

HOUSE BILL 2756

By Bass

AN ACT to name a bridge on State Route 272 in Marshall County in honor of the late Alex Allen.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name certain highways and bridges to honor those exemplary public servants who, during their lifetimes, contributed significantly to the growth and prosperity of their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, no Tennessean is more deserving of this honor than the late Alex Allen, one of Marshall County's most productive and admired citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alex Allen and the forbearers of his family lived and worked as farmers for several generations in the Verona-Caney community of Marshall County; and

WHEREAS, a strong supporter of the dairy industry, Mr. Alex Allen operated a dairy farm in the Verona-Caney community that his father, Mr. Edwin Allen, started in 1948; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alex Allen's sons, John and Cannon Allen, continue this dairy operation today; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alex Allen supported and contributed to Marshall County's 4-H clubs and lived his life according to the 4-H creed: he believed in his country, his state, and his community and felt responsible for their development; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alex Allen succumbed to an untimely death in 2000; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Marshall County Commissioners has petitioned this General Assembly to name a certain bridge on State Route 272 to honor Mr. Allen's memory and to permanently commemorate his bountiful life of purpose and commitment to the greater good; and

WHEREAS, this body concurs with this excellent proposal; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the bridge spanning the Duck River on State Route 272 in Marshall County is hereby designated the "Alex Allen Memorial Bridge" as a lasting tribute to an excellent public servant and even more accomplished human being.

SECTION 2. The department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating the bridge described in Section 1 as the "Alex Allen Memorial Bridge."

SECTION 3. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall become operative only if the cost of the manufacture and installation of such signs is paid to the department of transportation by Marshall County within one (1) year of the effective date of this act. Such payment shall be made prior to any expenditure by the state for the manufacture or installation of such signs. The department shall return any unused portion of the estimated cost to Marshall County within thirty (30) days of the erection of such signs. If the actual cost exceeds the estimated cost, an amount equal to the difference in such costs shall be remitted to the department by Marshall County within thirty (30) days of the county receiving an itemized invoice of the actual cost from the department.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.