

SENATE BILL 2503

By Haynes

AN ACT to name a bridge on U.S. Highway 31E (Gallatin Road) in Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County in honor of the late Michael Allen Jones.

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 Michael Allen Jones, who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country on September 28, 1967, while serving in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones followed the patriotic tradition for which Nashville and the Volunteer State are renowned by serving with distinction in the United States Armed Forces; and

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

WHEREAS, Michael Allen Jones 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 Armed Forces, he proudly continued an essential tradition of American society: the concept of the citizen-soldier; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones'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, Michael Allen Jones grew up on Apple Valley Road in the Primrose Acres neighborhood of Madison; and

WHEREAS, a well known and much beloved figure in Madison, Mr. Jones spent much of his youth playing in the Amqui Train Station and bowling at Madison Bowling Alley; and

WHEREAS, during his youthful exploits, Mr. Jones used a certain bridge in his neighborhood as both a walking route and a playground, and it is most fitting that such bridge 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 railroad tracks on U.S. Highway 31E (Gallatin Road) at Campbell Road in the Madison community of Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County is hereby designated the "Michael Allen Jones Memorial Bridge" in recognition of the life of valor and death in combat of Michael Allen Jones, one of Madison's and Nashville'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 "Michael Allen Jones 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.