

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION designating a portion of Kentucky Route 32 in Rowan
2 County in honor and memory of Joshua Eugene Ferguson.

3 WHEREAS, Joshua Ferguson was born on January 20, 1982, in Morehead
4 Kentucky; and

5 WHEREAS, Joshua Ferguson is the son of Lois and Bill Tackitt and Eugene and
6 Sherry Ferguson; and

7 WHEREAS, Joshua Ferguson was employed as dispatcher at Morehead State
8 University for five years, but his love of the outdoors pulled him away. He would
9 eventually become a self-employed logger; and

10 WHEREAS, while logging was Joshua Ferguson's profession and first love, his
11 passion was being a firefighter. He was a member of the Elliottville Volunteer Fire
12 Department since he was 10 years old. He loved spending time with his fire department
13 family and seldom missed a meeting. Joshua couldn't wait until he was old enough to be a
14 real firefighter. Through hard work and dedication, he eventually rose to the rank of
15 Captain with the Elliottville Volunteer Fire Department; and

16 WHEREAS, Joshua Ferguson took his training and duties of a firefighter very
17 seriously. Joshua's mother recalled that no matter the time or place, he would stop
18 everything to respond when he heard the tones drop. "I can't tell you how many holiday
19 meals we've not had Josh with us because we'd sit down to dinner and the tones would
20 drop and he would drop everything and say 'I have to go, I have to go! Someone needs
21 me! Someone needs help!"; and

22 WHEREAS, on August 21, 2012, while he was logging, a tragic accident occurred
23 leaving Joshua Ferguson pinned between a bulldozer and a tree. As he lay dying, he asked
24 a fellow logger to call his mother so he could speak with her one last time; and

25 WHEREAS, Joshua's mother Lois said that she normally doesn't answer the phone
26 at work unless she knows who it is. However she answered the call that day, believing
27 that it was the Lord speaking to her and saying "this is a call you need to take"; and

1 WHEREAS, in the most difficult moment of their lives, Joshua Ferguson was able
2 to tell his mom of the love he had for her, his nanny Evelyn Lyons Conn, and his fiancé
3 Tiphanie Bowling. His mother comforted him with the words "hang in there son, Mommy
4 loves you. Pray, fight, help is on the way."; and

5 WHEREAS, soon after that phone call, Joshua Ferguson traversed these earthly
6 bounds. He was one month away from marrying Tiphanie Bowling and beginning a new
7 life as her husband and stepfather to her two children. Joshua also dreamed of having kids
8 with Tiphanie, and had already picked out baby names; and

9 WHEREAS, Joshua Ferguson was buried with full firefighter honors. He was
10 preceded in death by his beloved maternal grandfather "Poppy" Cyril Conn, and his
11 paternal grandparents Ray and Rosie Ferguson; and

12 WHEREAS, at the time of his death, Joshua Ferguson was survived by his parents
13 Lois and Bill Tackitt and Eugene and Sherry Ferguson, his nanny Evelyn Lyons Conn, a
14 sister Jessica Tackitt Koehler, his fiancé Tiphanie Bowling and her children Lauren and
15 Oliver DeAtley, two stepsisters, a niece, several aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, and a
16 community that greatly misses him; and

17 WHEREAS, this highway designation will serve as a constant reminder of Joshua
18 Ferguson's life, and his dedication to public service;

19 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

21 ➔Section 1. The Transportation Cabinet shall designate Kentucky Route 32 in
22 Rowan County, from its intersection with Messer Road to its intersection with Kentucky
23 Route 173, as the "Joshua Ferguson 'EFD 722' Memorial Highway," and shall, within 30
24 days of the effective date of this Resolution, erect the appropriate signage.