

SESSION OF 2008

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2071

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Transportation

Brief*

HB 2071, as amended, would designate portions of six highways as memorial highways.

Civil War Memorial Highway

The bill would designate that portion of United States Highway 169 from the southern boundary of Anderson County, then north to the southern city limits of the City of Olathe as the Civil War Memorial Highway (New Section 1).

Spanish-American War Veterans Memorial Highway

The bill would designate from the junction of United States Highway 160 with United States Highway 83, then west on United States Highway 160 to the Kansas-Colorado border as the Spanish-American War Memorial Highway (New Section 2).

World War II Veterans Memorial Highway

The bill would designate from the junction of United States Highway 24 with United States Highway 281, then west on United States Highway 24 to the junction of United States Highway 24 with United States Highway 83 as the World War II Veterans Memorial Highway (New Section 3).

Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway

The bill would designate from the junction of K-4 Highway with United States Highway 281, then west on K-4 Highway to

*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 junction of K-4 Highway with United States Highway 83 as the Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway (New Section 4).

Persian Gulf War Veterans Memorial Highway

The bill would designate at the beginning of K-96 from the west city limits of Great Bend, then west on K-96 Highway to the junction of K-96 Highway and United States Highway 83 as the Persian Gulf War Veterans Memorial Highway (New Section 5).

Operation Iraqi Freedom Veterans Memorial Highway

The bill would designate K-156 highway from the west city limits of Larned (the eastern terminus of K-156) to the east city limits of Jetmore as the Operation Iraqi Freedom Veterans Memorial Highway (New Section 6, as amended).

Operation Enduring Freedom Veterans Memorial Highway

The bill would designate K-156 highway from the west city limits of Jetmore to the east city limits of Garden City (the western terminus of K-156) as the Operation Enduring Freedom Veterans Memorial Highway (New Section 7, as amended).

Other Provisions

The bill also would require the Secretary of Transportation to:

- Place 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 the requesters of the signs an additional 50 percent of the initial cost to defray future maintenance or replacement costs of the signs.

The Secretary may accept and administer gifts and donations to aid in obtaining and installing suitable signs.

Background

Representatives Olson and Vickrey appeared in support of the bill. Representative Olson testified that he worked with the American Legion on the bill while Representative Vickrey testified that the bill is intended to honor all veterans. Representative Olson also testified to the Senate Committee on Transportation in favor of the sections dealing with the Operation Iraqi Freedom Veterans Memorial Highway and the Operation Enduring Freedom Veterans Memorial Highway.

No one testified in opposition to the bill.

The bill was re-referred to the House Transportation Committee. Subsequently, the Committee removed Section 7 of the bill, which would have designated K-53 Highway as the Patriot Guard Highway. Later, the bill was withdrawn from the calendar and referred to Federal and State Affairs. It was then withdrawn from Federal and State Affairs and referred to Transportation. The House Transportation Committee added the language pertaining to the opening of any road. This provision subsequently was removed by the House Committee of the Whole.

The Senate Transportation Committee further amended the bill to change the proposed designation of K-156 from the War On Terrorism Veterans Memorial Highway and give different designations to different portions of K-156: the Operation Iraqi Freedom Veterans Memorial Highway east of Jetmore and the Operation Enduring Freedom Veterans Memorial Highway west of Jetmore. This amendment was offered after consultation with the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) on limitations on the length of wording that could be placed on the designation signs.

The fiscal note prepared by KDOT indicates that two signs would need to be planned, manufactured, installed, and maintained for each designated memorial highway. The bill would require that the amount necessary for each set of signs and maintenance for those signs be collected before placement of the signs could occur. KDOT estimates that the total costs for the signs and their installation would be \$15,240. The additional 50 percent that would be needed for future maintenance would be \$7,620, making the total that would be needed to be collected before the signs could be erected as \$22,860. No additional fiscal note was available based on the amendment when the Senate Committee on Transportation took action. However, given the earlier estimates, costs for signs would increase by approximately \$2,500 and the additional amount to be collected for future maintenance would be increased by approximately \$1,270. The fiscal impact resulting from passage of the bill would be in addition to amounts included in *The FY 2008 Governor's Budget Report*.