

House Concurrent Resolution No. 22

93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5184L.011

1 **Whereas**, Missouri highway work zone crashes resulted in 5,852 injuries and 97
2 deaths to motorists between 1999 and 2003; and

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4 **Whereas**, in 2004, three Missouri Department of Transportation employees were
5 killed and 69 injured in work zones; and

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7 **Whereas**, 28 Missouri State Highway Patrolmen have given the ultimate sacrifice,
8 including seven Missouri State Highway Patrolmen who were killed along side Missouri's
9 highways since 2001; and 16 Missouri State Highway Patrol vehicles have been involved in
10 traffic accidents in the last twelve months; and

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12 **Whereas**, highway injuries and fatalities are the result of driver inattention and the
13 failure of drivers to slow down and move over in work zones or upon approach of emergency
14 vehicles; and

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16 **Whereas**, highway workers, including employees of the Missouri Department of
17 Transportation, Missouri State Highway Patrol, law enforcement agencies, emergency medical
18 services personnel, and highway contractors, regularly must work within the public right of way
19 and in close proximity to traffic; and

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21 **Whereas**, many of the causes of highway work deaths are preventable, including
22 driver inattention, driving too fast for conditions, failing to yield right of way, following too
23 closely and changing lanes improperly; and

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25 **Whereas**, the Missouri General Assembly passed House Bill No. 1270 and House
26 Bill No. 2032 in 2002 to require Missouri motorists to move over one lane or slow down when
27 approaching parked emergency motor vehicles on highway right-of-ways; and

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29 **Whereas**, public awareness of the need for greater caution and care by motorists
30 while driving through highway work zones, while promoting safe practices by highway workers
31 in highway work zones must be increased in the state of Missouri; and

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33 **Whereas**, the Missouri General Assembly desires to promote highway worker
34 safety and to encourage motorists traveling through Missouri highway work zones to exercise
35 caution and care; and

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37 **Whereas**, the Missouri General Assembly desires to generate an increased
38 awareness of Missouri's law to move over or slow down when approaching stationary emergency
39 vehicles in order to avoid the recent tragedies experienced by the Missouri State Highway Patrol:

40 **Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the members of the House of
41 Representatives of the Ninety-third General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate
42 concurring therein, hereby strongly encourage the Missouri Department of Transportation to
43 create individual highway signs detailing the name and date of highway workers, emergency
44 workers, and highway patrol officers injured or killed on Missouri highways and erect such signs
45 at the location of the injury or death. The Missouri Department of Transportation shall not create
46 or erect such highway signs unless the immediate family members of the highway workers,
47 emergency workers, or highway patrol officers approve of the sign's creation; and

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49 **Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
50 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the
51 Missouri Department of Transportation.