

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 46th Legislature (1997)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR SENATE JOINT
RESOLUTION NO. 8

By: Shurden

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

A Joint Resolution designating a portion of U.S. Highway 75 as the "Colonel John L. Hillman Parkway"; amending 69 O.S. 1991, Section 1619, which relates to the American Wars Highway; changing name of U.S. Highway 75; and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, Colonel John L. Hillman was born September 30, 1912, in Ontario, Canada. Colonel Hillman graduated from high school in Okmulgee, Oklahoma with the class of 1933; and

WHEREAS, Colonel John L. Hillman enlisted in the military, in the 45th Infantry Division on September 4, 1933. John L. Hillman was commissioned as Second Lieutenant in 1941 and was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in 1946; and

WHEREAS, Colonel John L. Hillman served in World War II with the 179th Infantry Regiment in Sicily, Italy, southern France and Germany. Colonel Hillman was Commanding Officer of Company C of the 179th Infantry Regiment from the beginning of the Sicily Campaign until Sicily was captured; and

WHEREAS, Colonel John L. Hillman served in the Korean War with the 279th Infantry Regiment in the Chorwon Valley Sector of Korea during the Second Korean Winter Campaign. Colonel Hillman was Commanding Officer of Second Battalion, 279th Infantry Regiment during the engagements on Hill Baldy, Pokkae Ridge and others; and

WHEREAS, Colonel John L. Hillman returned to the United States and was released from active duty in 1952. Colonel Hillman joined the Oklahoma Army National Guard, 45th Infantry Division, where he was assigned to command the 279th Infantry Regiment. Colonel Hillman served in this position until 1959 when he was assigned to command the 1st Battle Group, 279th Infantry; and

WHEREAS, Colonel John L. Hillman's awards and decorations include the Silver Star, Bronze Star Medal, Reserve Forces Medal, Oklahoma Long Service Medal, American Defense Medal, Victory Medal WWII, Combat Infantry Badge, Korean Conflict Ribbon, and many others for his outstanding military service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 46TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 69 O.S. 1991, Section 1619, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1619. A. State Highway 99 from the Kansas border extending through Pawhuska, Drumright, Prague, Seminole, Ada, and Tishomingo to Lake Texoma shall be designated the "Veterans Memorial Highway" in honor of all veterans who have served this country in times of war and peace. The Oklahoma Department of Transportation shall cause suitable permanent markers to be placed upon the highway bearing said name and an appropriate designation to memorialize the veterans of this country.

B. U.S. Highway 75 from Tulsa through Okmulgee to Henryetta shall be designated ~~the "American Wars Highway"~~ as the "Colonel John L. Hillman Parkway" in honor of one of Oklahoma's most outstanding military veterans and former Commander of the 279th Infantry Regiment. The Oklahoma Department of Transportation shall cause suitable permanent markers to be placed upon the highway bearing said name.

SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby

declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

46-1-1017

RH