

House bill 51 Proponent Testimony

Good afternoon. My name is Michael Kirkendall, from Van Wert, Ohio, and I am the son of the Late Lt. James Kirkendall, Ohio State Patrol

Our family is requesting the passage of HB 51 to designate a portion of Rt 33 in Auglaize County as the Lt James A Kirkendall Memorial Highway. The portion of highway stated in the bill includes the portion of the highway where Dad's fatal on-duty crash occurred.

Lt. Kirkendall was the commander of the Van Wert post of the Highway Patrol at the time of his death. He was returning to Van Wert after spending the day at the Patrol Academy in Columbus.

We would like to see this Memorial designation to honor his service and sacrifice and to serve as a reminder to the public of the dangers faced by all first responders who work every day on the roads on our state.

Thank you.