

HB 2273

February 8, 2012

Chairman Umbarger and Committee Members:

I appear today in support of **HB 2273** which would designate a section of K-99 as the Frankfort Boys World War II Memorial Highway. This would be the portion of Highway K-99 in northeast Kansas - from the south city limits of Frankfort, north on K-99 highway to the junction with US Hwy 36.

I introduced this legislation after I was approached by Frank Benteman, a native of Frankfort, who brought to light the fact that Frankfort suffered more men killed in action during World War II than any other small town of a similar size. Thirty-two soldiers, marines, sailors and airmen from the Frankfort area and surrounding farmland were killed in World War II. These 32 brave men gave their lives for our country. The significance of this sacrifice in defense of our national security and our freedom cannot be overstated.

On November 16, 2006, because of the efforts of Frank Benteman and through the office of Senator Pat Roberts, the names of the 32 men killed during World War II were entered into the Congressional Record. I think it is only fitting that we also honor these brave men by naming this section of K-99 as the Frankfort Boys World War II Memorial Highway.

The cost of the signs marking the highway, approximately \$2,850 according to the Department of Transportation, is to be paid for by the Frankfort community.

I ask for your support of **HB 2273**.

Rep. Sharon Schwartz, 106th District