



SENATOR STEVE WILSON
Ohio's 7th Senate District

Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce Committee
Senator Steve Wilson
June 26th, 2019
Senate Bill 41 Sponsor Testimony

Chairman McColley, Vice Chair Uecker, Ranking Member Antonio, and members of the Committee, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on SB 41, a bill that will designate a portion of State Route 63 near Lebanon, Ohio as the Sergeant First Class John E. Conger Jr. Memorial Highway.

Designating this portion of highway for Sergeant Conger is a fitting way to honor his service and his sacrifice. Like so many young men who deployed to Vietnam, Sergeant Conger went missing during combat and has never been found.

On January 27th, 1969, Sergeant Conger's unit was conducting a search and destroy mission in South Vietnam. The unit began taking fire from enemy machine guns, and four men were wounded in the initial gunfire. Sergeant Conger was courageously attempting to destroy the machine gun nest when he was wounded. Sergeant Conger and the other wounded soldiers could not be rescued because of

the ongoing gun fire, and the area was bombed the next day. Ten months later, the remains of the other wounded men were found, but there was no trace of Sergeant Conger. The United States Army officially declared him killed in action on August 2nd, 1978.

Naming this stretch of highway in Warren County for Sergeant Conger would be a meaningful tribute to his bravery and patriotism, and would ensure his legacy lives on in his hometown forever.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 41. I will be happy to answer any questions.