
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1798 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY BURNS, HILL-EVANS, FREEMAN AND KEPHART,
OCTOBER 27, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, OCTOBER 27, 2023

AN ACT

1 Designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 8345, on that
2 portion of U.S. Route 22 over Howells Run in Cambria
3 Township, Cambria County, as the Michael G. Tsikalas Memorial
4 Bridge.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Michael G. Tsikalas Memorial Bridge.

8 (a) Findings.--The General Assembly finds and declares as
9 follows:

10 (1) Michael G. Tsikalas was born June 3, 1926, in
11 Uniontown.

12 (2) Mr. Tsikalas enlisted in the United States Navy
13 during World War II and was assigned to an amphibious land
14 cruiser, which was one of the first ships to land on Omaha
15 Beach during D-Day.

16 (3) After the war, Mr. Tsikalas worked for more than 40
17 years at the Hi-Way Diner and acted as a guide for many young
18 men in need or searching for advice.

19 (4) Mr. Tsikalas served as a role model while coaching

1 grade school football for more than 30 years at both Holy
2 Name Elementary School and Ebensburg Elementary School.

3 (5) Mr. Tsikalas' devotion to his community included
4 more than 20 years of service as Mayor of Ebensburg Borough
5 and Cambria County Prothonotary.

6 (6) As Mayor, Mr. Tsikalas was instrumental in many
7 improvements, including the Rowena Revitalization Project and
8 the Ebensburg Main Street Program.

9 (7) Mr. Tsikalas took great joy in administering the
10 Naturalization Oath of Allegiance to the United States of
11 America to new American citizens in his position as Cambria
12 County Prothonotary.

13 (8) Mr. Tsikalas was best known as "Mayor Mike" and
14 "Coach" to countless members of his community.

15 (9) Mr. Tsikalas passed away on May 18, 2022, after
16 decades of selfless service to his community.

17 (b) Designation.--The bridge, identified as Bridge Key 8345,
18 on that portion of U.S. Route 22 over Howells Run in Cambria
19 Township, Cambria County, is designated the Michael G. Tsikalas
20 Memorial Bridge.

21 (c) Signs.--The Department of Transportation shall erect and
22 maintain appropriate signs displaying the name of the bridge to
23 traffic in both directions on the bridge.

24 Section 2. Effective date.

25 This act shall take effect in 60 days.