

By: Representatives Warren, Miles

To: Transportation

HOUSE BILL NO. 546
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO DESIGNATE A CERTAIN PORTION OF U.S. HIGHWAY 49 IN
2 COVINGTON COUNTY AS THE "STATE TROOPER RALPH NEWELL MEMORIAL
3 HIGHWAY"; TO AMEND SECTION 65-3-71.35, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
4 TO REDESIGNATE "BOBBY 'BUBBA' WELLS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY" AS "STATE
5 TROOPER BOBBY 'BUBBA' WELLS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY"; TO DESIGNATE A
6 CERTAIN BRIDGE IN CALHOUN COUNTY THAT SPANS THE SKUNA RIVER AS THE
7 "MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART, DEPARTMENT OF MISSISSIPPI,
8 MEMORIAL BRIDGE"; TO PROVIDE THAT THE MISSISSIPPI TRANSPORTATION
9 COMMISSION MAY AUTHORIZE THE KATRINA VOLUNTEERS MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN
10 COMMITTEE, AT THE COMMITTEE'S OWN EXPENSE, TO CONSTRUCT, LOCATE
11 AND MAINTAIN ON PROPERTY OF THE WELCOME CENTER NEAR I-10 IN
12 WESTERN HANCOCK COUNTY A FOUNTAIN AND MEMORIAL IN RECOGNITION AND
13 APPRECIATION OF THE VOLUNTEERS WHO ASSISTED THE CITIZENS OF
14 MISSISSIPPI IN RECOVERING FROM THE DESTRUCTION AND IN THE
15 REBUILDING EFFORTS FOLLOWING HURRICANE KATRINA; AND FOR RELATED
16 PURPOSES.

17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

18 **SECTION 1.** (1) That portion of U.S. Highway 49 in Covington
19 County beginning one (1) mile south of its intersection with
20 Mississippi Highway 35 and extending northwesterly for two (2)
21 miles is designated and shall be known as the "State Trooper Ralph
22 Newell Memorial Highway."

23 (2) The Mississippi Department of Transportation shall erect
24 and maintain appropriate signs along and approaching the segment
25 of highway described in subsection (1) of this section.

26 **SECTION 2.** Section 65-3-71.35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
27 amended as follows:

28 65-3-71.35. (1) That portion of Interstate Highway 55
29 beginning at mile marker 277 and extending northerly to the
30 Mississippi/Tennessee state line is designated and shall be known
31 as the "State Trooper Bobby 'Bubba' Wells Memorial Highway."

32 (2) The Mississippi Department of Transportation shall erect
33 and maintain appropriate signs along and approaching such highway.

34 **SECTION 3.** (1) That bridge on Mississippi Highway 9 in
35 Calhoun County that spans the Skuna River is designated and shall
36 be known as the "Military Order of the Purple Heart, Department of
37 Mississippi, Memorial Bridge."

38 (2) The Mississippi Department of Transportation shall erect
39 and maintain appropriate plaques at each end of the bridge
40 described in subsection (1) of this section, and suitable markers
41 along and approaching the bridge, reflecting its name.

42 **SECTION 4.** The Mississippi Transportation Commission, in its
43 discretion, by order duly adopted and entered upon its official
44 minutes, may authorize the Katrina Volunteers Memorial Fountain
45 Committee, acting under board approved sponsorship of the
46 Diamondhead Continuing Education, Inc., and at its own expense, to
47 design, construct and maintain at a location approved by the
48 commission on property of the welcome center near I-10 in western
49 Hancock County, a fountain and suitable memorial in recognition
50 and appreciation of the thousands of volunteers who donated their
51 time and money to assist the citizens of Mississippi in recovering
52 from the destruction and in the rebuilding efforts following
53 Hurricane Katrina.

54 **SECTION 5.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
55 and after its passage.