

**John Armstrong Memorial Highway; SGT Kevin A. Gilbertson Memorial Bridge;
HB 2070**

HB 2070 designates the portion of US-75 from the junction of US-75 and NW 46th Street in Shawnee County to the junction of US-75 and I-70 as the John Armstrong Memorial Highway and removes this portion of US-75 from designation as the Purple Heart/Combat Wounded Veterans Highway. (The designation of US-75 as the Purple Heart/Combat Wounded Veterans Highway generally extends from the Nebraska state line to the Oklahoma state line, with several exceptions in law.) [Note: According to testimony, Mr. Armstrong was an abolitionist who was active with the Underground Railroad and used a route that closely followed the route of the highway to be so designated.]

The bill also designates bridge No. 018-011 on US-77 in Cowley County as the SGT Kevin A. Gilbertson Memorial Bridge. According to testimony, Sergeant Gilbertson served in the U.S. Army's 1st Infantry Division and died August 31, 2007, while serving in Iraq. The bridge to be so designated crosses the Arkansas River near the Oklahoma state line.

The Secretary of Transportation (Secretary) is required to place suitable signs to indicate the designations. Under continuing law, the Secretary is precluded from placing these signs until the Secretary has received sufficient moneys from gifts and donations to reimburse the Secretary for the cost of placing such signs, plus an additional 50 percent of the initial cost to defray future maintenance or replacement of the signs. The Secretary may accept and administer gifts and donations to aid in obtaining and installing suitable signs.