

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 459

To require a study and report regarding the designations and construction of a new interstate route from Savannah, Georgia to Knoxville, Tennessee.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 18, 2005

Mr. CHAMBLISS (for himself and Mr. ISAKSON) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To require a study and report regarding the designations and construction of a new interstate route from Savannah, Georgia to Knoxville, Tennessee.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Interstate 3/3rd Infan-
5 try Division Highway Initiation Act.”.

6 **SEC. 2. INTERSTATE 3/3RD INFANTRY DIVISION HIGHWAY.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

8 (1) in accordance with the original purposes of
9 the Dwight D. Eisenhower National System of Inter-

1 state and Defense Highways, a direct interstate
2 highway link between Fort Gordon, Eisenhower
3 Army Regional Medical Center, the Augusta Vet-
4 erans Administration Hospitals, Fort Stewart,
5 Hunter Army Airfield, and the Port of Savannah
6 would be in the strategic defense interest of the
7 United States;

8 (2) eastern Georgia, western North Carolina,
9 and the Great Smoky Mountains region of Ten-
10 nessee are underserved by north-south interstate
11 highways, and would benefit economically and
12 through increased public safety by establishment of
13 an interstate highway extending from Savannah,
14 Georgia to Knoxville, Tennessee, following a route
15 generally defined through Sylvania, Waynesboro, Au-
16 gusta, Lincolnton, Elberton, Hartwell, Toccoa, and
17 Young Harris, Georgia, and Maryville, Tennessee;

18 (3) the United States Army 3rd Infantry Divi-
19 sion of Fort Stewart, Georgia, provided the “Tip of
20 the Spear” in the War on Terror in Iraq;

21 (4) the soldiers of that Division sacrificed their
22 blood and lives so that their fellow Americans may
23 live in peace and freedom;

1 (5) the soldiers of that Division conquered
2 Najaf, seized Saddam International Airport, and
3 Saddam Hussein’s palaces; and

4 (6) those soldiers led the fighting on the day of
5 Baghdad’s historic liberation.

6 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
7 gress that—

8 (1) a new interstate highway designated as
9 “United States Interstate Route 3” should be con-
10 structed on the routes described in subsection (a)(2)
11 between Savannah, Georgia and Knoxville, Ten-
12 nessee; and

13 (2) that interstate highway should be known
14 and designated as the “3rd Infantry Division High-
15 way”, in honor of the professionalism, heroism, and
16 sacrifice of the men and women of the United States
17 Army 3rd Infantry Division in defending the free-
18 dom of the United States.

19 (c) STUDY AND REPORT.—Not later than December
20 31, 2005, the Secretary of Transportation shall study and
21 submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report
22 on the steps and estimated funding necessary to designate
23 and construct a new interstate route for the 3rd Infantry
24 Division Highway, from Savannah, Georgia and Knoxville,

- 1 Tennessee (formerly the Savannah River Parkway in the
- 2 State of Georgia), as described in subsection (b).

