



February 17, 2021

The Honorable Mike Petersen, Chairperson  
Senate Committee on Transportation  
Statehouse, Room 345-S  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

RE: Kansas SB 20 – Dennis M. Wilson Memorial Highway

Chairman Petersen &  
Members of the Transportation Committee:

It is with great pride and hope that I join fellow Kansan's in support of SB 20; Legislation that would designate U S 69 Highway in Overland Park, Kansas from I-435 south to 135<sup>th</sup> Street as the Senator Dennis Wilson Memorial Highway.

Senator Wilson began his lifelong history of service to others in the U. S. Air Force and faithfully applied the skills and lessons learned in the service to a variety of positions – both state and local – for over 25-years. He was a true patriot and servant leader, always considering the views of others yet staying true to his principles and values. Dennis believed that he was elected to research and study legislation, and to use that information to make informed decisions on behalf of his constituents, not merely take a poll and vote with the majority.

I was acquainted with the late Senator Wilson for 30-years and had the pleasure of developing a lasting friendship as classmates in the 1997 Leadership Kansas program. At that time, Dennis was in his initial term in the Kansas House of Representatives, representing District 29 in southern Johnson County.

In the years that followed, Senator Wilson received an appointment to serve the state of Kansas in the Office of Unclaimed Properties/Director of Administration/Director of Government Affairs, was elected to serve in the Kansas Senate representing District 39, and accepted an appointment as the Director of the State Lottery.

Intermittent to those state level positions he was elected by the people of Johnson County to serve as the County Treasurer and later was elected to serve on the board of directors of Water District Number 1 of Johnson County.

In Luke 12:48 it is written "to whom much is given, much will be required". Dennis Wilson epitomized that parable of service to others, nary once seeking personal recognition nor glory. SB 20 will allow us to honor his life of service and provide recognition posthumously for a life well lived.

Thank you for your consideration,

Michael A. Boehm,  
Mayor

City of Lenexa / 17101 W 87th Street Parkway / Lenexa, Kansas 66219  
City of Lenexa / P.O. Box 14888 / Lenexa, Kansas 66285-4888  
Telephone (913) 477-7500 / Fax (913) 477-7569