

**HB 2610**

**March 11, 2016**

Chairman Peterson and Committee Members:

I appear today in support of **HB 2610**. I would like to request that the language of **HB2722-**(Designating a portion of K-148 as the SGT Lavern W Tegtmeier memorial highway) be amended into **HB2610**. **HB2722** designates the portion of K-148 from the intersection with 23<sup>rd</sup> road in Washington County, then north to the Nebraska state line as the **Sgt Lavern W. Tegtmeier memorial highway**.

Sgt. Tegtmeier died November 6, 1969, in Binh Dinh, South Vietnam; he was 22 years old. He was the brother of Arien Tegtmeier of Hanover, and the son of the late John and Martha Tegtmeier. He was the first Washington countian to die in the Vietnam War.

Tegtmeier was in the Army and had attained the rank of SSGT/E6. He began his tour of duty on March 4, 1969. He drowned while crossing a river, single file, crawling across on a steel beam. It is reported that a soldier in front of him “froze”. Sgt. Tegtmeier tried crossing a board to help the soldier out and the board broke causing him to fall into the river.

Sgt Tegtmeier was a graduate of Hanover High School. He attended Fairbury Junior College for one year when he was drafted into the service becoming a member of the US Army, A Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 12<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.

Prior to the signs being placed, sufficient funds from gifts and donations will be presented to the State for the cost of placing the signs plus an additional 50% of the initial cost to defray future maintenance or replacement costs of such signs.

I ask for your support of my amendment to **HB2610**.

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Rep. Sharon Schwartz, 106<sup>th</sup> District