

Senate Transportation Committee  
Senate Bill 145 – Sponsor Testimony

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 145.

Senate Bill 145 would designate a portion of Refugee Road in Fairfield County as the “Corporal David A. Johnston Memorial Highway.” Specifically, running between the intersections of State Route 256 to Pickerington Road Northwest.

Our Post was named as a memorial to Cpl. David A. Johnston. Cpl. Johnston was KIA in Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam on March 3, 1969. He was Pickerington High Schools’ only casualty during the Vietnam War and was chosen as our namesake when our Post was formed in 1982. Cpl. Johnston served in the U.S. Marine Corp, Mike Company, Third Battalion, Fifth Regiment. The living Members of Mike Company had been searching for Cpl. Johnston’s burial site. One of our members found their website in 2007 and made contact. On Memorial Day 2007, we dedicated our Post memorial and Shelter House with several members of Mike Company in attendance. Every year since then they have held their reunion at our Post the week leading up to Memorial Day.

It would be an honor to Mike Company, our Post and the citizens of Pickerington to commemorate this portion of Refugee Road as the “Corporal David A. Johnston Memorial Highway”.

As Commander on Memorial Day 2007, and current Commander of the The Post Honor Guard, it is my privilege to testify in favor of this commemoration on behalf of American Legion Post 283 and its 650 plus veteran members and 400 plus Sons of the Legion and auxiliary members, the living members of Mike Company and the citizens of Pickerington.

Thank you Chairwoman Kunze and members of the committee for the Opportunity to present this testimony.

