

SESSION OF 2020

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 288

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Transportation

Brief*

SB 288 would designate the portion of US-77 from the eastern city limits of Blue Rapids to the junction with K-9, in Marshall County, as the Cpl. Allen E. Oatney and SP4 Gene A. Myers Memorial Highway.

The designation of Prairie Parkway would be removed from this portion of US-77.

The Secretary of Transportation (Secretary) would be 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 50.0 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.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Transportation at the request of Senator Bowers.

In the Senate Committee hearing, Senator Bowers, the mayor of Blue Rapids, the brother of Cpl. Oatney, and the commanders of American Legion Posts 169 (Blue Rapids) and 332 (Waterville) provided proponent testimony. The

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) provided written-only neutral testimony. No opponent testimony was provided.

According to testimony, Cpl. Oatney and SP4 Myers grew up near the portion of highway to be so designated and died while serving in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. Cpl. Oatney graduated from Valley Heights High School in 1969 and died in 1970 in Cambodia. SP4 Myers graduated from Waterville High School in 1966 and died in Vietnam in 1969.

The Senate Committee recommended the bill be placed on the Consent Calendar.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, KDOT indicates it is statutorily required (KSA 68-10,114) to receive a total of \$4,140 in gifts and donations to manufacture, install, and conduct maintenance on two signs along US-77 to designate that portion of the highway as the Cpl. Allen E. Oatney and SP4 Gene A. Myers Memorial Highway. KDOT indicates the bill would require an increase of \$2,760 in expenditure limitation for the agency operations account in FY 2021 to manufacture and install the signs. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2021 Governor's Budget Report*.