

1 HJR39
2 204676-2
3 By Representative Standridge
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 18-FEB-20

NAMING THE U.S. HIGHWAY 231 BRIDGE OVER THE L AND N
RAILROAD IN BLOUNT COUNTY THE SSGT FORREST B. SIBLEY MEMORIAL
BRIDGE.

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has a sad, but sacred,
duty to honor the memory of its sons and daughters who, while
serving in the Armed Forces of the United States, have fallen
to protect us and to preserve our freedoms; and

WHEREAS, Forrest Brent Sibley was born on October
21, 1983, in Louisiana, and spent his adolescent years in
Blount County, graduating from Appalachian High School in
Oneonta; the people of Alabama proudly lay claim to him as one
of their own; and

WHEREAS, Forrest Brent Sibley enlisted in the United
States Air Force on November 18, 2008, and after his basic
training and Combat Controller training, he served with
distinction rising to the rank of Staff Sergeant, with
assignments to the 23rd Special Tactics Squadron, the 24th
Special Tactics Squadron and the 21st Special Tactics
Squadron; and

1 WHEREAS, SSgt. Sibley deployed four times to
2 sensitive locations around the world and distinguished himself
3 by heroism and gallantry, and was a four-time recipient of the
4 Bronze Star, once with the valor device, two Purple Hearts and
5 the Air Force Commendation Medal; and

6 WHEREAS, SSgt. Sibley was killed in action in
7 Afghanistan on August 26, 2015, at the age of 31, leaving his
8 state and nation owing a debt of gratitude for his sacrifice;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, SSgt. Forrest Brent Sibley is deserving of
11 a special designation that may ensure he is remembered with
12 the utmost respect by all Alabamians; now therefore,

13 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
14 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That in honor of SSgt. Forrest
15 Brent Sibley, we declare that the bridge over the L and N
16 Railroad track at mile point 251.681 on U.S. Highway 231, 0.2
17 miles west of Oneonta, be named in perpetuity the SSgt.
18 Forrest B. Sibley Memorial Bridge.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Department of
20 Transportation is requested to determine the cost of
21 fabricating and erecting the appropriate signs or markers,
22 consistent with the applicable requirements and laws, and upon
23 receiving funds from non-state sources covering that cost, to
24 erect those signs or markers as provided in this resolution in
25 recognition of this meritorious designation.