

110<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# S. 3145

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 25, 2008

Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## AN ACT

To designate a portion of United States Route 20A, located in Orchard Park, New York, as the “Timothy J. Russert Highway”.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2        *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) Timothy “Tim” John Russert was born on  
4 May 7, 1950 in Buffalo, New York, to Elizabeth and  
5 Timothy Joseph Russert.

6 (2) Tim Russert graduated from Canisius High  
7 School in Buffalo, New York, earned his bachelor’s  
8 degree in political science from John Carroll Univer-  
9 sity in 1972, and his Juris Doctor from Cleveland  
10 State University—Marshall School of Law in 1976.

11 (3) Tim Russert embarked on a career in public  
12 service with United States Senator Daniel Patrick  
13 Moynihan and the Governor of New York, Mario  
14 Cuomo, from 1977 to 1984.

15 (4) After his career in public service and New  
16 York politics, Tim Russert began his career in jour-  
17 nalism when he joined NBC in 1984.

18 (5) In 1991, Tim Russert became the host of  
19 the Sunday morning news program Meet the Press,  
20 the longest-running program in the history of tele-  
21 vision. He would go on to become the longest serving  
22 host of the show.

23 (6) Throughout his career, Tim Russert re-  
24 ceived 48 honorary doctorates and several awards  
25 for excellence in journalism, including—

1 (A) the Edward R. Murrow Award from  
2 the Radio-Television News Directors Associa-  
3 tion;

4 (B) the John Peter Zenger Freedom of the  
5 Press Award;

6 (C) the American Legion Journalism  
7 Award;

8 (D) the Veterans of Foreign Wars News  
9 Media Award;

10 (E) the Congressional Medal of Honor So-  
11 ciety Journalism Award;

12 (F) the Allen H. Neuharth Award for Ex-  
13 cellence in Journalism;

14 (G) the David Brinkley Award for Excel-  
15 lence in Communication;

16 (H) the Catholic Academy for Communica-  
17 tion's Gabriel Award; and

18 (I) an Emmy Award from the National  
19 Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

20 (7) In 2004, Tim Russert authored the best-  
21 selling autobiography, *Big Russ and Me*, which  
22 chronicled his life growing up in South Buffalo and  
23 his education at Canisius High School. He is also  
24 the author of *Wisdom of our Fathers*.

1           (8) Tim Russert advocated on behalf of abused  
2 children and voiced the need to protect our Nation’s  
3 young people, serving on the board of directors of  
4 the Greater Washington Boys and Girls Club and  
5 America’s Promise—Alliance for Youth.

6           (9) Tim Russert sat in the front seat of history,  
7 chronicling the political and societal events that have  
8 defined our time, and serving as a trusted source of  
9 information and analysis for millions of Americans.

10          (10) Tim Russert was a tireless booster of Buf-  
11 falo, a famous fan of his beloved Buffalo Bills, and  
12 was always proud of his South Buffalo roots, a  
13 source of civic pride in the Western New York com-  
14 munity.

15          (11) Tim Russert passed away on June 13,  
16 2008. He is survived by his wife, Maureen Orth and  
17 their son, Luke Russert.

18 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION.**

19          The portion of United States Route 20A located in  
20 Orchard Park, New York, between Abbot Road and Cali-  
21 fornia Road shall be known and designated as the “Tim-  
22 othy J. Russert Highway”.

23 **SEC. 3. REFERENCES.**

24          Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document,  
25 paper, or other record of the United States to the portion

1 of United States Route 20A referred to in section 2 shall  
2 be deemed to be a reference to the Timothy J. Russert  
3 Highway.

Passed the Senate June 24 (legislative day, June  
23), 2008.

Attest:

NANCY ERICKSON,

*Secretary.*