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State Senator
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SB 91 Sponsor Testimony Senate Transportation Committee May 5, 2021

Chair Kunze, Vice Chair Reineke, Ranking Member Antonio and members of the Senate Transportation Committee, thank you for allowing me to give testimony on Senate Bill 91, which would designate Sergeant Gary Lee McKiddy Memorial Highway in Montgomery County.

I first heard Sergeant Gary Lee McKiddy's story when I was approached by his brother, Mr. Rick McKiddy. I quickly learned that Sergeant McKiddy's life was one of selflessness, bravery, and loyalty.

Sergeant McKiddy was killed on May 6, 1970 when he was just 20 years old. He was killed on the line of duty while serving in the Vietnam War.

Sergeant McKiddy's aircraft was shot down in combat. After the crash, Sergeant McKiddy returned to the aircraft and saved one of his fellow soldiers and best friends. After clearing the soldier from the burning aircraft, Sergeant McKiddy returned a second time in attempt to save the pilot, but the aircraft exploded and tragically killed him.

After his death, he was awarded the Silver Star for his actions, which recognizes bravery in combat.

Sergeant Gary Lee McKiddy demonstrated tremendous courage and great sacrifice for his country and fellow soldiers. Designating this highway in his honor is a small way to thank him and honor his legacy forever.

Thank you for allowing me to provide sponsor testimony today on Senate Bill 91. I am happy to take any questions from the committee.