

HOUSE BILL No. 2478

AN ACT concerning roads and highways; designating a portion of United States highway 166 as the SGT Evan S Parker memorial highway; designating a portion of U.S. highway 56 as the PFC Shane Austin memorial highway; designating a portion of United States highway 69 as the Senator Tom R Van Sickle memorial highway; designating a certain bridge on K-126 as the Dennis Crain memorial bridge; designating a portion of United States highway 69 as the AMM2c Walter Scott Brown memorial highway; designating bridges on K-66 highway as veterans memorial bridge.

WHEREAS, Sergeant Evan S. Parker was born at Wesley Medical Center in Wichita, Kansas, on May 1, 1980; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker attended South Haven USD 509 public schools from kindergarten through high school and graduated as a South Haven Cardinal in 1998; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker attended Cowley County Community College in Arkansas City, Kansas; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker joined the United States Army from Arkansas City, Kansas, and went to basic training at Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker graduated basic training with Delta Company 3rd Battalion 10th Infantry and his first assignment was at Fort Sill in Oklahoma as a Fire Support Specialist; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker was then assigned a permanent duty station at Schofield Barracks in Honolulu, Hawaii, as part of the proud 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry and 29th Brigade Combat Team, whose motto is "GO FOR BROKE"; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker was deployed to Iraq in October 2004 to Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker was awarded his first Purple Heart in May 2005 for head trauma caused by a roadside IED attack; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker was promoted to Sergeant in July 2005; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker was two weeks away from finishing his 11-month deployment when he again suffered head trauma from another roadside IED attack on October 23, 2005, and was flown to Landstuhl Army Medical Center in Germany and removed from life support on October 26, 2005, surrounded by his family; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker received the Bronze Star, second merit, the Purple Heart and the Good Conduct Medal presented by two of his commanders; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker received the Hawaii Medal of Honor in 2006; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker was honored by the Fort Shafter Flats Army Reserve 25th Infantry Division in Honolulu, Hawaii, when they dedicated the "Sgt. Evan S. Parker Pavilion" in 2008; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker is listed honorably in the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry "GO FOR BROKE" Hall of Fame in Honolulu, Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker was highly decorated in the United States Army throughout his military career as a Fire Support Specialist, is defined as a hero and sacrificed his life to protect our freedom and the principles of democracy.

Now, therefore:

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. The portion of United States highway 166 from the junction of United States highway 166 with United States highway 81 in Sumner county then east to the western city limits of Arkansas City, Kansas, in Cowley county is hereby designated as the SGT Evan S Parker memorial highway. Upon compliance with K.S.A. 68-10,114, and amendments thereto, the secretary of transportation shall place suitable signs to indicate that the highway is the SGT Evan S Parker memorial highway.

Sec. 2. The portion of United States highway 56 from the northeastern city limits of Edgerton in Johnson county, then northeast to the southwestern city limits of Gardner in Johnson county is hereby

designated as the PFC Shane Austin memorial highway. Upon compliance with K.S.A. 68-10,114, and amendments thereto, the secretary of transportation shall place suitable signs to indicate that the highway is the PFC Shane Austin memorial highway.

Sec. 3. The portion of United States highway 69 from the northern junction of United States highway 69 and United States highway 54 in Bourbon county, then north on United States highway 69 to the Linn county line is hereby designated as the Senator Tom R Van Sickle memorial highway. Upon compliance with K.S.A. 68-10,114, and amendments thereto, the secretary of transportation shall place suitable signs to indicate that the highway is the Senator Tom R Van Sickle memorial highway.

Sec. 4. Bridge No. 19-0115 located between the intersections with K-126 and north grand street and K-126 and north rouse street in the city of Pittsburg in Crawford county is hereby designated as the Dennis Crain memorial bridge. Upon compliance with K.S.A. 68-10,114, and amendments thereto, the secretary of transportation shall place suitable signs to indicate that the bridge is the Dennis Crain memorial bridge.

Sec. 5. The portion of United States highway 69 from the northern junction of United States highway 69 and K-52 highway in Linn county, then south on United States highway 69 to the southern junction of United States highway 69 and K-52 highway is hereby designated as the AMM2c Walter Scott Brown memorial highway. Upon compliance with K.S.A. 68-10,114, and amendments thereto, the secretary of transportation shall place suitable signs to indicate that the highway is the AMM2c Walter Scott Brown memorial highway.

Sec. 6. Bridge no. 0011-B0072 located on K-66 highway in Cherokee county and bridge no. 0011-B0005 located on K-66 highway in Cherokee county are each hereby designated as the veterans memorial bridge. Upon compliance with K.S.A. 68-10,114, and amendments thereto, the secretary of transportation shall place suitable signs to indicate that each bridge is the veterans memorial bridge.

Sec. 7. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

I hereby certify that the above BILL originated in the HOUSE, and was adopted by that body

HOUSE adopted
Conference Committee Report _____

Speaker of the House.

Chief Clerk of the House.

Passed the SENATE
as amended _____

SENATE adopted
Conference Committee Report _____

President of the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate.

APPROVED _____

Governor.