

SESSION OF 2024

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 410**

As Amended by House Committee on  
Transportation

**Brief\***

SB 410, as amended, would designate three portions of highway as memorial highways.

The bill would designate two portions of highway in honor of distinguished Kansans:

- The Ken W Brock Memorial Highway would be the portion of US-69 between Grand Road in Bourbon County and East 650<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Crawford County; and
- The Merle Miller Memorial Highway would be US-81 in Republic County. The bill would remove this portion from the Frank Carlson Memorial Highway.

The bill would also designate as the First Responders Memorial Highway the portion of US-281 from the southern city limits of Russell north to its junction with K-18 in Russell County.

The bill would make conforming amendments to remove this portion of US-281 from the current highway designation of the American Legion Memorial Highway. [Note: The American Legion Memorial Highway currently extends from the Nebraska state line to the Oklahoma state line.]

The bill would require the Secretary of Transportation to place suitable signs to indicate the designations once,

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\*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

pursuant to continuing law, sufficient moneys have been received from gifts and donations for the cost of placing the signs, plus an additional 50 percent of the initial cost to defray costs for future maintenance or replacement of the signs.

## **Background**

As amended by the House Committee on Transportation, the bill would include provisions of SB 410, as amended by the Senate Committee on Transportation, and HB 2799. [Note: As amended by the Senate Committee on Transportation, SB 410 included provisions of SB 410, as introduced, and SB 357, as introduced.]

### ***SB 410 (Ken W Brock Memorial Highway)***

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Transportation at the request of Senator Tyson.

#### *Senate Committee on Transportation*

In the Senate Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by the president of Midwest Minerals and the chairman of the U.S. Highway 69 Association. They described Mr. Brock's advocacy for improving US-69 to four lanes from Kansas City to I-44 and his involvement in other community improvement endeavors. Written-only proponent testimony was provided by U.S. Senator Jerry Moran, U.S. Representative Jake LaTurner, the Pittsburg City Manager, and the President of the Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce.

No other testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to add the contents of SB 357.

*House Committee on Transportation*

In the House Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by Senator Bowers, Senator Tyson, Representative Moser, the president of Midwest Minerals, and the daughter of Merle Miller. Proponents described Ken Brock's and Merle Miller's advocacy for improving US-69 and US-81, respectively, and their involvement in other community improvement endeavors. Written-only proponent testimony was provided by U.S. Senator Jerry Moran, U.S. Representative Jake LaTurner, the Pittsburg City Manager, the President of the Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce, and the chairman of the U.S. Highway 69 Association.

No other testimony was provided.

The House Committee amended the bill to add the contents of HB 2799.

***SB 357 (Merle Miller Memorial Highway)***

SB 357 was introduced by the Senate Committee on Transportation at the request of Senator Bowers.

*Senate Committee on Transportation*

In the Senate Committee hearing, the daughter of Mr. Miller and the current publisher of the Belleville Telescope provided **proponent** testimony. They described the dedication of Merle Miller, who was editor and publisher of the Belleville Telescope, to improving highways, particularly US-81. Written-only proponent testimony was provided by a representative of the City of Belleville.

No other testimony was provided.

### ***HB 2799 (First Responders Memorial Highway)***

HB 2799 was introduced by the House Committee on Appropriations at the request of Representative Waymaster on behalf of the city of Russell.

#### *House Committee on Transportation*

In the House Committee hearing, written-only **proponent** testimony was provided by Representative Waymaster, Senator Bowers, and the mayor of Russell, Kansas. The proponents generally stated the bill would demonstrate respect and appreciation for Kansans serving as emergency responders. The mayor of Russell noted unanimous city council support for the designation.

No other testimony was provided.

### **Fiscal Information**

#### ***SB 410 (Ken W Brock Memorial Highway)***

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) estimates it would cost \$5,580 to manufacture and install two signs indicating the designation, and a total of \$8,370 would need to be received from donations to install the signs. KDOT indicates implementation of the bill would require an increase of \$5,580 to the expenditure limitation for the agency operations account for FY 2025. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2025 Governor's Budget Report*.

#### ***SB 357 (Merle Miller Memorial Highway)***

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on SB 357, as introduced, KDOT estimates it

would cost \$5,580 to manufacture and install two signs indicating the designation, and a total of \$8,370 would need to be received from donations to install the signs. KDOT indicates implementation of the bill would require an increase of \$5,580 to the expenditure limitation for the agency operations account for FY 2025. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2025 Governor's Budget Report*.

***HB 2799 (First Responders Memorial Highway)***

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on HB 2799, as introduced, KDOT estimates it would cost \$4,320 to manufacture and install two signs indicating the designation, and a total of \$6,480 would need to be received from donations to install the signs. KDOT indicates implementation of the bill would require an increase of \$4,320 to the expenditure limitation for the agency's operations account for FY 2025. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of HB 2799 is not reflected in *The FY 2025 Governor's Budget Report*.

Highway; memorial highway; US-69; US-81; Ken W Brock; Merle Miller; first responders