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**Ohio Senate** 

1 Capitol Square

## **Committees**

Veterans and Public Safety- Chair Community Revitalization Insurance Transportation

## **SB 140 Senate Transportation Sponsor Testimony** October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Chairman Kunze, Vice-Chair Reineke, Ranking Member Antonio, and members of the Senate Transportation Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of Senate Bill 140. Senate Bill 140 would designate a portion of State Route 149 in Belmont County as the "Sgt. Todd M. Bates Memorial Highway."

Sgt. Bates was from Belmont County and played football at Bellaire local schools. He was described to our office by a classmate as the following "Never in trouble and he had a big heart and would do anything for anyone".

Sgt. Todd M. Bates gave the ultimate sacrifice in December of 2003. Bates was on river patrol South of Baghdad on the Tigris River when his squad leader fell overboard. Bates selflessly dove into the water after him without hesitation, but unfortunately did not survive.

Chairman Kunze and members of the Transportation Committee, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 140. I am happy to answer any questions you may have at this time.