

**HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Indiana Department of Transportation to rename a section of U.S. Highway 231 the "Ray Ewry Memorial Highway".

Klinker, Truitt

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Indiana Department of Transportation to rename a section of U.S. Highway 231 the "Ray Ewry Memorial Highway".

Whereas, Ray Ewry was born on October 14, 1873, and grew up in Lafayette, Indiana;

Whereas, Mr. Ewry was orphaned at the age of 5 and diagnosed with polio at 7;

Whereas, Ray Ewry, despite being told he would never walk again, was able to stand and walk with the help of a physical therapist who strengthened his legs;

Whereas, Mr. Ewry's tenacity and self-determination were described in this way: "There was Ray, doing his exercises from the moment he woke up in the morning until the moment he fell asleep at night. There was Ray, pushing himself out of his chair and onto the ground, pushing the earth away, teaching himself to stand. There was Ray, balancing himself on his two feet. There was Ray, leaving the ground, jumping. Imagine the look on the boy's face as he jumped for the first time. Ray jumped over and over again. He jumped simply because he could. He jumped not for glory or for gold, but to keep the wheelchair away";

Whereas, Ray Ewry went on to lead the Purdue University varsity track team in its first national title, breaking records in the standing high jump, the standing long jump, and the standing triple jump;



Whereas, Mr. Ewry competed in the Paris Olympics in 1900, the St. Louis Olympics in 1904, the Athens Olympics in 1906, and the London Olympics in 1908, winning every event he competed in for a total of 10 gold medals;

Whereas, Ray Ewry was dubbed "L'Homme Grenouille" or the "Frog Man" due to the length and height he was able to leap, bound, and hop;

Whereas, Ray Ewry is among the most successful Olympians of all time, second only to Michael Phelps' 11 medals;

Whereas, Mr. Ewry was inducted into the USA Track and Field Hall of Fame in 1974;

Whereas, Mr. Ewry used the engineering degree he received from Purdue University to build dams and reservoirs for the New York Board of Water Supply that still today supply drinking water to a city of over 8 million residents; and

Whereas, Mr. Ewry inspires all of us to "dream big" and to believe that nothing is beyond our reach. His achievements are a reminder to all that we can overcome any limitation if we are prudent, work hard, and truly believe in our ability to succeed: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,
the Senate concurring:*

- 1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly honors the
- 2 memory of Raymond Clarence Ewry and his legacy by renaming a
- 3 section of U.S. Highway 231 the "Ray Ewry Memorial Highway".
- 4 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House Representatives
- 5 transmit a copy of this resolution to the family of Ray Ewry and the
- 6 Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Transportation.

