

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION designating the Sergeant William M. Bays Memorial  
2 Highway in Todd County.

3 WHEREAS, William Bays was born October 17, 1987, in Barstow, California, the  
4 only son of Timothy and April Briggs Bays; and

5 WHEREAS, a true American patriot who loved his country with great passion,  
6 William Bays volunteered to serve in the United States Army in 2009 and attained the  
7 rank of Sergeant, serving as a squad leader with D Company, 1st Battalion, 187th Infantry  
8 Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team of the 101st Airborne; and

9 WHEREAS, Sergeant William Bays was a loving and dedicated husband and father  
10 and was a member of Life Point Church who enjoyed camping, traveling, and working on  
11 cars, especially his Jeep; and

12 WHEREAS, on June 10, 2017, Sergeant William Bays and two of his fellow  
13 soldiers from the Army's 101st Airborne Division, Sergeant Eric Houck and Corporal  
14 Dillon Baldrige, were killed by fire from a Taliban member who had infiltrated an  
15 Afghan army unit; and

16 WHEREAS, the three fallen soldiers were remembered by Major General Andrew  
17 Poppas, Commanding General of the 101st Airborne Division and Fort Campbell, who  
18 said, "Today, as we grieve, our thoughts and prayers are with the families of Corporal  
19 Baldrige, Sergeant Houck, and Sergeant Bays. We take this as a family loss. In the days  
20 ahead, the 101st Soldiers and the Rakkasans will continue the fight against terrorism with  
21 unbridled determination. Our Soldiers are battle-hardened and committed to the defense  
22 of our nation and the freedoms for which we fight"; and

23 WHEREAS, Sergeant William Bays' awards and decorations included the Army  
24 Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation,  
25 Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign  
26 Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army NCO Professional  
27 Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, the NATO Medal

1 with one oak leaf cluster, the Air Assault Badge, and the Driver and Mechanic Badge;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Sergeant William Bays posthumously earned the Bronze Star Medal,  
4 Purple Heart, Combat Infantry Badge, and Army Commendation Medal with one oak leaf  
5 cluster; and

6 WHEREAS, other than his parents, Sergeant William Bays is survived by his wife,  
7 Jasmin Bays; daughters, Laura, Mia, and Julia; sisters, Brenda Griner and Lindsay Bays;  
8 paternal grandmother, Doris Bays; maternal grandparents, Marshall and Lorraine Briggs;  
9 and father-in-law and mother-in-law, Frank and Regina Draeger; and

10 WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that this brave soldier, who paid the ultimate  
11 sacrifice in defense of his country, be recognized in some tangible way, no matter how  
12 inadequate that recognition might be;

13 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

15 ➔Section 1. The Transportation Cabinet shall designate the portion of United  
16 States Route 79 in Todd County, from the intersection with Kentucky Route 848, at mile  
17 point 3.973, to the intersection with Kentucky Route 102, at mile point 8.729, as the  
18 "Sergeant William M. Bays Memorial Highway" and shall, within 30 days of the effective  
19 date of this Resolution, erect appropriate signs denoting this designation.