

Founder, Chairman and CEO Direct: 913 563 5678 kknutson@ibankwithfreedom.com

February 15, 2021

The Honorable Mike Petersen, Chairman Senate Committee on Transportation Statehouse, Room 345-S Topeka, Kansas 66612

Re: Kansas Senate Bill No. 20 (SB20)

Dear Chairman Petersen,

Mr. Chairman and the members of the Transportation Committee I am writing you today in support of Senate Bill No. 20 (SB20) which would designate a portion of US Highway 69 in Overland Park as the Dennis M. Wilson Memorial Highway.

Dennis Wilson led a life of service to his country, to the state of Kansas, to Johnson County and he is truly deserving of the honor.

Dennis was a Veteran of the United States Air Force and following that, over a 27-year career, served the people of Kansas as an elected or appointed official in the following capacities:

- 1992 to 1994 Elected as a Republican Precinct Committeeman.
- 1995 to 1999 Elected as a State Representative in the KS House of Representatives, 29th District.
- 1997 A member of the class of Leadership Kansas.
- 1999 to 2001 Appointed by the Kansas State Treasurer, Tim Shallenburger, to be the Director of the Office of Unclaimed Properties/Director of Administration/Director of Government Affairs.
- 2001 to 2004 The last elected Johnson County Treasurer.
- 2004 to 2008 Elected as State Senator, 37th District.
- 2006 Candidate for Kansas Lieutenant Governor.
- 2008 to 2009 Appointed by Governor Sam Brownback as the state Lottery Director.
- 2015 to 2019 Elected Johnson County Water One Board Member.

Many had the honor of becoming acquainted with Dennis through his service as well as through his dealings as an automobile salesman or dealer and as a businessman.

Dennis was a strong supporter of banking in Kansas serving as a director of state-chartered Freedom Bank headquartered in Overland Park. Dennis understood the impact local community

banks have on the success of communities, local businesses, and families they serve and support.

Freedom Bank's directors felt a deep sense of pride having such a fine gentleman among our ranks. He was a loyal friend, mentor, and supporter for which we will be forever grateful. Dennis' accomplishments were many and his dedication to countless friends he made as well as his love for his wife Vickie and their wonderful family was deep and genuine.

Dennis was a role model for a life well-lived.

Sincerely,