

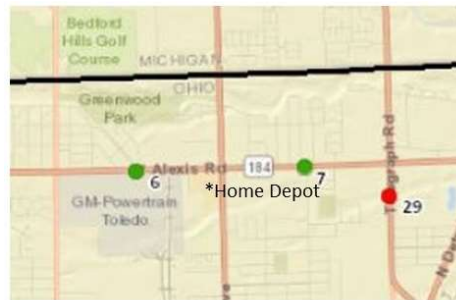


**Representative Lisa Sobecki
House District 45**

**House Bill (H.B.) 19: Officer Dia Memorial Hwy Testimony
February 23, 2021**

Chair Baldrige, Vice-Chair McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy and members of the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee: thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today in support of House Bill 19 which designates a portion of State Route 184, locally known as Alexis Rd, the "Officer Anthony Dia Memorial Highway," with my joint sponsor Rep. Mike Sheehy.

Toledo Police Officer Dia tragically died in the line of duty on July 4, 2020. Officer Dia was killed while responding to a call regarding an intoxicated man in a Home Depot parking lot. Officer Dia was 26 and left behind his wife and two children. House Bill 728 designates State Route 184 between Mile Markers 6 and 7 the "Officer Anthony Dia Memorial Highway." This section of State Route 184 includes the Home Depot where Officer Dia was killed, as referenced below.



Although he was only on the force a few years, Officer Dia showed that he had the potential to be an exceptional police officer. He has been posthumously recognized by the City of Toledo, the American Police Hall of Fame, and the International Conference of Police Chaplains. The Home Depot where Officer Dia was killed has recently unveiled a permanent memorial, and his parents commissioned a mural. House Bill 19 honors the lasting legacy of this young man, and public servant. Last GA, this bill was favorably reported by this committee 13-0.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 19. Following the testimony of my joint sponsor, I'd be happy to answer any question you may have.