



**State Representative Justin Pizzulli**

*Sponsor Testimony - House Bill 487*

*House Transportation Committee*

*June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024*

Good afternoon, Chairman McClain, Vice Chair Dobos, Ranking Member Grim, and members of the House Transportation Committee, thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 487, which seeks to designate a portion of State Route 41 in Adams County as the TSgt. Grover Lee Swearingen Memorial Highway.

TSgt. Swearingen was born April 17<sup>th</sup>, 1924, and was drafted into the Air Force during World War II at 19 years old. During his service, from March 8<sup>th</sup>, 1943, through October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1945, he was a member of the 570<sup>th</sup> Bomb Squad and 390<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group flying in 10 missions. TSgt. Swearingen was shot down during his 11<sup>th</sup> missions over Dusseldorf, Germany and held captive for over a year in a German prisoner of war camp.

TSgt. Swearingen was declared a disabled veteran and was awarded the Air medal with 3 oak leaf clusters, a European African Middle Eastern ribbon with 3 battle

participation stars, and 2 overseas service bars. On October, 13<sup>th</sup> 2010, he was awarded a Purple Heart at the Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, OH.

Before his passing in 2021, TSgt. Swearingen also spent his time as an accountant for Glockner Honda & Toyota, farmer, mason, member of the Scottish Rite, and Grange Member. TSgt. Swearingen's sacrifice will forever be remembered through the designation of this highway.

Thank you again for allowing me to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 487 and I am happy to answer any questions you may have.