

SENATE, No. 3005

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

Sponsored by:

Senator ANTHONY M. BUCCO

District 25 (Morris and Somerset)

SYNOPSIS

Designates Harter Road Interchange of Interstate Highway Route 287 as “Warren E. Wilhide Interchange.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT designating the Harter Road Interchange of Interstate
2 Highway Route 287 in the Township of Morris as the “Warren E.
3 Wilhide Interchange.”
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*
7

8 **WHEREAS**, Warren E. Wilhide Sr., a man known for his compassion
9 and service, was a long-time resident of Morris Township, New
10 Jersey; and

11 **WHEREAS**, An honorable and courageous man who enjoyed serving
12 others, Mr. Wilhide began his career in service in 1950 by serving
13 the country as a member in United States Army, where he was
14 stationed at the Chunchon air base in South Korea providing
15 supplies to the front lines during the Korean War; and

16 **WHEREAS**, As a veteran of a war that represented a difficult period
17 in American history, where in three years thousands of American
18 soldiers died, were wounded in action, or designated as missing
19 in action, Mr. Wilhide was always cognizant of the important
20 role that soldiers played in American history and cataloged his
21 experience during the Korean War with his photography; and

22 **WHEREAS**, After his tour of duty in Korea, Mr. Wilhide returned to the
23 United States to serve in an anti-aircraft battery defending the
24 White House and the United States Capitol Building in
25 Washington, D.C.; and

26 **WHEREAS**, Following his honorable discharge from the United States
27 Army, Mr. Wilhide attended Johns Hopkins University’s Whiting
28 School of Engineering, from which he graduated and received his
29 diploma from President Dwight D. Eisenhower at his graduation
30 ceremony in 1958; and

31 **WHEREAS**, Eventually settling in New Jersey and starting his own
32 business, Mr. Wilhide lived in Morris County for over 50 years
33 with his wife and children; and

34 **WHEREAS**, An honorable and courageous man who enjoyed serving
35 others, Mr. Wilhide volunteered in Haiti as a part of a relief group
36 following an earthquake, in Morocco at the Children’s Hospital,
37 and in Tanzania as a math and science teacher to children living
38 near Mt. Kilimanjaro, as well as reading for persons with
39 disabilities; and

40 **WHEREAS**, As an active member of Korean War Veterans Association,
41 Inc., Mr. Wilhide was invited to South Korea with his fellow
42 veterans for the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War, and it was
43 at these events that Mr. Wilhide received various honors for his
44 service and his donation of his photography chronicling the
45 Korean War to Sejong University; and

46 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Wilhide was integral in the initiatives to designate
47 Interstate Highway Route 287 as the “Korean War Veterans
48 Memorial Highway” in 1995, to provide additional designations on

1 the highway for distinguished service members from the State in
2 1998, and for the continued maintenance of the highway with
3 Korean and American flags; and

4 **WHEREAS**, On November 19, 2020, after living a life full of service
5 and compassion, Mr. Wilhide passed away, but his memory and
6 legacy will live on in the hearts of his family, friends, and fellow
7 veterans; and

8 **WHEREAS**, In honor of his service to the country, the veteran
9 community, and mankind, it is fitting and proper for the Legislature
10 to honor the memory of Warren E. Wilhide Sr. by designating the
11 portion of Interstate Highway Route 287, known as the Harter Road
12 Interchange and located in Morris Township as the “Warren E.
13 Wilhide Interchange”; now, therefore,

14
15 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
16 *of New Jersey:*

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18 1. The Commissioner of Transportation shall designate the
19 portion of Interstate Highway Route 287, known as the Harter Road
20 Interchange and located at milepost 34.02, in the Township of
21 Morris in Morris County as the “Warren E. Wilhide Interchange”
22 and erect appropriate signs bearing this designation and dedication.

23
24 2. State or other public funds shall not be used for producing,
25 purchasing, or erecting signs bearing the designation established
26 pursuant to section 1 of this act. The Commissioner of
27 Transportation is authorized to receive gifts, grants, or other
28 financial assistance from private sources for the purpose of funding
29 or reimbursing the Department of Transportation for the costs
30 associated with producing, purchasing, erecting, and maintaining
31 signs bearing the designation established pursuant to section 1 of
32 this act and entering into agreements related thereto, with private
33 sources, including but not limited to non-governmental non-profit,
34 educational, or charitable entities or institutions. Work shall not
35 proceed and funding shall not be accepted by the Department of
36 Transportation until an agreement has been reached with a
37 responsible party for paying the costs associated with producing,
38 purchasing, erecting, and maintaining the signs.

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40 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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43 STATEMENT

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45 This bill designates the Harter Road Interchange on Interstate
46 Highway Route 287 in Morris Township as the “Warren E. Wilhide
47 Interchange” to honor the community and military service career of
48 Warren E. Wilhide Sr. Mr. Wilhide served in the Korean War, was

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1 a pillar of the Morris County community, and was instrumental in
2 the designation of Interstate Highway Route 287 to honor Korean
3 War Veterans.

4 Consistent with Department of Transportation policy and other
5 road designations, the bill provides that State or other public funds
6 are not to be used for producing, purchasing, or erecting signs
7 bearing the designation for the “Warren E. Wilhide Interchange.”
8 The Commissioner of Transportation is authorized to receive
9 financial assistance from private sources for the costs associated
10 with producing, purchasing, erecting, and maintaining signs bearing
11 the designation.