



SENATE BILL 772: Rename Cape Fear River Bridge at Tar Heel.

2016-2017 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Transportation. If favorable, re-refer to Appropriations/Base Budget	Date:	May 11, 2016
Introduced by:	Sens. Rabon, Meredith	Prepared by:	Wendy Ray
Analysis of:	First Edition		Committee Counsel

SUMMARY: *Senate Bill 772 would rename the Cape Fear River Bridge the "David B. Melvin Memorial Bridge" and appropriate \$1,000 to be used for signage.*

[As introduced, this bill was identical to H1008, as introduced by Reps. Brisson, Waddell, which is currently in House Appropriations.]

CURRENT LAW: G.S. 136-18(8) gives the Department of Transportation the authority to give suitable names to State highways and bridges.

BILL ANALYSIS: Senate Bill 772 would direct the Department of Transportation to rename the Cape Fear River Bridge located in the Town of Tar Heel in Bladen County the "David B. Melvin Memorial Bridge." The bill would also appropriate \$1,000 from the Highway Fund to the Department to be used for signage.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The act would become effective July 1, 2016.

BACKGROUND: In 2014, the Bladen County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution supporting the renaming of the Cape Fear River Bridge at Tar Heel in memory of David B. Melvin. Mr. Melvin served as the ferry skipper at the Tar Heel/White Oak crossing of the Cape Fear River. In September of 1954, Mr. Melvin fell and drowned in the Cape Fear River while operating the ferry at night.

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