

SESSION OF 2026

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2579

As Amended by House Committee on
Transportation

Brief*

HB 2579, as amended, would designate as the Pvt Michael E Gerber Memorial Highway a portion of K-49 Highway in Sumner County, from its junction with West 119th Street to its junction with US-160.

The bill would require the Secretary of Transportation to place suitable signs to indicate the designation once, pursuant to continuing law, sufficient moneys have been received from gifts and donations for the cost of placing such signs, plus an additional 50 percent of the initial cost to defray costs for future maintenance or replacement of the signs.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Transportation at the request of Representative Hoffman.

House Committee on Transportation

In the House Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by Representative Hoffman. He stated this year will be the 50th anniversary of Private Gerber's death while serving in the Vietnam War and this memorial highway would commemorate his death and the deaths of others who lost their lives during the Vietnam War. He stated a technical amendment would be needed to remove "Vietnam KIA" at 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 <https://klrd.gov/>

end of the memorial highway name to conform with current regulations.

No other testimony was provided.

The Committee amended the bill to remove “Vietnam KIA” from the end of the memorial highway name.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the budget on the bill, as introduced, the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) indicates it would cost \$6,260 to manufacture and install two signs for the highway and \$9,390 in gifts and donations received by KDOT prior to sign installation. KDOT indicates implementation of the bill would require an increase of \$6,260 to the expenditure limitation for the agency operations account in FY 2027. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2027 Governor’s Budget Report*.

Pvt Michael E Gerber Memorial Highway; memorial highway