House Resolution 1491 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representative Sims of the 169th

A RESOLUTION

Dedicating certain portions of the state highway system; to provide for related matters; and for other purposes.

PART I

WHEREAS, former Representative Dorothy Barnes Pelote was a member of the General Assembly of Georgia for more than a decade, where she worked tirelessly in loyal and enduring service to her constituents and the citizens of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, former Representative Dorothy Barnes Pelote has been a resident of Savannah, Georgia, for over 50 years and, prior to serving as a Representative, acted in public service to her community first as an educator and, upon retirement, as a member of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, while serving in the General Assembly of Georgia as a member of the House of Representatives, Ms. Pelote worked steadfastly to pass many resolutions and bills that benefit not only the citizens of Savannah, but the entire State of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Pelote has been instrumental in obtaining funds for a number of local initiatives and community improvements and has received numerous awards and recognitions for her services to the community and the citizens of this state; and

WHEREAS, former Representative Dorothy Barnes Pelote is a beloved member of many public and civic organizations, her church, and family.

PART II

WHEREAS, Derward Buchan is a veteran of the United States Army and served in the occupational forces in Japan and later served in Korea; and

WHEREAS, he served 14 years on the Douglas city commission and six years as the mayor; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure on the Douglas city commission, he oversaw transportation improvements, including the widening of Madison Street, the completion of Perimeter Road, and the continuing improvement of traffic congestion through the use of one-way streets; and

WHEREAS, he is a former member and secretary of the Southeast Georgia Regional Development Center; and

WHEREAS, he retired from the Georgia Department of Transportation after 34 years of service as an area engineer; and

WHEREAS, Derward is a charter member of the Douglas Exchange Club, past president of the local chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons, and a member of the Chamber of Commerce and American Legion; and

WHEREAS, Derward F. Buchan has devoted his life to service as a businessman, civic leader, and friend to the City of Douglas, and it is only fitting that the Derward F. Buchan Corridor be dedicated in his honor.

PART III

WHEREAS, Mr. Tommy G. Hudson was an employee of the Georgia Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, he was an outstanding employee and citizen of the State of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, he was struck and killed by a vehicle on March 2, 2005, while in the performance of his duties on SR 107 in Turner County near the bridge over Deep Creek; and

WHEREAS, he was a devoted family man, a highly respected employee, an able and upright citizen of his community and the State of Georgia, and a friend to all who were privileged to know and work with him.

PART IV

WHEREAS, the 848th Engineer Company was organized as the B-560 Engineering Battalion and later became the 848th Engineer Company attached to the 48th Infantry Brigade; and

WHEREAS, the 848th Engineer Company was mobilized for Operation Desert Storm in 1990 as part of the 48th Infantry Brigade; and

WHEREAS, in 1993, the 848th Engineer Company was reorganized as Company C in the 648th Engineer Battalion; and

WHEREAS, in 1994, the 648th Engineer Battalion was mobilized for duty in central and southern Georgia to help with the massive flooding following tropical storm Alberto; and

WHEREAS, in 1996-97, the 648th was mobilized to serve a peacekeeping mission in Bosnia; and

WHEREAS, currently the 648th is serving with the 48th Infantry Brigade Combat Team in Iraq and the Persian Gulf area; and

WHEREAS, it is only fitting that these courageous soldiers, who in the spirit of the American patriot, have volunteered to confront the dangers, privations, and discomforts of wartime and peacetime service and in the spirit of humanity have strived to establish and keep the peace in Iraq and Bosnia with fortitude and steadfast resolve, should have a bridge named in their honor; and

WHEREAS, all Americans owe a debt of gratitude to the men and women of the Georgia National Guard who risk their lives in the defense of freedom and to secure the blessings of liberty for this nation and other peoples of the world.

PART V

WHEREAS, the lighthouse of Tybee Island has a long and storied history along the Georgia coast; and

WHEREAS, the lighthouse has saved the lives of many desperate seafarers in search of a safe port; and

WHEREAS, it is only proper and fitting that the Tybee Island Lighthouse be memorialized by dedicating a causeway in honor of its glorious past.

PART VI

WHEREAS, news of the passing of Lucille M. Norton, late of Lakeland, Georgia, was received by the members of her community with much deep regret; and

WHEREAS, the life led by this distinguished woman of 86 years rendered her name dear to the hearts of her family and fellow citizens alike; and

WHEREAS, Lucille M. Norton was a native of Lanier County who, after receiving her teaching degree, made Lanier County and Lakeland, Georgia, her home and not only became a teacher for the Lanier County school system, but also served six decades as a mentor of five generations of children and families of Lanier County; and

WHEREAS, her commitment to public service and various volunteer organizations, such as the March of Dimes and her beloved Good Hope Baptist Church, made her community and this state a better place in which to live; and

WHEREAS, it is only fitting and proper that this woman of vision and significance be honored by naming a small and simple bridge in her honor; a bridge over a small and undemanding creek that, as a child, bordered on her mother´s farm; that she played in as a child; that she fished and enjoyed all of her 86 years on this earth; that she later in life inherited from her mother who had inherited it from her family; and that, in death, she passed on to her only son.

PART VII

WHEREAS, Private James Boggan was born on December 22, 1925, in Ambrose, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart was first established by George Washington during the Revolutionary War and later revived by the War Department in February of 1932; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is awarded to persons who while serving in any capacity with the United States Armed Services has been wounded or killed or who has died or may thereafter die after being wounded; and

WHEREAS, Private James Boggan of Ambrose, Georgia, received fatal wounds in Luxembourg during World War II while serving in the United States Army that resulted in his death on March 16, 1945, and was awarded the Purple Heart on June 11, 1945; and

WHEREAS, Private Boggan left behind him in Ambrose, Georgia, his parents, the late Cecil D. Boggan and Mary Grantham Boggan, as well as six brothers and sisters; and

WHEREAS, Private Boggan is an example of a generation of young soldiers who gave their lives during World War II in the fight for democracy and freedom.

PART VIII

WHEREAS, Thomas McGaughey Kilgore was a native and lifelong resident of Douglas County and was a descendant of Douglas County native citizens dating back prior to the incorporation of the county; and

WHEREAS, he graduated from Douglas County High School in 1952 and from Berry College in 1956; and

WHEREAS, he spent his entire professional career with CSX Transportation; and

WHEREAS, he was elected as a member of the Georgia General Assembly´s House of Representatives to represent Douglas County, taking office in 1975 and serving through 1992; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure in the General Assembly, he served on the Appropriations Committee and the Industry Committee, and chaired the Education Committee; and

WHEREAS, as chairman of the Education Committee, he was instrumental in establishing the Douglas County campus of West Central Technical College on Timber Ridge Road, which has become an integral part of the community and provides an opportunity for thousands of Douglas County citizens to receive higher education; and

WHEREAS, after retirement, he continued to work with the Douglasville Convention and Visitors Bureau to help bring tourists to Douglas County; and

WHEREAS, he was married for 43 years to Carol M. McLendon, and they had two beautiful daughters, Pamela K. Platt and Teresa A. Kilgore, and two wonderful grandchildren, Lindsay and Will; and

WHEREAS, he was a lifetime member of County Line Baptist Church and a charter member of the West Pines Golf Course and enjoyed carp fishing during his free time; and

WHEREAS, it is only fitting that this man who devoted his life to his family and service to his community should have a bridge in his beloved Douglas County dedicated in his memory.

PART IX

WHEREAS, when Georgia Loop 1 in Floyd County was first constructed, it extended from the intersection of SR 20 in West Rome to SR 53; and

WHEREAS, this section of Georgia Loop 1 has been previously named the "Veterans Memorial Highway"; and

WHEREAS, Georgia Loop 1 has now been extended from SR 53 to US 411/SR 20; and

WHEREAS, all Americans owe a debt of gratitude to the men and women of our armed forces who risk their lives in the defense of freedom and to secure the blessings of liberty for this nation and other peoples of the world.

PART X

WHEREAS, Lieutenant McKinnon was born on January 20, 1923, to William Bryan McKinnon and Laura Estelle McKinnon; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant McKinnon served honorably in the United States Navy from 1955 to 1960 as a naval aviator with Fighter Squadron 174; on January 12, 1960, Lieutenant McKinnon and another aviator were on a flight training mission when a mistake caused the two fine, young pilots to collide killing Lt. McKinnon instantly; and

WHEREAS, Lt. McKinnon was born and raised within a half-mile of the Satilla River Bridge where as a child he dove off, swam around, and fished off the bridge; and

WHEREAS, he was a faithful member of Mora Baptist Church and a young student attending the local schools and later graduating from South Georgia College before entering the Naval Cadet program; and

WHEREAS, Lt. McKinnon was a young man who despite growing up during the Depression availed himself of the opportunities of the United States to achieve success before his life was tragically cut short; and

WHEREAS, Lt. McKinnon was a loving husband to Nancy Faye McKinnon and loyal brother to younger brother Clark McKinnon and sisters Paulette Wilson and Carol A. Morrison as well as being a young man who was generally loved and respected in the surrounding community.

PART XI

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that the bridge on Bay Street between East Lathorpe Street and Farm Street in Chatham County is dedicated as the Dorothy Barnes Pelote Bridge.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the portion of SR 32 from the 206 Connector to the CSX Railroad overpass is dedicated as the Derward F. Buchan Corridor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the bridge over Deep Creek on SR 107 at Mile Post 8.0 in Turner County, Bridge ID # 287-00107D-00.800E, is hereby dedicated as the Tommy G. Hudson Bridge in honor of the memory of this distinguished Georgian.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the bridge on the SR 206 Connector that spans the CSX railroad, in Coffee County, is dedicated as the Hero Bridge.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the portion of US 80 from the end of Lazaretto River to the end of US 80 on Tybee Island, in Chatham County, is dedicated as the Historic Tybee Lighthouse Causeway.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the bridge over Grand Bay Creek on U. S. Highway 221 in the County of Lanier be dedicated as the Lucille M. Norton Bridge.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Bear Creek Bridge on Highway 32 West in Ambrose, Georgia, is dedicated as the Private James Boggan Memorial Bridge.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Prestley Mill Road bridge over I-20, in Douglas County, is dedicated as the Tom Kilgore Memorial Bridge.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the portion of Georgia Loop 1 from SR 53 to US 411/SR 20 is dedicated as the Veterans Memorial Highway.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Satilla River Bridge on Hwy. 135 in Douglas, GA, is dedicated as the Lieutenant Rudolph McKinnon, USN, Memorial Bridge.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and directed to erect and maintain signs identifying the highway facilities dedicated in this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Department of Transportation, Dorothy Barnes Pelote, Derward F. Buchan, the family of Tommy G. Hudson, the commanding officer of the 648th Engineer Battalion of the Georgia Army National Guard, the local governing authority of Tybee Island, the surviving and only son, four grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren of Lucille M. Norton, the family of Private James Boggan, the family of Tom Kilgore, and the family of Lieutenant Rudolph McKinnon.