

CHAPTER NO. 733

HOUSE BILL NO. 2422

By Representatives Shepard, Tidwell, Ridgeway

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 3201

By Senator Jackson

AN ACT to name a certain bridge in Dickson in honor of the late Edward Franklin Burnett.

WHEREAS, from time to time, this general assembly has seen fit to name certain public byways in honor of those outstanding public servants whose efforts have redounded to the great benefit of all Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, no Tennessean is more deserving of this special recognition than the late Edward Franklin Burnett, who served with the greatest integrity, intelligence and industry as a bridge builder from 1953 until 1972; and

WHEREAS, on December 4, 1943, Edward heeded the call of his country and entered the U.S. armed forces; and

WHEREAS, after completing basic training at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas, Edward shipped out to the Philippines on February 4, 1946, and served 21 honorable months in the Asiatic Pacific Theater; and

WHEREAS, after returning to the United States, he met Dorothy Tefteller and married this exceptional lady on September 13, 1947; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Burnett continued his education after completing his military service; he graduated from Lawrenceburg Automobile School in 1951, with an emphasis in auto body and fender repair; and

WHEREAS, in 1953, Edward began his meritorious career with the Oman Construction Company; and

WHEREAS, for several years, he moved his family all over the state of Tennessee building bridges; and

WHEREAS, in the fall of 1959, Edward met a former Oman Construction Company employee who had recently graduated from college and had a new and fresh outlook on building bridges; and

WHEREAS, Edward and his newfound friend, T. Benson McKinnon, began working assiduously on their first project in Dickson, Tennessee building a bridge on State Route 48 (North Main Street) that spans the U.S. Highway 70 bypass; and

WHEREAS, in August of 1960, Edward moved his family to the Dickson community because he respected the integrity and valued the fellowship of the good people who lived there; and

WHEREAS, on January 13, 1972, Edward lost his life while working on a project on Interstate-24 near Athens, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, because he unselfishly contributed his time and efforts to building the bridge on State Route 48 (North Main Street) that spans the U.S. Highway 70 bypass, and because this bridge literally brought him and his family to Dickson, it has been proposed by the Dickson City Council that this bridge be named to honor Mr. Edward Franklin Burnett's august memory; and

WHEREAS, this body most heartily concurs in 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 U.S. Highway 70 bypass on State Route 48 (North Main Street) in the city of Dickson is hereby designated as the "Edward Franklin Burnett Memorial Bridge" as a lasting tribute to this gifted and highly respected gentleman.

SECTION 2. The department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating such bridge as the "Edward Franklin Burnett 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 city of Dickson in Dickson County, Tennessee, either (1) remits the estimated cost of the erection of such signs to the Department of Transportation within one (1) year of the effective date of this act, or (2) manufactures and erects such signs pursuant to state and federal guidelines and as approved by the department. If electing option (1), the city of Dickson shall make such payment prior to any expenditure by the state for manufacture or installation of such signs. The department shall return any unused portion of the estimated cost to the city of Dickson within thirty (30) days of the erection of such signs. If the actual cost exceeds the estimated cost, the city of Dickson shall remit an amount equal to the difference in such costs to the department within thirty (30) days of receiving an itemized invoice of the actual cost from the department.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 1, 2002



JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 8th day of May 2002



DON SUNDQUIST, GOVERNOR