

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 12

(By Delegates Frazier, Gearheart, and Ellington)

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6 Requesting the Athens-Pipestem Road in Mercer County, West
7 Virginia, beginning at the intersection of Route 20 and
8 Vermillion Street in the Town of Athens then proceeding north
9 on Route 20 through the Town of Athens, continuing north on
10 Route 20 and ending at the Summers County line, be named the
11 "Senator Homer K. Ball Memorial Road."

12 WHEREAS, The Honorable Homer K. Ball was born on October 14,
13 1924 in Lerona, West Virginia, the son of the late William Harvey
14 Ball and Sallie Keaton Ball. He was a graduate of Athens High
15 School, received his B. A. Degree from Concord College (now
16 University) in Athens and earned his Master's Degree in Public
17 Health from the University of Michigan; and

18 WHEREAS, Homer K. Ball served in the West Virginia House of
19 Delegates from 1995 through 1996, in the West Virginia Senate from
20 1997 through 2000 and as sheriff of Mercer County from 1965 through
21 1968, served on the Athens Town Council, was a representative on
22 the National Silver Haired Congress and as Chairman of the Mercer
23 County Democratic Party; and

24 WHEREAS, Homer K. Ball was a faithful member of the Concord
25 United Methodist Church, a member of the Concord Masonic Lodge #48,

1 AF and AM, a member of Chapter #26 of the Royal Arch Masons and a
2 member of the Athens Lion Club; and

3 WHEREAS, Homer K. Ball retired from Concord University after
4 serving for over twenty-five years as the Director of Physical
5 Plant and founded the Homer K. Ball Golf Tournament held at
6 Pipestem State Park that has been ongoing for twenty-one years and
7 has raised more than \$300,000 for student scholarships at Concord
8 University; and

9 WHEREAS, Homer K. Ball served his country in the United States
10 Army during the World War II in the Pacific Theater; and

11 WHEREAS, Homer K. Ball died on August 21, 2008, at his home in
12 Athens, Mercer County, West Virginia. He was survived by his wife
13 of fifty-four years, Helen Blankenship Ball; a daughter, Laura Jean
14 Ball; his son, Gregory K. Ball; his son Phillip B. Ball and his
15 wife Kathy; his two grandchildren, Martha Claire Ball and Jackson
16 Henry Ball; and four siblings: Madeline Hurt and her husband Jim
17 Bob Hurt; Ruby Jean Bishop, William Kenneth Ball and James W.
18 "Jimmy" Ball and his wife Dreama Ball. He was preceded in death by
19 his daughter, Martha Jean Ball; and

20 WHEREAS, Homer K. Ball was a committed and respected public
21 servant and worked tirelessly on many issues for the benefit of the
22 citizens of Athens and Mercer county. He was a beloved husband,
23 father, brother and friend who died after many years in the service
24 to his community, county, state and country and will be missed by
25 all who knew him; and

1 WHEREAS, The life of Homer K. Ball shall be recognized and
2 honored; therefore, be it

3 *Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

4 That the Division of Highways is hereby requested that the
5 Athens-Pipestem Road in Mercer County, West Virginia, beginning at
6 the intersection of Route 20 and Vermillion Street in the Town of
7 Athens then proceeding North on Route 20 through the Town of
8 Athens, continuing north on Route 20 and ending at the Summers
9 County line, be named the "Senator Homer K. Ball Memorial Road";
10 and, be it

11 *Further Resolved,* That the Commissioner of the Division of
12 Highways is hereby requested to cause to be fabricated signs to be
13 erected at each entryway of the road, containing bold and prominent
14 letters proclaiming the road to be named the "Senator Homer Ball
15 Memorial Road"; and, be it

16 *Further Resolved,* That the Clerk of the House of Delegates
17 forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Commissioner of
18 the Division of Highways and the surviving family of Senator Homer
19 K. Ball.