

Enactment of my Administration's transportation revenue program by the 1982 Session of the General Assembly made it possible to finance the new U.S. Route 50 bridge over the Choptank River as a toll free Transportation Trust Fund project. Therefore, it is appropriate to delete the requirement that the bridge be a toll facility project. With respect to the new naming of the bridge, however, I note that the existing U.S. Route 50 bridge is named the "Emerson C. Harrington Bridge," in commemoration of Maryland's distinguished Fifty-first Governor. Governor Harrington was a lifelong resident of Dorchester County, and his descendants still reside in the area. I believe it is most appropriate to continue to honor the memory of his fine dedicated public service by retaining his name for the new replacement structure. To not do so would certainly be inappropriate.

In acting on this matter, I wish to emphasize that it is not my intent to cause embarrassment for Senator Malkus, a distinguished member of the Maryland Senate for 34 years, but it is only out of respect for another distinguished Eastern Shoreman, Governor Harrington. In recognition of the Senator's long record of public service, and pursuant to the intent of his legislative colleagues, I will propose to the Transportation Commission that the new Vienna Bridge crossing the Nanticoke River be named in his honor.

For these reasons, I have decided to veto House Bill 1610.

Sincerely,
Harry Hughes
Governor

House Bill No. 1610

AN ACT concerning

~~Maryland-Transportation-Authority---Choptank River Bridge~~

FOR the purpose of repealing the power of the Maryland Transportation Authority to condemn property for the Choptank River Bridge transportation facilities project; eliminating the requirements that the Maryland Transportation Authority construct, operate, and maintain a bridge across the Choptank River in a certain manner; repealing the power of the Authority to enter into certain trust agreements and take other action relating to the Choptank River Bridge; providing for the naming of the Choptank River Bridge; and generally relating to ~~repealing certain-provisions--concerning~~ the Choptank River Bridge transportation facilities project.