



State Representative Ron Ferguson

*House Bill 589 Sponsor Testimony
House Transportation and Public Safety Committee
March 22nd, 2022*

Chairman Baldrige, Vice Chair McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy, and members of the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee: thank you for the privilege to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 589.

This legislation would designate a portion of State Route 7 in Jefferson County as the “Sheriff Fredrick J. Abdalla Memorial Highway.”

Sheriff Abdalla had a long and accomplished career in public service. A decorated U.S. Army Veteran, he served 2 years in Vietnam, 13 years as mayor of his hometown of Stratton, and was in his 37th year as Jefferson County Sheriff when he passed away last month. His dedication and service to the community were especially evident in recent elections, when the once solid blue Jefferson County became a republican stronghold. Sheriff Abdalla was the only democrat elected in 2020, receiving more votes than any other candidate on Jefferson County’s ballot—even Donald Trump.

House Bill 589 would serve to commemorate and thank Sheriff Abdalla for dedicating his life to the people of Jefferson County.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 589. I would be happy to answer any questions at this time.