

## CHAPTER 212

AN ACT designating State Highway Route No. 53 as “Alex DeCroce Memorial Highway.”

**WHEREAS**, The Honorable Alex DeCroce, born June 10, 1936 in Morristown, New Jersey, was a life-long New Jersey resident who grew up in Morris County and attended Boonton High School and Seton Hall University; and

**WHEREAS**, As a pillar of the community in Morris County, Alex DeCroce served in numerous public offices, including the County College of Morris Board of Trustees, the Morris County Board of Elections, the Morris County Board of Taxation, the Morris County Republican Committee, the Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders, and the New Jersey General Assembly; and

**WHEREAS**, Assemblyman DeCroce was sworn into the General Assembly on January 26, 1989, and, prior to his death, was the longest serving member of the General Assembly, representing the 26th Legislative District for 23 years; and

**WHEREAS**, As the Republican Leader in the General Assembly, Assemblyman DeCroce also served as the Deputy Speaker to the General Assembly, the Republican Conference Leader, the Co-Chairman to the Bipartisan Leadership Committee, and was a member of the Legislative Services Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, While in the General Assembly, Assemblyman DeCroce sponsored numerous pieces of legislation that improved the quality of life enjoyed by the citizens of this State, such as legislation to strengthen the rights of crime victims, reward special needs students, renew the State Transportation Trust Fund, and dedicate the Motor Fuel Tax for transportation infrastructure projects; and

**WHEREAS**, Following the final voting session of the 214th Legislature, Assemblyman Alex DeCroce passed away on January 9, 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, With an unwavering devotion to the people of Morris County and the State of New Jersey, it is fitting and proper for the Legislature of the State of the New Jersey to honor the memory of Assemblyman Alex DeCroce for his many contributions to the General Assembly and to the State by designating the entire length of State Highway Route No. 53 as the “Alex DeCroce Memorial Highway;” now, therefore,

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. The Commissioner of Transportation shall designate the entire length of State Highway Route No. 53 as the “Alex DeCroce Memorial Highway” and erect appropriate signs bearing this designation and dedication.

2. No State or other public funds shall be used for producing, purchasing, or erecting signs bearing the designation established pursuant to section 1 of this act. The Commissioner of Transportation is authorized to receive gifts, grants, or other financial assistance from private sources for the purpose of funding or reimbursing the Department of Transportation for the costs associated with producing, purchasing, and erecting signs bearing the designation established pursuant to section 1 of this act and entering into agreements related thereto, with such private sources, including, but not limited to, non-governmental non-profit, educational, or charitable entities or institutions. No work shall proceed, and no funding shall be accepted by the department until an agreement has been reached with a responsible party for paying the costs associated with producing, purchasing, erecting, and maintaining the signs.

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved January 17, 2014.