

RESOLUTION FOR HERB THOMAS

WHEREAS, Herb Thomas was born on April 6, 1923, in western Harnett County and grew up on a family farm; and

WHEREAS, Thomas began racing cars after seeing modified car races in Greensboro in 1947; and

WHEREAS, Thomas won his first race in Martinsville, VA, in 1950, and his career quickly took off; and

WHEREAS, Thomas started in 230 NASCAR races, winning 48, and capturing 38 poles; and

WHEREAS, Thomas was the first driver to win two NASCAR premier series championships in 1951 and 1953, and he finished in the top two in the point standings in all but one season between 1951 and 1956; and

WHEREAS, Thomas won the first NASCAR Cup Series race at Harnett County Speedway in March 1953, leading all 200 laps; and

WHEREAS, Thomas ranks 13th on the NASCAR all-time wins list; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, Thomas was named one of NASCAR's 50 Greatest Drivers; and

WHEREAS, Thomas was inducted into the 2013 Class of NASCAR Hall of Fame in Charlotte, NC; and

WHEREAS, Thomas was inducted into the National Motorsports Press Association Hall of Fame in 1965 and the International Motorsports Hall of Fame in 1994; and

WHEREAS, the Harnett County Board of Commissioners expressed its appreciation for the life and career of NASCAR legend Herb Thomas and the positive publicity he brought to his home county, and extends its full support to naming a portion of N.C. 87 from the Harnett/Lee County line south to Bullard Road in Harnett County in his honor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the North Carolina Board of Transportation names a portion of N.C. 87 from the Harnett / Lee County line to Bullard Road (S.R. 2196) in Harnett County as *the Herb Thomas Highway*.

That appropriate signs will be erected at a suitable time.

Adopted this the 3rd day of May 2018 by the North Carolina Board of Transportation.


Chairman


Secretary of Transportation