

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 49th Legislature (2004)

HOUSE CONCURRENT

RESOLUTION HCR1055:

McCarter of the House

and

Leftwich of the Senate

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution redesignating the bridge spanning the South Canadian River on State Highway 4 between State Highway 152 and State Highway 37 as Pikey's Crossing; directing the Oklahoma Department of Transportation to place permanent markers; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Benson Pikey established and operated a crossing and ferry boat on the exact location of this bridge; and

WHEREAS, Ben Pikey served as a Representative and Speaker of the House for the Chickasaw Nation during the 1800's; and

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2003, the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature passed a General Resolution Number 20-038 that was a request for the Governor of the Chickasaw Nation to communicate with the State of Oklahoma regarding the naming of the bridge and that the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature supports the naming of the bridge as "Pikey's Crossing", and has volunteered to fund this project; and

WHEREAS, historical documentation states that Pikey's Crossing was used as a major entry point during the 1889 Land Run of Oklahoma and the Pikey family continued to operate this ferry through the late 1920's; and

WHEREAS, Ben Pikey was authorized by the Legislature of the Chickasaw Nation to erect a fence up and down the South Canadian River in Pontotoc County, which is now Grady County; and

WHEREAS, as citizens of the Chickasaw Nation, Ben and his wife Katie Pikey were early settlers in the Silver City area and his name is listed on a monument in Tuttle and that states: "Silver City Pioneers, First Settlement in the Chickasaw County 1873-1891"; and

WHEREAS, Ben Pikey was an exemplary representative of the stalwart people that established the fine State of Oklahoma having survived the Trail of Tears in 1837; and

WHEREAS, Pikey's Crossing was used as part of the Chisholm Trail; and

WHEREAS, the index to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Deeds and Allotments states the land surrounding the bridge was issued to family members of Ben and Katie Pikey.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 49TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the bridge crossing the Canadian River on State Highway 4 between State Highway 152 and State Highway 37 be redesignated as "Pikey's Crossing".

THAT the Oklahoma Department of Transportation shall cause permanent and suitable markers to be placed upon the bridge bearing the name.

THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the Secretary of Transportation Phil Tomlinson and the Director of Transportation Gary Ridley, the State Transportation Commission, and Governor Bill Anoatubby of the Chickasaw Nation.

49-2-8478

MD

02/25/04