

CHAPTER 144**(HJR 110)**

A JOINT RESOLUTION naming Kentucky Route 1786 in Rockcastle County the "Ballard Parsons Highway" and declaring an emergency.

We pause to honor our native son, Ballard Parsons, who has enriched the lives of every soul he has encountered.

WHEREAS, Ballard Parsons was stricken with polio in 1952 and spent eleven months in a hospital in Lexington, ten of those months fighting for his life while confined to an iron lung; and

WHEREAS, Ballard Parsons completed his high school education and earned his diploma through the home bound school program; and

WHEREAS, in April of 1953, Ballard Parsons' father purchased a grocery store in Wildie, Kentucky, a small community in Pulaski County; and

WHEREAS, Ballard Parsons was given full responsibility for managing and operating the store, known as Ballard's Grocery, even though he was wheelchair bound; and

WHEREAS, Ballard Parsons never let adversity stand in the way of living a complete and happy life; and

WHEREAS, Ballard Parsons has been a positive influence on the entire Wildie community and Ballard's Grocery has become an important community gathering place where friends meet to play checkers, pick up milk, bread, or soft drinks, and to discuss and contemplate current events; and

WHEREAS, 2003 marks the fiftieth year Ballard Parsons has been a merchant serving the needs of his community;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

Section 1. The members of this body, both individually and collectively, proclaim Ballard Parsons to be an outstanding citizen and exemplary representative of the Commonwealth.

Section 2. The Transportation Cabinet shall name Kentucky Route 1786 in Rockcastle County the "Ballard Parsons Highway".

Section 3. The Transportation Cabinet shall, within thirty days of the effective date of this Resolution, erect signs on Kentucky Route 1786 in Rockcastle County that read "Ballard Parsons Highway".

Section 4. Whereas Ballard Parsons' health is very frail, an emergency is declared to exist and this Resolution takes effect upon its passage and approval by the Governor or upon its otherwise becoming a law.

Approved March 18, 2003