

SENATE BILL 2509

By Summerville

AN ACT to name a segment of State Route 235 in Dickson County in honor of the late Deputy Sheriff Richard Keith Bellar.

WHEREAS, Richard Keith Bellar was born on June 12, 1983, to Ricky and Debbie Bellar. He graduated from Dickson County Senior High School in 2002; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Keith Bellar was hired by the Dickson County Sheriff Office as a Corrections Deputy on August 30, 2004. Keith's dream of becoming a Patrol Deputy was fulfilled on July 5, 2005; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Keith Bellar was promoted to the rank of Field Training Officer (F.T.O.) with the Dickson County Sheriff's Office on April 21, 2011. F.T.O. Keith Bellar finished his training with At-Scene Crash Investigation on May 2 - 13, 2011; and

WHEREAS, On August 6, 2005, Deputy Keith Bellar was married to Brandi Michelle (Bradley) Bellar. Brandi gave birth to their son, Jacob Claborne Bellar on December 9, 2010; and

WHEREAS, F.T.O. Keith Bellar was shot in the line of duty while attempting to assist in what he believed to be a traffic accident on Monday, June 6, 2011; and

WHEREAS, F.T.O. Keith Bellar succumbed to the wound he received in the line of duty on June 7, 2011. Keith is survived by his son, Jacob Claborne Bellar, and his wife of five and one-half years, Brandi Michelle (Bradley) Bellar, his father and mother, Ricky and Debbie Bellar, his brother and sister-in-law, Chris and Chelsea Bellar, his grandfather, J.C. Bellar, and his nephews, Aiden and Alex Bellar, 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 segment of State Route 235 (Sylvia Road) in Dickson County from 2370 State Route 235 to such route's

intersection with Polly Wiley Road is hereby designated the "F.T.O. Richard Keith Bellar Memorial Highway" as a lasting tribute to the late Keith Bellar, who served with distinction as a Dickson County Deputy Sheriff before losing his life in the line of duty on June 6, 2011.

SECTION 2. The department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating the segment of State Route 235 described in Section 1 as the "F.T.O. Richard Keith Bellar Memorial Highway." Such signs or markers shall include the following language: "Dedicated to F.T.O. Richard Keith Bellar, eow 6-7-2011". The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 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 subsection shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. The appellation " F.T.O. Richard Keith Bellar Memorial Highway" provided for in this act is for honorary purposes only and nothing contained herein shall be construed as requiring the alteration of any address, or the governmental system for assigning addresses, in any county, municipality, or other governmental entity affected by this act.

SECTION 6. Nothing in this act shall be construed as requiring the alteration of any previously named segments of State Route 235 described in Section 1.

SECTION 7. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.