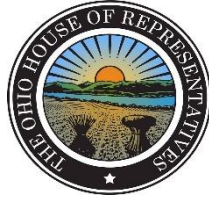


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**Representative Angie King
Ohio House District 84**

**Sponsor Testimony on House Bill 493
Before the House Transportation Committee
May 7, 2024**

Chairman McClain, Vice Chair Dobos, Ranking Member Grim, and members of the House Transportation Committee, thank you for allowing me to provide sponsor testimony for House Bill 493 to designate the northbound and southbound lanes of state route 185 between Burns Road and Progress Way, in Darke County, as Lance Corporal Gerald Subler Memorial Highway.

Gerald Francis “Jerry” Subler was born on December 30, 1947 in Versailles, Ohio. Gerald was an athlete, student of FFA, and altar server of the Holy Family Catholic Church of Frenchtown, Ohio. Upon graduation from Ansonia High School, Gerald voluntarily enlisted in the United States Marine Corps on June 9th, 1966.

Gerald was attached to the 1st Marine Division, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines, and B Company as a Rifleman where he would go on to serve his first tour of 13 months. He began his second tour in September of 1968 when he was killed in combat nineteen days later. Gerald was serving in a defensive position as a machine gunner in South Vietnam when a hostile artillery rocket inflicted multiple shrapnel wounds on his body. Gerald was 20 years old when he made the ultimate sacrifice for his country.

Gerald led with courage and faced the danger of conflict in order to preserve the right of our people to remain free. His family was in receipt of his honors including the Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, and several others. Gerald has been laid to rest within the Arlington Cemetery in Sec. 67, Site. 1109 and is honored among the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC.

This designation signifies our acknowledgment and appreciation of those who have gone above and beyond to protect the freedoms of our nation. Chairman McClain and members of the Transportation Committee, thank you for allowing me to speak on behalf of House Bill 493. I ask that you join me in honoring the legacy of Gerald Subler through this expression of appreciation of his service.