

OHIO TURNPIKE COMMISSION

Resolution Expressing the Commission's Sorrow
Upon the Death of James White Shocknessy

WHEREAS James White Shocknessy died at Columbus, Ohio on July 15, 1976;

WHEREAS Mr. Shocknessy was first appointed by then Governor Frank J. Lausche as a member of the Ohio Turnpike Commission and was reappointed by successive governors, and most recently by Governor James A. Rhodes, and was elected chairman by his fellow members to fourteen successive two-year terms and thus served as the only chairman which the Ohio Turnpike Commission has had from the inception of the Commission in September 1949 until his death;

WHEREAS Mr. Shocknessy's extraordinary vision and effectiveness as the chief executive of the Ohio Turnpike Commission were unique and may be unprecedented in the management of such an enterprise;

WHEREAS the Ohio Turnpike was planned, financed, constructed and has been operated and maintained under his guidance and direction, and all of these things have been done always in the open glare of public scrutiny and in accordance with the highest standards of integrity, financial management and general overall excellence, including the completion of the design, construction and opening of the Turnpike on time and the subsequent liquidation, without increasing the tolls, of the debt incurred so that the elimination of all principal bonded indebtedness of the Ohio Turnpike is now more than two-thirds accomplished, and is anticipated to be complete more than a decade ahead of schedule, even in the face of recent economic recession and inflation, thereby making it possible for the road to become toll free;

WHEREAS Mr. Shocknessy was ever mindful of the will of the people of the State of Ohio, and particularly of the enabling legislation whereby the 98th General Assembly created the Ohio Turnpike Commission, and he acted always with keen awareness, with great energy and with resolution in seeing to it that the mandate of the people of Ohio as expressed by the 98th General Assembly was carried out without deviation, without partisanship, without favoritism to any, and without impropriety of any kind;

WHEREAS the spiritual quality of Mr. Shocknessy's life was evident in his commitment to serving others by devoting his energy and exceptional talents not only to the affairs of the Ohio Turnpike Commission but also to other public, civic, religious, educational and charitable organizations which have been enriched by his guidance, unselfish service and acumen;

WHEREAS Mr. Shocknessy's exceptional character, integrity and superior intellect have been a source of strength to the people and officials of this state, and a beacon showing the way to many, especially during times characterized by doubt; and

WHEREAS the Commission cannot adequately express the loss to the people of Ohio and to it occasioned by the death of the only chairman which the Commission has had in the course of its existence to the present time, but nevertheless desires to adopt a resolution expressing the sorrow of its members, staff and employees caused by his death;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED that the Ohio Turnpike Commission, on behalf of said Commission, its members individually, its staff and its employees, hereby expresses and records

the deepest sorrow upon the occasion of the death of its late chairman, James White Shocknessy, and that the assistant secretary-treasurer be, and hereby he is, directed to send a copy of this resolution to Mr. Shocknessy's close relatives and friends, including the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the Ohio House, and President Pro Tem of the Ohio Senate.

(Resolution No. 9-1976 adopted July 27, 1976)