

HOUSE BILL 2480

By Casada

AN ACT to name a bridge on State Route 397 (Mack Hatcher Bypass) in Williamson County in honor of the late Staff Sergeant Carey Thomas Moore, 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 Staff Sergeant (SSG) Carey Thomas Moore, United States Army, who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country on August 17, 2009, while serving in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, SSG Carey Thomas Moore, Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (AASLT), followed the patriotic tradition for which Williamson 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, SSG Moore did not shrink from serving in combat, believing in the justice of the cause to protect our national security and to bring freedom to the Iraqi people; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Carey Thomas Moore was born on April 5, 1987, in Franklin, Tennessee and was raised in Thompson Station; and

WHEREAS, he attended Centennial High School in Franklin and was an avid outdoorsman; he especially enjoyed hunting and target shooting at his grandparents' farm in Nolensville; and

WHEREAS, Carey deeply touched the hearts of all who had the privilege of knowing him; he was very much family oriented, and always put others before himself; and

WHEREAS, most of all, SSG Moore was a dedicated soldier who truly loved his job, his country, and the American Flag; and

WHEREAS, SSG Carey Thomas Moore entered the United States Army on June 9, 2005; he completed Basic Combat Training, Advanced Individual Training, and Javelin Training at Fort Benning, Georgia, earning his Military Occupational Specialty of 11B (Infantryman); and

WHEREAS, SSG Moore arrived at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, on October 12, 2005, and was assigned to Alpha Company, 1-502nd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (AASLT); and

WHEREAS, while assigned to Alpha Company, SSG Moore served as a grenadier in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in May of 2007; his commitment to his unit and fellow soldiers and his personal development led him to exceed expectations as a junior enlisted soldier; and

WHEREAS, he went on to lead a machine gun team in Weapons Squad, 3rd Platoon as a Private First Class upon his return to Fort Campbell; he played a vital role in the training and mentoring of new soldiers during numerous training exercises, including Eagle Flight I, Eagle Flight II, and a deployment rotation through the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana in July 2007; and

WHEREAS, in August 2008, SSG Moore re-enlisted in the Army for three additional years; and

WHEREAS, SSG Moore redeployed with Alpha Company to Fort Campbell in November 2008; and

WHEREAS, after completing training, he began pre-deployment operations for his second deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in July 2009; during this deployment, SSG Moore continued to excel as a non-commissioned officer; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Company was the main effort of the battalion in Baghdad, Iraq; as the capitol, it was the main focus of Operation Iraqi Freedom 07-09, which focused on stabilizing the country while further improving the conditions for the people of Baghdad; and

WHEREAS, SSG Moore was an integral leader in Alpha Company who is credited with setting up the Company Standard Operating Procedures in Tactical Site Exploitations; and

WHEREAS, SSG Moore's awards and decorations include: Army Commendation Medal (2 OLC), Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal (1 OLC), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Combat Infantryman Badge, and Air Assault Badge; and

WHEREAS, at the time of his death, Carey was anxiously awaiting the birth of his first child, a son named Noah Carey Moore, due December 29, 2009; and

WHEREAS, this gallant soldier is survived by wife, Crystal Moore, and two step-children, Nathan and Natalie Horton; his parents, Renee Edwards (Justin) Spicer and Thomas (Jill) Moore; his big brother, Mallory Moore; his half-brothers, Brady, Patrick, and Timothy Moore; his step-brothers, Zachary, Jacob, and Lucas Spicer, and step-sister, Alicia Spicer Smith; and his grandparents, James and Joyce Edwards; he was preceded in death by his grandmother, the late Patricia Sutherland Moore; and

WHEREAS, SSG Moore 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, SSG Moore'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, SSG Carey Thomas Moore selflessly gave his life for his country, and it is thus most appropriate that a certain bridge in his home county should be named to honor his memory; 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 Harpeth River at mile marker 2.0 on State Route 397 (Mack Hatcher Bypass) in Williamson County is hereby designated the "SSG Carey Thomas Moore Memorial Bridge" in recognition of the life of valor and death in combat of Staff Sergeant Carey Thomas Moore, United States Army, one of Tennessee's most heroic citizens.

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 "SSG Carey Thomas Moore Memorial Bridge". The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, § 54-1-133.

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 take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.