Department of TN
American Gold Star Mothers
President, Cindy Tatum

RECEIVED
FEB 18 2014

2-13-14

Ernest Burgess, County Mayor
Public Sq., Courthouse Rm 101
Murfreesboro, TN 37130

Dear Mayor Burgess,

On December 24, 2007, my son, Cpl Daniel Lee Tatum, USMC, died in a motor vehicle/train collision in Oceanside, CA while stationed at Camp Pendleton. Daniel had served 2 tours in Iraq. Shortly after my son's death, I joined the American Gold Star Mothers Inc., Department of Tennessee. Joining with other moms who have experienced the loss of a child serving in the military, we try to fulfill the mission statement of our organization: honoring our children through service to Veterans and Military Families. We are always seeking ways to educate the public about Gold Star Families and to keep the sacrifices of our loved ones from being forgotten.

Last year, we sent a letter to Governor Haslam requesting that TN honor and memorialize her men and women who have died while in military service to our country. We suggested designating a major highway that crosses the state be named in honor of our heroes. We feel it is important that the highway cross the state rather than be located in one region of the state, because our sons and daughters have come from across Tennessee. We were instructed to write our State Senators and Representatives making this request. Currently Gold Star Mothers across the state are sending out letters to their respective County Mayors, Representatives and Senators.

Our request has been heard, and Bill Sanderson, Representative from District 77 has agreed to Sponsor our resolution. Many other legislators from across the state have agreed to sign-on as co-sponsors and to vote in favor of the resolution. Recently we met with Bill, and agreed that we would like the designated highway to be State Route 1, which brings me to the point of this letter.

This highway crosses 23 counties in the state of Tennessee, including yours. We would like for each of these 23 counties to adopt the attached resolution so the signs can be placed at the entrance and exit of your county along State Route 1. The approximate cost to your county will be $162.50 a piece for the two signs. The signs will state the following: Gold Star Families Memorial Highway-Honoring our Fallen Heroes. TDOT for your region would install the signs in the appropriate location along State Route 1. Once your county has passed the Resolution, we need you to contact the State Representatives for your region to let them know you passed the resolution and Representative Bill Sanderson's office. This is a joint venture of all the counties involved, and I know the Gold Star Families in your county will appreciate your participation.

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We would be happy to work with you on this project in any way necessary. Other states have designated highways in this manner and we feel it would be a wonderful way to educate the public and to let people who travel across the Volunteer State know that we support and honor our Heroes past and present.

Please feel free to contact me; my cell number is 731-693-9394 and my email is cindyjtatum@gmail.com. Thank you for your consideration of our request. I have included the contact information for Representative Bill Sanderson below for your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Cindy Tatum

Cindy Tatum, Proud American Gold Star Mother of Cpl Daniel Lee Tatum, USMC
President, Dept of TN American Gold Star Mothers
223 Walnut Grove Road
Milan, TN 38358

Representative Bill Sanderson
301 6th Avenue North
Suite 204 War Memorial Bldg.
Nashville TN 37243
Phone: (615) 741-0718
Fax (615) 253-0214
rep.bill.sanderson@capitol.tn.gov

RESOLUTION NO. _____

TO SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THE TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
TO HONOR OUR FALLEN HEROES AND THEIR FAMILIES
BY NAMING STATE ROUTE 1 "THE GOLD STAR FAMILIES MEMORIAL HIGHWAY"

WHEREAS, since the birth of our great nation, hundreds of thousands of brave American men and women have served their country in the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, many of these courageous men and women have lost their lives defending the most inviolate principles of human freedom and democracy; and

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that we should honor the families of those brave sons and daughters who have made the ultimate sacrifice to preserve the blessed freedoms we enjoy today; and

WHEREAS, American Gold Star Mothers, Inc., is an organization whose sole mission is to honor their family members who have lost their lives in service to our country since 1928; and

WHEREAS, _____ County supports the efforts of the Tennessee General Assembly to honor our fallen heroes and their families by naming State Route 1 "The Gold Star Families Memorial Highway" in memory of those who gave their lives so that we might enjoy the many bounties of democracy and the American way of life; and

WHEREAS, _____ County desires to join the efforts of the General Assembly by expressing its willingness to provide and erect suitable signs to so designate the portion of State Route 1 that runs through _____ County;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of _____County, meeting in _____ session on this ____ day of _____, 2014, that _____ County strongly supports the efforts of the Tennessee General Assembly to honor our fallen heroes and their families by naming State Route 1 "The Gold Star Families Memorial Highway", and in support of that effort _____ County hereby expresses its willingness, as funds are available, to provide and erect two (2) appropriate signs on State Route 1, with such signs to be placed where State Route 1 enters _____ County.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2014.

APPROVED:_____
County Mayor/Executive

ATTEST:_____
County Clerk