



John W. Carlin

The John W. Carlin Highway

PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Be it enacted that a part of Interstate 70 be designated in the name of Governor John W. Carlin. From the exit off Interstate 70 at the city of Abilene Kansas to the Eastern bouny of Saline county Kansas is hereby designated to be called the John W. Carlin Highway.

The Secretary of Transportation shall place appropriate signs along the right-of-way at proper intervals to indicate that the highway is John W. Carlin Highway, except that such signs shall not be placed until the Secretary has received sufficient monies from gifts and donations to reimburse the Secretary for the costs of placing such signs. The Secretary of Transportation may accept and administer gifts and donations to aid in obtaining and installing suitable signs

PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO NAME A PORTION OF INTERSTATE
SEVENTY IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN W. CARLIN'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO
THE STATE OF KANSAS

It has been a long and nonpartisan tradition for the Kansas legislature to recognize the contributions of leaders of both political parties by designation of a portion of its highways in the name of its members who have made substantial contributions to the benefit of the citizens of Kansas.

KSA Article Ten, Chapter 68 -1001 through 68- 1098, sets forth the numerous state political leaders who have been so recognized.

Examples of such leadership recognition are former Governor William Avery, Governor John Anderson Jr., Governor Robert Docking, Governor Robert Bennett, Governor Mike Hayden., and Governor Bill Graves. U.S. Senator Robert Dole, U.S. Senator Frank Carlson, and U.S. Senator Harry Darby.

It is appropriate that the State of Kansas recognize these leaders for their dedicated service to the state.

John W. Carlin served for eight years in the Kansas legislature. For the last two years of his term was elected as the Speaker of the House.

In 1979 Carlin ran for and was elected Governor, defeating incumbent Robert Bennett. Carlin served Kansas as the 40th Governor from 1979 through 1987. At the time of his election, Carlin became the youngest elected 20th century Governor of Kansas.

He was the first Kansas governor to be elected to two four year terms. During his terms as Governor, Carlin chaired the National Governors Association from 1984 to 1985 and also chaired the United States Midwestern Governors conference. Those chairmanship appointments reflect the respect that national governors held for Governor John Carlin.

THE CHALLENGES

At the time of his election in 1979, the federal budget was in recession and President Ronald Reagan was forced to propose dramatic cuts to federal spending, including school lunches, farm subsidies, Social Security, and national welfare programs. These cuts had a major impact on the Kansas economy.

. The type and nature of these federal cuts in federal spending were especially difficult for rural agricultural states like Kansas.

This was an economic time when the annual inflation rate was running from nine to fifteen percent. The Kansas economy was weak. Federal financial support had been reduced. Unemployment was at record highs and interest rates were spiking at thirteen to fifteen percent.

After extensive study, Carlin determined the course of action to save the Kansas economy was to propose an eight percent severance tax on oil, gas and coal. This would raise an estimated \$200 Million in new revenues for education and highway construction to create new and well-paying jobs throughout the state and at the local level.

It should be noted that these actions, in the opinion of many political observers, was considered political suicide. Much of Carlin's support had come from agriculture and the oil and gas Industries. The Producers in rural Kansas had been a part of Carlin's political base. It took political courage to take these unpopular positions

Carlin was quoted in saying "we're either are going to have property taxes go through the roof, or we're going to have increases in sales and gasoline taxes or we are going to have the mineral production tax, or you have to put it on increased property taxes".

He chose to reduce the burden on the middle class. In doing this, Carlin knew he could lose a great deal of his political party's support; however, in the end, the people of Kansas determined to support him and Carlin won re-election, defeating Sam Hardage by a vote of 53% to 44%.

The severance tax was passed in 1983.

CHANGING THE CULTURE OF KANSAS

In the 1980's Kansas was generally viewed nationally as a culturally rural and conservative state. Many of its laws were thought to be restrictive and culturally behind the national social curve. It had a limiting effect in attracting industry to Kansas.

Carlin campaigned for six constitutional amendments that he believed would make Kansas a more attractive state for industry and growth. Most thought the constitutional amendments would

be impossible to enact. Once again, Carlin succeeded where most thought it would be impossible. In the end the state voted to approve all his six constitutional amendments.

These amendments were:

1. Repeal an earlier amendment that forbade state investment in internal improvements and allowed the state to participate in federal grant programs.
2. Tax exemptions to allow cities and counties to grant property tax exemptions for economic development purposes.
3. Liquor by the drink to be licensed and regulated in public places.
4. Classification that directed the legislature to rewrite farmland assessment laws and enact use-value farm appraisals and classification of real and personal property for assessment.
5. Allowed para-mutual wagering with the authorization of the legislature to permit, license, regulate and tax horse racing and dog races and pari-mutual wagering in counties where a majority of voters approved.
6. Allowed the legislature to provide for operation of a state-owned and operated lottery.

In addition to these substantial culture changes to Kansas, Carlin undertook, under his watch, to modernize how the state did its business in commerce. He formed the Department of Commerce and appointed the first Secretary of Commerce in Kansas. He engaged and traveled to open agriculture trade agreements with China. He formed Kansas small business investment agencies to support and invest in start-up small Kansas businesses. Kansas historians have largely credited Carlin's administration with bringing modern commerce policies to Kansas.

(One primary source for this history of Carlin's service as Governor comes from an article published in May, 2013 by John Marshall, owner-editor of the Lindsborg News-Record.)

THE EISENHOWER CONNECTION

In 1995, President Bill Clinton appointed John Carlin to serve as the Archivist of the United States. He served in that role from 1995 to 2005. In that time Carlin worked along with the Nixon-Eisenhower family to resolve the many issues surrounding the "missing tapes" and other relevant issues surrounding those events. While serving as the National Archivist, Carlin served as the chair of the National Publications and Records Commission.

4.

As part of his responsibilities as Archivist, Carlin had oversight responsibilities for the Presidential Libraries, including the Eisenhower Library in Abilene, Kansas. Since the 1960's Presidential libraries tended to be located or are connected with state universities. A relationship with universities was found to enhance the relevance and research opportunities for the university and the Presidential Libraries.

The Eisenhower Library was not associated with a Kansas University. Carlin encouraged and supported an association of the Eisenhower Library forming a formal relationship with Kansas State University. This was completed in 2003.

Carlin was supportive of the Eisenhower Library financially and worked to improve its administration and leadership. He was a frequent visitor and worked diligently to enhance the Eisenhower Library.

The proposal to designate a portion of Interstate Seventy begins at the exit at the city of Abilene and in recognition of Carlin's long serving contributions to the state of Kansas.

At end of his tenure as Archivist, Carlin determined to come back to Kansas to become a professor, executive-in-residence, and in the political science, Leadership Studies Department at Kansas State University. He is a frequent speaker throughout the state and has formed a website dedicated to exploring ideas and to stimulate thinking for the future leaders of our state.

See the attached history and biographical review of John W. Carlin. At the conclusion of that review it becomes apparent that has been a major political force for the state of Kansas and one of its leading historical political figures.

It is fitting and proper for the Kansas Legislature to set aside a portion of Interstate 70 to recognize his service to the people of Kansas. (See attached the proposed designation of highway I 70.)

JOHN W. CARLIN

Government and Administrative Experience

Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, 1995-2005
· Chair, National Historical Publications and Records Commission, 1995-2005

Governor of Kansas, 1979-1987

- Chairman, National Governors' Association, 1984-1985
- Vice Chairman, National Governors' Association, 1983-1984
- Executive Committee, National Governors' Association, 1980-1985
- Chairman, Midwestern Governors' Conference, 1980-1981
- Vice Chairman, Midwestern Governors' Conference, 1979-1980
- Chairman, Six-State High Plains Study Council, 1982
- Six-State High Plains Study Council, 1979-1983

State Representative, Kansas, 1971-1979

- Speaker of the House, 1977-1979
- Minority Leader, 1976-1977
- Assistant Minority Leader, 1975-1976
- Chair, Rural Development Committee, National Council of State Legislatures, 1975-1976
- Member, Committee on Education, National Council of State Legislatures, 1974-1975

Academic Experience

Visiting Professor/Executive-In-Residence, Kansas State University, 2005-

Visiting lecturer, Duke University Seminar for Public Administration, 1988-1989

Visiting lecturer, University of Kansas, 1988-1989, in political science, public administration, communication studies, and business

Visiting Professor of Public Administration and International Trade, Wichita State University, 1987-1988: taught graduate courses in state and local government and decision-making, lectured in political science, humanities, business, and journalism

Adjunct Professor, Political Science, Washburn University, 1986: taught an undergraduate course in state and local government

Gubernatorial Fellow, Duke University Institute of Policy Sciences and Public Affairs, 1984: gave the inaugural lecture for the governors' center and taught graduate and undergraduate courses during a three-day period

Business Experience

Vice Chairman of the Board and CEO, Midwest Superconductivity, Inc., Lawrence, Kansas, 1990-1994, a technology physics research and development company

Partner, Economic Development Associates, Topeka, Kansas, 1987-1992, a consulting firm specializing in international trade consulting

Governmental Affairs Consultant to Boeing Airplane Company, Wichita, Kansas, 1987-1989

Co-owner and Partner, C&W Ranch, Smolan, Kansas, 1980-1992

Partner and Manager, Hilltop Holstein Farm, Smolan, Kansas, 1962-1980

Co-owner and Partner, Sunflower Sales, 1969-1978, a sales management business

Educational Background

Bachelor of Science in Dairy Science, Kansas State University, cum laude, 1962

Corporate Boards

National Pizza Company, Pittsburg Kansas, 1987-1995, largest Pizza Hut franchiser and owner of Tony Roma's and Skippers)
Kimberly Quality Care (home health care), Boston, Massachusetts, 1987-1991
Hall-Kimbrell Environmental Services, Lawrence Kansas, 1988-1990

Boards and Commissions

Governors Fiscal Leadership Council, 2013-
American Archive National Advisory Panel for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, 2012-2013
Global Agricultural Development Initiative Advisory Group (Chicago Council Global Affairs) 2010-
Kansas Bioscience Authority, 2006-2012, Chairman 2008-2011
Leadership Studies Advisory Council, 2006-, CoChair 2008-2010
National Commission on Industrial Farm Animal Production, Chairman, 2006-2008
National Digital Strategy Advisory Board to the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program, 2000-2005
Foundation for the National Archives, 1992-1995, ex-officio member, 1995-2005
Kansas International, 1988-1995, president, 1992
Spring Hill (Z-Bar) Ranch, Inc., Board of Directors, 1992-1994
Leadership Kansas, 1987-1991
Kansas State University Foundation Board of Trustees, 1987-1995, 2007-
Kansas State Historical Society Board of Directors, 1988-1995, 2006-2010
Kansas College of Technology Endowment Board, 1987-1991
National Task Force on Defense Spending, 1990-1995
Kansas Alliance for the Mentally Ill Advisory Committee, 1991-1995
Kansas Chamber of Commerce and Industry Board of Directors, 1987-1989
Kansas State University Political Science Advisory Board, 1987-1994
Ford Foundation for Rural America, 1987
Advisory Commission on Inter-governmental Relations (Reagan appointee), 1985-1987
Kellogg Foundation and National University Continuing Education Association Commission on Future Academic Leadership for Continuing Higher Education, 1985-1987
Our Savior's Lutheran Church Council, 1988-1990, president, 1989-1990

Honors and Awards

Citation for Distinguished Statesmanship, Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas, 2008
Honorary Doctorate of Laws, Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kansas, 2007
Madison Freedom Award, "Upholding and Preserving the U.S. Constitution Through Education,"
Washington, DC, March 2005
National Merit Award for Technology Excellence in Government, Washington, DC, October 2004
Honorary Doctorate of Laws, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas, 1986