

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 917

By Fitzhugh

A RESOLUTION to name a segment of State Route 19 in
Lauderdale County in honor of the late Elmer
Eugene Byrum, Jr., United States Army.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name certain highways and bridges to honor the memory of those courageous members of the United States armed forces who gave their lives in the defense of our nation; and

WHEREAS, no person is more deserving of this honor than the late Elmer Eugene Byrum, Jr., who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country on October 10, 1952, while serving in the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Byrum followed the patriotic tradition for which Lauderdale County and the Volunteer State are renowned by serving with distinction in the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, like thousands of others of this nation's sons and daughters, Mr. Byrum did not shrink from serving in combat, believing in the justice of the cause to protect our national security and to halt the global spread of Communism; and

WHEREAS, Elmer Eugene Byrum, Jr., served with great courage and gallantry, giving his life for his country and for the cause in which he believed, and for that ultimate sacrifice, he deserves proper recognition; as a member of the United States Army, he proudly continued an essential tradition of American society: the concept of the citizen-soldier; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Byrum's dedication to excellence in the military and his love of his family, his fellow soldiers and his country, exemplified in his sacrifice of life itself in defense of all that he held dear, stand as enduring examples of all the characteristics that have ensured the continued freedom of our nation and the preservation of its ideals over the course of our history; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly wishes to name a segment of State Route 19 in Mr. Byrum's native Lauderdale County to honor the memory of this valiant soldier; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that the segment of State Route 19 in Lauderdale County from such route's intersection with State Route 209 to the Lauderdale County - Haywood County boundary is hereby designated the "Elmer Eugene Byrum Jr. Memorial Highway" in recognition of the life of valor and death in combat of Elmer Eugene Byrum, Jr., United States Army, one of Tennessee's most heroic citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating the segment of State Route 19 described in the first resolving clause as the "Elmer Eugene Byrum Jr. Memorial Highway." The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, § 54-1-133.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this resolution shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the appellation "Elmer Eugene Byrum Jr. Memorial Highway" provided for in this resolution is for honorary purposes only and nothing contained herein shall be construed as requiring the alteration of any address, or the governmental system for assigning addresses, in any county, municipality, or other governmental entity affected by this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an enrolled copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Commissioner of Transportation.