

Testimony on House Bill 2612

House Transportation Committee

Presented by:

Weston Lee Hasty

Royal Valley Middle School

Good afternoon Chairman Hayzlett and members of the Transportation Committee. My name is Weston Hasty, I'm a member of the 8th grade Royal Valley Middle School Barnes Brother Memorial Highway Committee. I am here in support of House Bill 2612, to have a sign put up that will memorialize Jesse and Virgil Barnes. These brothers are very important in Kansas and Jackson County History. Jesse Barnes played for three different Major League Baseball teams the New York Giants, Boston Braves, and the Brooklyn Robins. Virgil Barnes played for the Boston Braves and the New York Giants. Virgil played from 1919 through 1929. Jesse's career started in 1915 and ended in 1927. Both brother were inducted into the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame.

Jesse and Virgil were both willing to fight for there country. Virgil went to war in the middle of his baseball career, Jesse enlisted but became ill and couldn't go. After his baseball career Virgil helped with art at Holton High School. He then became a portrait artist and had a studio in Wichita. When Jesse's baseball career came to an end he became a police officer and eventually he became the captain El Dorado Police Department. Jesse died on September 9th 1961, and Virgil died July 24th 1958.