

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION designating the Coach Jim Matney Memorial Highway in
2 Johnson and Martin Counties.

3 WHEREAS, James Thomas "Jim" Matney was born on August 17, 1959, in
4 Paintsville, Kentucky, to Kermit and Pauline Matney; and

5 WHEREAS, Jim Matney graduated in 1977 from Belfry High School, where he
6 excelled in football, wrestling, and baseball; and

7 WHEREAS, Jim Matney attended Liberty University, where he continued his
8 career in wrestling and graduated with a degree in history in 1982; and

9 WHEREAS, Jim Matney came back home to the Commonwealth and became an
10 assistant football coach at his alma mater, Belfry High School; and

11 WHEREAS, Coach Jim Matney later accepted a position at Sheldon Clark High
12 School in Martin County, Kentucky, as their head football and wrestling coach. He led
13 the wrestling team to two consecutive state championships in 1994 and 1995, and he
14 would lead the football team to the state semifinals; and

15 WHEREAS, Coach Jim Matney's crowning achievement was when he became head
16 football coach at Johnson Central High School in 2004, where he led his team to five
17 straight state championship games and two state championships in 2016 and 2019; and

18 WHEREAS, Coach Jim Matney also coached the wrestling team and led them to
19 being runners-up in the state championships in 2019; and

20 WHEREAS, Coach Jim Matney is one of only 12 football coaches in the
21 Commonwealth's history to record 300 wins during his career; and

22 WHEREAS, Coach Jim Matney would gain the nickname of "Pride of Hagerhill"
23 through his successes as head coach; and

24 WHEREAS, Coach Jim Matney died on September 28, 2021, from complications
25 of Covid-19, and is survived by his dear wife Deborah; two sons, Dalton and Carson;
26 brothers, Clyde Payne, Gary Matney, Bill Matney, and Mike Matney; and a large
27 extended family of in-laws, nieces, and nephews; and

1 WHEREAS, Coach Jim Matney is dearly missed and remembered by the
2 community at large to be a man of faith, good character, and a true giant and mountain
3 legend to Johnson County and Johnson Central High School;

4 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

6 ➡Section 1. The Transportation Cabinet shall designate all of Kentucky Route 3
7 in Johnson County and the portion of Kentucky Route 3 in Martin County, from mile
8 point 20 to the Johnson County line, as the "Coach Jim Matney Memorial Highway" and
9 shall, within 30 days of the effective date of this Resolution, erect appropriate signage
10 denoting this designation. This honorary designation shall supersede any previous
11 designations for this section of highway.