

A JOINT RESOLUTION designating the Vietnam Veteran Ron Johnson Bridge in Harlan County.

WHEREAS, Ronnie "Ron" Johnson was born on September 20, 1946, in Benham, Kentucky, grew up in Benham, and graduated from Lynch High School in 1964, where he was President of the Senior Class; and

WHEREAS, Ron Johnson enrolled at the University of Kentucky, and in 1968 he received a Bachelor of Arts degree and a commission as an officer in the United States Army Infantry; and

WHEREAS, Ron Johnson began his active duty service in the Army in August 1968, after having been recognized as a top cadet at two different ROTC training camps while at the University of Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, after briefly serving as a training officer at Fort Knox, Ron Johnson served in Vietnam as a Combat Platoon Leader with Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, Seventh Cavalry of the First Air Cavalry Division; and

WHEREAS, Ron Johnson distinguished himself in combat, receiving the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Silver Star for Gallantry during combat, and a Bronze Star, along with numerous other awards and commendations, and attaining the rank of Captain; and

WHEREAS, after serving his country in the military, Ron Johnson returned to his native Kentucky and enrolled at the University of Kentucky College of Law, and upon graduation and admittance to the bar, embarked on a distinguished legal career in service to the people of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Ron Johnson served as an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney in both Pike and Harlan Counties, and in 1988 the Kentucky Commonwealth Attorneys Association presented him with the 1988 Carroll M. Redford Award as Kentucky's Prosecutor of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Ron Johnson was then elected as Harlan County Circuit Court Judge,

where he served for 16 years, during which time he was named the 1998 Judge of the Year by the Kentucky Bar Association; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that Ron Johnson be recognized for his military service to his nation and his legal service to the Commonwealth;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

➔Section 1. The Transportation Cabinet shall designate the bridge at the intersection of Kentucky Route 2179 North and United States Route 119 in Harlan County as the "Vietnam Veteran Ron Johnson Bridge" and shall, within 30 days of the effective date of this Resolution, erect appropriate signs denoting this designation.