act would take effect upon passage.

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