

George Westbrook

31216 203rd St

Leavenworth, KS 66048

Feb 24, 2021

Chairman Peterson and members of the transportation committee,

Today I submit testimony in support of SB131 that would formally recognize funeral processions here in Kansas. I'm a member of a group known as the Patriot Guard and we commonly escort families and friends of veterans who are being brought to their final resting place in one of the two National Cemeteries in Leavenworth.

We help processions move through traffic and sometimes we proceed through stop signs and lights as part of the procession. We put ourselves in harms way every week. I myself have had near death close calls as other drivers don't respect the line of the procession and the common ways processions move from the funeral home to the cemetery. We would appreciate the state at least recognize that funeral processions are a fact of life in our society.

This escort group is completely volunteer and not associated with any law enforcement. We conduct ourselves with honor and integrity. Our goal is to honor the fallen. Funeral processions are a part of giving that honor.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration in support of this bill.

Respectfully George Westbrook, Leavenworth, KS

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