



Representative Keith Faber
Ohio House District 84

To: Chairman Green and the House Transportation & Public Safety Committee

From: Representative Keith Faber

Date: November 27, 2017

RE: Sponsor Testimony for HB 325

HB 325 designates a portion of State Route 705 in Shelby County as the “Michael J. Aselage Memorial Highway” in honor of the late Michael J. Aselage, a probationary firefighter with the Fort Loramie Community Fire Company.

Michael’s life came to a tragic end on August 2, 1975 at the age of 24 when he was electrocuted by a fallen power line on St. Rt. 705. Michael was directing traffic around the hazard as sheriff’s deputies were en route to the scene to provide assistance. This was the first Line of Duty Death that the Fort Loramie Fire Company had experienced since it was formed 92 years earlier.

Michael served his country for four years as a member of the United States Coast Guard upon his graduation from Fort Loramie High School and had only been discharged a year prior to his death. He chose to follow in his father’s footsteps as a firefighter, but unfortunately his service lasted only a few short months. Michael’s friends, family and community members contacted my office to honor him with this memorial highway.

There are two amendments to this bill also honoring worthy people and organizations.

The first names a portion of State Route 703 in Celina “The American Legion Highway” as both the Celina American Legion Post 201 and Saint Marys American Legion Post 323 are located on the stretch of highway. This dedication would honor the proud veterans that continue to serve their country and communities through their membership in the American Legion.

The second amendment is to name a portion of State Route 118 outside of Ansonia “Private First Class Donald E Byrum Memorial Highway.” A brave individual with many awards, including a Purple Heart and bronze star, Private Byrum died in Vietnam in 1966. Born and raised in Ansonia, his family contacted my office to honor him in his hometown of the country he died protecting.

As an elected official, I have always appreciated the opportunity to show honor and gratitude to the heroes of our communities and hope you will join me in supporting HB 325 and its amendments.