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Senate Transportation Committee
Senate Bill 114 — Sponsor Testimony
June 14, 2023

Chairwoman Kunze, Vice Chair Reineke, Ranking Member Antonio, and members of the Senate Transportation Committee, thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on Senate Bill 114.

Senate Bill 114 would designate a portion of US Route 33 in Fairfield County as the “Lance Corporal James F. Kimple Memorial Highway.” Specifically, running between the intersections of Coonpath Road Northwest to Pickerington Road Northwest.

Lance Corporal Kimple was born Logan, Ohio and raised in Carroll, Ohio. He graduated from Bloom-Carroll High School in 2005. From there he went on to serve our country as a member of the United States Marine Corps Combat Logistics Battalion 1, 1st Marine Logistics Group, I Marine Expeditionary Force stationed out of Camp Pendleton, California. James was more than just a service member. He was a father to three children, Drake, Maleah, and Dominic Kimple, and a husband to Amber N. Hedrick Kimple. He was also a son to John and Cate Kimple and a brother to Jovid and Parker Kimple.

Lance Corporal Kimple was killed in action while supporting combat operations in Anbar province, Iraq on May 2, 2008 during his second deployment to Iraq. According to his obituary: “James died doing what he wanted to do since age 16. He did it for his family and his country and will always be our hero. The few, the proud, one of our finest.”

He is truly the definition of a hometown hero, and his life was tragically cut short. Due to this, it is my request to designate this portion of US Route 33 to commemorate one of Fairfield County’s bravest individuals.

Thank you once again Chairwoman Kunze and members of the committee for the opportunity to present this legislation to you today. I will be glad to answer any questions at this time.