

State of Kansas

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JEFF KING

SENATOR, FIFTEENTH DISTRICT

DATE: March 14, 2013
TO: Senate Transportation Committee
FROM: Senator Jeff King, 15th District
SUBJECT: House Bill 2357

Thank you for the opportunity to appear in support of House Bill 2357 that will designate a portion of Highway 169 in Montgomery County as the “242nd Engineer Company Memorial Highway”.

The 242nd Engineering Company of the Kansas Army National Guard, located in Coffeyville has a long history of service to Kansas and our Country. The unit’s current commanding officer is CPT Chadwick Hines. In December 2002 - July 2003 some members of the then 891st Co B deployed with the 226th out of Augusta to support the Shock and Awe efforts of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Then again in 2004 the Unit was deployed, this time to support Operation Iraqi Freedom where they served until December 2005. Also, various members of the 242nd have deployed on many missions with other Units providing support when and where needed.

In addition to the units overseas deployments they have also been very involved in operations within Kansas to support the residents of our state. The 242nd Engineer Company saw major activity during 2007, starting off with Operation Snow Drifter, the snow storm in Western Kansas in January. It was followed by the “F” 5 tornado that tore its way through the city of Greensburg in May. The 242nd Engineer Company did their 2007 annual training at Greensburg clearing debris. Shortly after the tornado there was a major flood that affected several counties in Southeast Kansas. The 242nd Engineer Company was a big part in supporting each of these missions and many other missions in and around Southeast Kansas.

I hope you will join me in supporting House Bill 2357 honoring the 242nd Engineer Company of Coffeyville with this highway designation in Montgomery County.