Highway and Bridge Designations; Provisions Relating to Signage; SB 127

SB 127 requires the Secretary of Transportation, before placing any signs commemoratively designating any road, highway, bridge, interchange, or trail, to receive sufficient money from gifts and donations to cover the costs of placing such signs plus an additional 50 percent of the initial cost to defray future maintenance or replacement costs. The Secretary is authorized to accept gifts and donations toward those costs.

The bill also designates four portions of highway:

- The 2nd Lieutenant Justin L Sisson Memorial Highway, a portion of U.S. 69 in Johnson County that begins at 135th Street and continues to 167th Street (2nd Lieutenant Sisson, decorated for his military service, was killed in action in Afghanistan in June 2013.);
- The George Ablah Expressway, on K-96, from the junction of K-96 and I-35, east to the junction of K-96 and Rock Road, in Sedgwick County. (Mr. Ablah was a successful businessman who donated land to Wichita.) The bill removes from that portion of K-96 the designation of Bonnie Huy Memorial Highway. The portion of K-96 from the junction of K-96 and Rock Road in Sedgwick County, east to the junction with I-35 is designated as the Bonnie Huy Memorial Highway;
- The Kenneth W Bernard Memorial Highway, on K-7 in Lansing. (Mr. Bernard was the Mayor of Lansing for 29 years before retiring in January 2013.) The bill removes from that portion of K-7 the designation of the Amelia Earhart Memorial Highway. The portion of K-7 north to the southern city limits of Lansing, then north from the northern city limits of Lansing to the eastern junction with US-159 is designated as the Amelia Earhart Memorial Highway; and
- The Bert Cantwell Memorial Interchange, the junction of interstate highway 70 and 110th street in Wyandotte County. (Mr. Cantwell served as the Sheriff of Wyandotte County, U.S. Marshal for the district of Kansas, Superintendent of the Kansas Highway Patrol, and President of the Kansas City, Kansas, Chamber of Commerce.)

The provisions related to payments for signs apply to the new designations.