

STATE OF KANSAS



KANSAS HIGHWAY PATROL
122 S.W. 7TH
TOPEKA, KS 66603

PHONE: (785) 296-6800
FAX: (785) 296-5956
www.KansasHighwayPatrol.org

GOVERNOR JEFF COLYER, M.D.
COLONEL MARK A. BRUCE, SUPERINTENDENT

**Testimony on House Bill 2531
Senate Committee on Transportation**

**Presented by
Colonel Mark A. Bruce, Superintendent
Kansas Highway Patrol**

March 1, 2018

Good afternoon Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. I am Colonel Mark Bruce, Superintendent of the Kansas Highway Patrol. I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today on behalf of the men and women of the KHP in support of House Bill 2531.

Since our inception in 1937, 10 members of the Patrol have sacrificed their lives in service to the citizens of Kansas. It is fitting and proper that segments of highways in this state be memorialized in honor of troopers tasked by this state to patrol those highways.

These 10 gentlemen were dedicated to a cause greater than themselves. They went to work every day, aware of the dangers they faced, yet willingly did so to serve and protect their fellow man. There is nothing more honorable than giving one's life in order that others might live relatively free of fear from criminal victimization or dying in a traffic collision.

My agency has been negligent in pursuing the provisions of House Bill 2531, now under your consideration. Memorializing the sacrifice each of our 10 fallen made, in the fashion sought, should have occurred years ago. For that, I am saddened. However, collectively, we can grant them the level of respect they deserve.

Again, I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today. When House Bill 2531 is put to a vote, I hope you will favorably consider its passage. With that, Mr. Chairman, I would stand for questions.

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