

ACTS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA 2009

Act 180

House Resolution 336, Part IV

Effective May 5, 2009

BOBBY WALDEN HIGHWAY — DESIGNATED.

A RESOLUTION

Dedicating certain portions of the state highway system; and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, Bobby Walden, the "Big Toe from Cairo" was born in Boston, Georgia, on March 9, 1938; and

WHEREAS, he was an all-state halfback at Cairo and also lettered in basketball and track; and

WHEREAS, he went to the University of Georgia in 1957 and was part of a Bulldog football team that included teammates Fran Tarkenton, Fred Brown, Bill Godfrey, Pat Dye, and Charlie Britt; and

WHEREAS, at the conclusion of his college career, Bobby joined the Edmonton Eskimos, and he led the team in punting, rushing, and receiving in 1961 and 1962; and

WHEREAS, he then joined the Minnesota Vikings of the National Football League and led the NFL in punting in 1965 with an average of 46.4 yards per kick; and

WHEREAS, Bobby was traded to the Pittsburgh Steelers in 1967 and continued as one of the premier punters in the league for the next decade; and

WHEREAS, he was an All-Pro selection in 1974, and he punted for Pittsburgh's Super Bowl championship teams in 1974 and 1975; and

WHEREAS, Bobby has returned to his roots to live in Cairo and Bainbridge since his retirement from professional football in 1977; and

WHEREAS, Bobby has been married for 44 years to the former Scarlett Bates of Bainbridge, and they have one son, Bobby Walden, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, it is only fitting and proper that Bobby Walden be recognized for his outstanding accomplishments on and off the football field.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA, that the portion of US-84 in Decatur County, from the Grady County line, west to the traffic light at Whigham Dairy Road, running common with the Wiregrass Georgia Parkway, be designated as the Bobby Walden Highway.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Department of Transportation is authorized and directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the road facilities named in this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this Resolution to the Department of Transportation and the family of Robert Earl (Bobby) Walden.