

SENATE BILL 2159

By Beavers

AN ACT relative to naming a bridge on State Route 840 in honor of the late First Lieutenant William Eric Emmert, Tennessee Army National Guard.

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

WHEREAS, Chapter 35 of the Public Acts of 2005 designated State Route 840 in its entirety, from its intersection with Interstate Highway 40 West in Dickson County to its intersection with Interstate Highway 40 East in Wilson County, including segments of such highway still under construction, as the "Tennessee National Guard Parkway" as a lasting tribute to the brave men and women who helped establish the time-honored tradition of Tennessee volunteerism, as well as those who continue this proud tradition today, as members of the Tennessee National Guard; and

WHEREAS, in keeping with the spirit of such act, the General Assembly finds it imperative to limit future designations on State Route 840 to honor the memory of those courageous members of the Tennessee National Guard who made the ultimate sacrifice of their lives while engaged in active duty; now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, it is the intent of this General Assembly to name an appropriate bridge or bridges on State Route 840 (Tennessee National Guard Parkway) to honor the memory of First Lieutenant William Eric Emmert, 269th Military Police Company, Tennessee Army National Guard, a valiant soldier who gave his life in the line of duty while serving in Iraq and who also served this state with distinction as a special agent with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation.

SECTION 2. To effectuate the purposes of this act, the department of transportation shall identify an appropriate bridge or bridges on State Route 840 to bear First Lieutenant

William Eric Emmert's honorable name. The final decision in selecting the appropriate bridge or bridges shall be made in consultation with the representative and senator representing the district in which First Lieutenant Emmert resided.

SECTION 3. The department of transportation shall erect suitable signs or affix suitable markers designating the selected bridge or bridges as the "First Lt. William Eric Emmert Memorial Bridge". The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, § 54-1-133.

SECTION 4. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.

SECTION 5. 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 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.