

SESSION OF 2022

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2478

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Transportation

Brief*

HB 2478, as amended, would designate two portions of highway in honor of deceased military service members.

The bill would designate the portion of US-166 from the junction of US-166 with US-81, in Sumner County, then east to the western city limits of Arkansas City, in Cowley County, as the SGT Evan S Parker Memorial Highway.

The bill would include clauses providing biographical information on the honoree.

The bill would also designate the portion of US-56 from the northeastern city limits of Edgerton to the southwestern city limits of Gardner, in Johnson County, as the PFC Shane Austin Memorial Highway.

The bill would require suitable signs to be erected upon the Secretary of Transportation (Secretary) receiving sufficient moneys from gifts and donations to reimburse the Secretary for those costs. Under continuing law, the Secretary must receive reimbursement for the cost of placing such signs and an additional 50.0 percent of the initial cost from gifts and donations to defray future maintenance or replacement costs of such signs.

*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>

Background

The bill, to designate the SGT Evan S Parker Memorial Highway, was introduced by Representative Rhiley.

HB 2478 – SGT Evan S Parker Memorial Highway

House Committee on Transportation

In the House Committee hearing, the mother of SGT Parker provided **proponent** testimony. The proponent stated SGT Parker was born in Wichita and raised in South Haven. SGT Parker enlisted in the U.S. Army, deployed to Iraq in 2004, and died in 2005 during Operation Iraqi Freedom. SGT Parker received several meritorious awards, including two Purple Hearts and the Bronze Star.

No other testimony was provided.

Senate Committee on Transportation

In the Senate committee hearing, Representative Rhiley provided **proponent** testimony. The proponent stated SGT Parker's mother has been very active in the Gold Star Family community and provided information regarding SGT Parker.

No other testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to include the contents of HB 2458, to designate a portion of US-56 as the PFC Shane Austin Memorial Highway.

HB 2458 – PFC Shane Austin Memorial Highway

The bill was introduced by Representatives Collins, Proctor, and Sutton.

House Committee on Transportation

In the House Committee hearing, Representative Collins and the mother of PFC Austin provided **proponent** testimony. The proponents stated PFC Austin, from Edgerton, enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in Iraq. PFC Austin died in combat in 2006, and was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star for his heroism.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by PFC Austin's brother and three private citizens. The Chairperson noted a letter of support also had been received from PFC Austin's grandmother. No other testimony was provided.

Senate Committee on Transportation

In the Senate Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by Representative Proctor. He stated the designation will serve as a memorial to those who served their country. No other testimony was provided.

Fiscal Information

HB 2478 – SGT Evan S Parker Memorial Highway

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on HB 2478 as introduced, the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) estimates that it would cost \$3,060 to manufacture and install signs (\$1,530 per sign), indicating the designation and the agency would need to receive a total of \$4,590 from donations to install the signs. KDOT indicates implementation of the bill would require an increase of \$3,060 to the expenditure limitation for the agency's operations account for FY 2023. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of HB 2478 as introduced is not reflected in *The FY 2023 Governor's Budget Report*.

HB 2458 – PFC Shane Austin Memorial Highway

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on HB 2458, KDOT estimates it would cost \$3,060 to manufacture and install signs (\$1,530 per sign), indicating the designation and the agency would need to receive a total of \$4,590 from donations to install the signs. KDOT indicates implementation of the bill would require an increase of \$3,060 to the expenditure limitation for the agency's operations account for FY 2023. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of HB 2458 is not reflected in *The FY 2023 Governor's Budget Report*.

Highway; memorial; veterans