

Emil Joseph Kapaun Memorial; SB 431

SB 431 requires the Capitol Preservation Committee to approve plans to place a permanent memorial honoring the life of Emil Joseph Kapaun. [Note: Father Emil Joseph Kapaun (pronounced “ka-pawn”) was born in Pilsen, Kansas, and served as a U.S. Army Chaplain in World War II and the Korean War, where he became a prisoner of war and died in captivity. He was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously in 2013.]

The bill authorizes the Secretary of Administration to receive and expend moneys for the purpose of financing the creation and construction of the memorial and to remit all moneys received for such purpose to the State Treasurer.

The bill establishes the Emil Joseph Kapaun Memorial Fund (Fund) and authorizes the State Treasurer to deposit funds received for the purpose of financing the creation and construction of the memorial in the State Treasury to the credit of the Fund. Expenditures from the Fund are authorized for the creation and construction of the memorial and for other purposes as may be required by the grantor or donor. The bill prohibits the expenditure of public funds for the creation or construction of the memorial.