

SESSION OF 2007

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 108

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Transportation

Brief*

SB 108, as recommended, would designate a portion of United States Highway 73 as the Deputy Todd Widman Memorial Highway Last Call 3-1-2000. The designation would be on United States Highway 73 from the north city limits of the city of Horton then north to the Kansas-Nebraska border. The bill also would require the Secretary of Transportation to:

- Place the signs along the highway right-of-way at proper intervals to indicate the designation;
- Receive sufficient moneys from gifts and donations to reimburse the Secretary for the cost of placing the signs before erecting the signs; and
- Charge an additional 50 percent of the initial cost to defray future maintenance or replacement costs of the signs.

The Secretary would be authorized to accept and administer gifts and donations to aid in obtaining and installing suitable signs.

Background

Senator Pyle testified in support of the bill. He provided information that indicated that Todd Michael Widman was a 21-year-old Brown County Sheriff's deputy. He added that Mr. Widman was a role model for the youth, and his violent death in the course of his work shocked and dismayed the entire Hiawatha community. The Sheriff of Brown County, Lamar Shoemaker, also testified in support of the bill. There were no conferees who testified against the bill.

*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>

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) indicates that two signs would need to be planned, manufactured, and maintained for the designated highway. The bill would require that the amount necessary to pay for and maintain this set of signs be collected before the placement of the signs. The cost of these two signs and their installation would be \$2,240. The additional 50.0 percent needed for future maintenance would be \$1,120, meaning that KDOT would have to receive \$3,360 from donations before installing the signs.