

CHAPTER 220**(HJR 5)**

A JOINT RESOLUTION naming the "Frank Ramsey, Jr. Drive" in Hopkins County.

WHEREAS, Frank Ramsey was born on July 13, 1931, in Corydon, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, Frank Ramsey was a basketball standout from a very early age, earning All-State honors for Madisonville High School in both 1948 and 1949; and

WHEREAS, Frank Ramsey continued his basketball career at the University of Kentucky under the tutelage of legendary coach Adolph Rupp; and

WHEREAS, Frank Ramsey had an immediate impact on the Wildcats, leading Kentucky to the 1951 NCAA Championship in his first collegiate season; and

WHEREAS, Frank Ramsey continued his stellar play throughout his college career, earning All-SEC honors in 1951, 1952, and 1954, and All-American accolades in 1952 and 1954; and

WHEREAS, Frank Ramsey's 1,344 career points, 22nd best in school history, and 1,038 career rebounds, second best in school history, serve as lasting evidence of his excellence on the collegiate hardwood nearly fifty years after the conclusion of his career; and

WHEREAS, Frank Ramsey's record of stellar play and championships continued with the legendary Boston Celtics of the National Basketball Association; and

WHEREAS, Frank Ramsey solidified his place in Celtic history with a 20-foot jump shot in double overtime of the seventh game of the 1957 NBA Championship series which propelled Boston to its first world title; and

WHEREAS, Frank Ramsey's career with the Celtics spanned nine seasons and seven NBA Championships, including six in succession from 1959 through 1964; and

WHEREAS, Frank Ramsey, although talented enough to start for most professional clubs, popularized the role of "sixth man" with the Celtics, providing a spark off the bench throughout his career; and

WHEREAS, Frank Ramsey's NBA career scoring average of 13.4 points per game is testament to a sustained level of excellent play; and

WHEREAS, Frank Ramsey bears the unique distinction of have his jersey number 30 retired by the University of Kentucky and his number 23 retired by the Boston Celtics, two of the greatest teams in basketball history honoring the same man; and

WHEREAS, Frank Ramsey, the "Kentucky Colonel" retired to his Kentucky home in 1964 to pursue business and banking interests, and also coached the Kentucky Colonels of the American Basketball Association for one year, leading the team to the playoffs in 1970; and

WHEREAS, Frank Ramsey's life and career in the sport of basketball were commemorated for the ages when, on May 3, 1982, he was enshrined into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. The Transportation Cabinet is directed to rename United States Route 41 from Kentucky Route 70 (McLaughlin Avenue) extending south to the city limits of Madisonville the "Frank Ramsey, Jr. Drive."

Section 2. The Transportation Cabinet shall erect signs identifying the "Frank Ramsey, Jr. Drive" within thirty days of the effective date of this Resolution at each end of the route specified in Section 1 of this Resolution, and at appropriate intervals along the route.

Approved April 5, 2002