

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION designating the Dr. John Dallas Stempel Memorial  
2 Highway in Fayette County.

3 WHEREAS, John Dallas Stempel was born on July 26, 1938, in Easton,  
4 Pennsylvania, the son of John Emmert and Mary Farmer Stempel; and

5 WHEREAS, John Dallas Stempel attended Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson  
6 School, where he won top academic honors. Upon graduation in 1960, he earned a Navy  
7 commission through his time in the Princeton NROTC program; and

8 WHEREAS, John Dallas Stempel was assigned to the USS Walton (DE-361),  
9 operating out of San Francisco, and in 1961 the ship was ordered to Vietnam to help train  
10 the small Vietnamese Navy; and

11 WHEREAS, after his military service was complete, John Dallas Stempel attended  
12 the University of California, Berkeley, where he received both an MA and a PhD in  
13 Political Science; and

14 WHEREAS, John Dallas Stempel joined the United States Foreign Service in 1965,  
15 serving three tours in Africa sandwiched around time in Washington; and

16 WHEREAS, John Dallas Stempel moved to Tehran, Iran, in 1975 to serve as  
17 Deputy Chief of the political section and later Chief during the countdown to the 1979  
18 Iranian Revolution. In 1981, he published his first scholarly book, *Inside the Iranian*  
19 *Revolution*, while he was Diplomat-in-Residence at the United States Naval Academy;  
20 and

21 WHEREAS, after a 24-year career in the Foreign Service, John Dallas Stempel  
22 began a second career as a professor of International Affairs at the Patterson School of  
23 Diplomacy and International Commerce at the University of Kentucky; and

24 WHEREAS, in 1993, Dr. Stempel was named Director of the Patterson School.  
25 During his directorship, he revised and released a 2nd edition of *Inside the Iranian*  
26 *Revolution* and wrote *Common Sense in Foreign Policy* (2008), which he joked would be  
27 "a very short book"; and

1           WHEREAS, John Dallas Stempel stepped down as Director of the Patterson School  
2 in 2003 and retired as a professor in 2013; and

3           WHEREAS, John Dallas Stempel served as a trustee of Kentucky's Georgetown  
4 College and, on multiple occasions, lectured at Oxford University as part of the College  
5 and University's joint program. He was also a member of the New York Council of  
6 Foreign Relations and a longtime member of Rotary International; and

7           WHEREAS, John Dallas Stempel died peacefully surrounded by family in hospice  
8 care on January 8, 2025, at the age of 86, having lived a full and joyous life as an  
9 accomplished diplomat, university dean, professor, writer, intellect, husband, father, and  
10 grandfather; and

11           WHEREAS, John Dallas Stempel's mischievous wit, loving charm, and voracious  
12 appetite for life will be profoundly missed, and his life of accomplishment and service is  
13 worthy of public recognition;

14           NOW, THEREFORE,

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

16           ➔Section 1. The Transportation Cabinet shall designate Kentucky Route 1973 in  
17 Fayette County, from the intersection with Kentucky Route 922 (mile point 19.205) to  
18 the intersection with United States Route 25 (mile point 22.346) as the "Dr. John Dallas  
19 Stempel Memorial Highway" and shall, within 30 days of the effective date of this  
20 Resolution, erect appropriate signs denoting this designation.