

Testimony on House Bill number 2612

House Transportation Committee

Presented by:

Jenna Rose Thurman

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Good afternoon Chairman Hayzlett and members of the House Transportation Committee

My name is Jenna Thurman, I am a member of the 8th grade, Royal Valley Middle School, Barnes Brothers Memorial Highway Committee. I am here in support House Bill number 2612, that will commemorate two great baseball players from Jackson County. I would like to talk about Virgil Barnes art career after baseball. In the mid 1930s Virgil painted murals in the Holton public schools system. Virgil also helped teach art for the Holton. Virgil also painted murals in the Jackson County Courthouse. The murals were painted on the walls of the courtroom. Some of these paintings are still in the Courtroom today. Around the 1930s Virgil moved to Wichita, Kansas. In April 1938 during the great depression Virgil had a seven-week "baseball school" for junior high and high school boys. Virgil also opened a portrait art studio. Virgil was a self-taught artist with some help from Harry Gibson. Thank you for your time and I hope you pass this bill.