

SESSION OF 2015

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 5**

As Amended by Senate Committee on  
Transportation

**Brief\***

SB 5 would designate a portion of U.S. 69 as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Justin L Sisson Memorial Highway. The designated portion of U.S. 69 would begin at 135<sup>th</sup> Street in Johnson County and continue to 167<sup>th</sup> Street.

The bill would require the Secretary of Transportation to place suitable signs to indicate the designation of the highway. The bill, as amended, would establish these provisions related to signage for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Justin L Sisson Memorial Highway:

- Preclude the signs from being erected until the Secretary has received sufficient moneys from gifts and donations to reimburse the Secretary for the cost of placing the signs and an additional 50 percent of the cost to defray future maintenance or replacement of the signs; and
- Allow the Secretary to accept and administer gifts and donations to aid in obtaining and installing suitable signs.

**Background**

The bill was introduced by Senator Melcher.

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\*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

According to testimony, Justin Sisson was a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the U.S. Army assigned to the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault), 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1-506<sup>th</sup> Infantry. Before earning an Army Officer Commission at Florida State University, he was an enlisted member of the Army National Guard and received a Bronze Star for his service during a deployment to Iraq. Upon commissioning, he graduated with honors from the U.S. Army Infantry Basic Officer Leadership Course; he also was a graduate of the U.S. Army's Ranger, Sapper, Air Assault, and Airborne schools.

Also according to testimony, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Sisson was killed in action on June 3, 2013, while conducting combat operations in Afghanistan. He was a graduate of Pleasant Ridge Middle School and Blue Valley West High School before joining the U.S. Army.

Oral testimony in support of the bill was provided by the soldier's father, family friends, and a fellow service member who served with Justin. Additional written testimony was provided by family members, friends, community members, and fellow soldiers.

The Senate Committee amended the bill by adding a funding mechanism so the Secretary of Transportation could accept gifts and donations to aid in obtaining and installing suitable signs. The bill also was amended to specify the signs will not be placed until the Secretary has received sufficient moneys from gifts and donations to reimburse the cost of placing such signs and an additional 50 percent of the initial cost to defray future maintenance or replacement costs of such signs.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the original bill, the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) indicates the enactment of the bill would require two signs to be planned, manufactured, installed, and maintained, for an expenditure of \$3,900. If the

original bill is enacted, KDOT states it would need an increase in expenditure authority from the agency operations account of the State Highway Fund. Any fiscal effect associated with the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2016 Governor's Budget Report*.