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February 16, 2021

Honorable Chairperson Peterson and fellow Honorable Members of the Kansas Senate Transportation Committee,

I write in strong support of SB20 – Designating a portion of United States highway 69 as the Senator Dennis Wilson Memorial Highway.

Senator Wilson had a distinguished career that included serving his community, county, state and country. Dennis was truly a servant leader. He was a veteran of the United States Air Force, Johnson County Treasurer, Water One board member, Kansas Representative, and the first individual to serve residents of Eastern Kansas in the 37th Senate District.

For those of us that knew Senator Wilson, he was quick with a quip but always ready to jump in to support others. His conversation was engaging, thoughtful, and filled with personal opinions that he'd accumulated from being in the center of decision-making at every level of professional and political activity.

Senator Wilson was committed to helping others. Whenever he noted a problem, he didn't wait for others to contemplate the political merit, rather he jumped into action and gathered those that could join him in developing a quick, solid solution.

I know that I'm not alone in missing Senator Dennis Wilson's leadership, his anecdotes, but more important, his willingness to lend support to those in need. The designation of the Senator Dennis Wilson Memorial Highway is a small token of recognition for a giant amongst a very large field of Kansas leaders.

Respectfully submitted,



Senator Molly Baumgardner
37th District