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Committees

Federalism, Vice Chair
House Finance Committee
Finance Subcommittee on
Agriculture, Development, and
Natural Resources

Scott Lipps
State Representative

Sponsor Testimony on HB 100
The Ohio House Transportation and Public Safety Committee

Thank you Chairman Green, Vice Chair Greenspan, Ranking Member Sheehy and members of the committee. I appreciate the opportunity to speak regarding House Bill 100. This legislation would designate a portion of State Route 73, in Springboro, Warren County, Ohio as “Officer Bill Johnson Memorial Highway.”

Officer William Johnson was born in Middletown, Ohio on October 17, 1934. Officer Johnson graduated from Middletown High School and enlisted in the military to serve as a United States Marine. He invested 20 years serving our country, including tours in Korea and Vietnam; earning the title of Gunnery Sergeant William L. Johnson. He retired on October 31, 1972 and again, wanted to continue his service. He graduated from the Lebanon Police Academy on January 17, 1975. He joined the Village of Springboro Police department part time, becoming a full time police officer with the Clearcreek Township Police Department in September 1975, becoming sergeant just 4 months later, in January 1976.

Sergeant Johnson was tragically killed during a routine stop on June 27, 1983. He was struck by a drunk driver on State Route 73, leaving behind a wife, Brenda, and their four children, Sherry, Karen, Syndra, and William. The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial added his name on May 15, 1984.

Sergeant Johnson was a patriot who served his country overseas, and when that time ended, his love for his community led him into law enforcement. Naming a portion of highway from his home county, where he served those around him, is the least we can do for a man so dedicated to serving others.

House Bill 100 designates the portion of State Route 73 between the intersection of State Route 73 and State Route 741 and the intersection of State Route 73 and Interstate Route 75 as the “Officer Bill Johnson Memorial Highway” in Warren County. I respectfully request your support in honoring Officer Johnson and his family.

I thank the committee for their time and consideration and would be happy to answer any questions the committee may have.