

HOUSE BILL 3003

By Richey

AN ACT to add Command Sergeant Major William O. Gregory to the name of the National Guard Armory in Blount County.

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Volunteer State have, throughout the years, willingly forsaken the comforts and securities of inaction by taking up arms against the enemies of this great nation, risking their lives and leaving their loved ones behind in order to honorably safeguard the freedoms and liberties guaranteed to all citizens of these United States and vanquishing those who threaten our way of life; and

WHEREAS, nineteen-year-old William Ollie "Bill" Gregory enlisted in the United States Army in 1947 and received an honorable discharge in 1956; and

WHEREAS, Bill Gregory continued his service by enlisting in the Tennessee Army National Guard in Maryville, applied for a job with the Tennessee Department of Military, and was hired as a full-time Administrative Supply Technician (AST); and

WHEREAS, Bill Gregory worked hard and was promoted through the ranks to First Sergeant (1SG) of the Howitzer Battery, 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment (ACR); and

WHEREAS, Bill Gregory worked at the Armory on Parham Hill in Maryville/Alcoa until construction was completed on a new Armory located on Highway 321; and

WHEREAS, Bill Gregory moved the unit to the new Armory where he continued as a full-time technician and unit First Sergeant (1SG), retiring as a full-time technician and accepting a transfer to the 278th ACR Support Squadron in Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, Bill Gregory was promoted to Command Sergeant Major (CSM) and remained in the Tennessee Army National Guard as the Support Squadron CSM until his retirement from the Tennessee National Guard in 1992; and

WHEREAS, Bill Gregory dedicated almost half of his life to the United States military, retiring with over 41 years of honorable service; and

WHEREAS, Bill Gregory passed away on July 3, 2014, at the age of 85; now, therefore,
BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding another law to the contrary, the National Guard Armory located on Highway 321 in Blount County is hereby designated the "CSM William O. Gregory National Guard Armory" in recognition of the life of valor of Command Sergeant Major William O. "Bill" Gregory, Retired.

SECTION 2. From existing resources, the Department of Military is directed to erect suitable signs or affix suitable markers designating the edifice described in Section 1 as the "CSM William O. Gregory National Guard Armory."

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.