

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION designating a bridge on Kentucky Route 610 in Pike
2 County in honor and memory of Hobart Clay Johnson.

3 WHEREAS, Hobart Clay Johnson was the son of the late George F. Johnson and
4 Vesta Roberts Johnson; and

5 WHEREAS, Hobart Johnson attended Virgie High School and obtained an
6 undergraduate degree from Eastern Kentucky University and a law degree from the
7 University of Louisville School of Law; and

8 WHEREAS, from 1952 to 1958, Hobart Johnson was employed by the United
9 States Air Force as an agent in the Office of Strategic Intelligence; and

10 WHEREAS, upon his graduation from the University of Louisville, Hobart Johnson
11 returned to Pike County where he opened up a law practice that he would continue for 50
12 years; and

13 WHEREAS, in his early career Hobart Johnson performed a yeoman's service,
14 searching real estate titles, assisting the County Attorney, and defending moonshiners by
15 Federal Court appointment; and

16 WHEREAS, Hobart Johnson's talents came to the attention of the Pike County Bar
17 Association and in the early 1960s, he and Henry Stratton formed the partnership of
18 Stratton and Johnson. Their firm developed one of the leading practices in the state for
19 workers compensation; and

20 WHEREAS, Hobart Johnson's skills and outstanding work ethic was also noticed
21 by John Yost, one of the founders of Citizens Bank of Pikeville. Johnson would serve as
22 general counsel and director of the bank for many years; and

23 WHEREAS, following in the footsteps of his grandfather, father, and brother
24 George, Hobart Johnson was also significantly involved in the affairs of the Pikeville
25 National Bank; and

26 WHEREAS, Hobart Johnson also served as general counsel to the Pike County
27 Board of Education; and

1 WHEREAS, Hobart Johnson, in conjunction with Walter May and others, formed
2 East Kentucky Broadcasting; and

3 WHEREAS, Hobart Johnson was also involved in the coal industry, owning and
4 operating small mines and processing facilities in Pike, Floyd, and Letcher counties; and

5 WHEREAS, in the early 1980s Hobart Johnson scaled back his involvement in the
6 legal and business world in order to devote more time to his various charitable and
7 philanthropic interests, including his membership to the Board of Directors of Pikeville
8 Medical Center; and

9 WHEREAS, after his retirement, Hobart Johnson dedicated his time to golf and
10 horse racing, as well as spending time at the family home on Hilton Head Island, South
11 Carolina; and

12 WHEREAS, Hobart Johnson and his wife, Jean, also traveled the world, managing
13 to set foot on all seven of the continents; and

14 WHEREAS, on February 1, 2018, Hobart Johnson traversed these earthly bounds at
15 his home in Virgie. He was preceded in death by his wife, Jean; brothers, George,
16 Stanley, Woodrow, and Charles "Big Boy"; and sisters, Marie and Irene. He is survived
17 by his sister, Ruby Picklesimer; daughter, Amy; son, Benjamin; stepson, Robert; and five
18 grandchildren;

19 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

21 ➔Section 1. The Transportation Cabinet shall designate the bridge on Kentucky
22 Route 610 in Pike County, near Hall and Jones Funeral Home, Bridge Number 098-
23 B00070N, as the "Hobart Clay Johnson Memorial Bridge," and shall, within 30 days of
24 the effective date of this Resolution, erect the appropriate signage.