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SENATOR MIKE PETERSEN

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TESTIMONY SENATOR MIKE PETERSEN SB 127 MARCH 12, 2015

Testimony on Policy and the George Ablah Expressway

SB 127 will place into statute Kansas Department of Transportation's current policy for the cost and maintenance of highway naming signs. I believe having this policy in statute will provide easily searchable access to this policy and eliminate any confusion those parties interested in designating a highway may have.

George Ablah was a well-known developer in Sedwick County who believed in the importance of transportation infra-structure to economic development. When our city and county was contemplating obtaining the right-of-way for the K96 Expressway, George Ablah donated a portion of the right-of-way with the contingency that construction start within two years. Completion of this expressway resulted in numerous developments on the northeast side of the city of Wichita. I believe it is fitting that the portion of the expressway being designated as the George Ablah Expressway include some of the right-of-way he donated.

I appreciate your consideration of this bill and ask that you move it out favorably for passage.

Senator Mike Petersen

District #28