

Michael Sheehy State Representative

HB 324 Sponsor Testimony Toledo Firefighters J. Dickman and S. Machcinski Memorial Highway September 20, 2017

Good Morning Chairman Green, Vice Chair Greenspan, and members of the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 324. This bill creates the "Toledo Firefighters J. Dickman and S. Machcinski Memorial Highway" along a stretch of Interstate 75 in Toledo.

First responders may have the toughest jobs in our society. Day after day, they put their lives on the line in service of safer, more resolute communities for the rest of us to enjoy. That is what Private Machcinski and Private Dickman, firefighters in the Toledo Fire Department, did on January 26, 2014 when they responded to an apartment fire in North Toledo. Although all residents had escaped the apartment building, the two men entered the second-floor to search for survivors. They were unable to themselves escape, and perished in the building.

Should this bill become law, Lucas County residents will be reminded of the sacrifice made by Privates Machcinski and Dickman each day they drive on I-75. Such an honor is fitting for these men and their families, as well as other first responders in our community who can appreciate our gratitude for their service.

Mr. Chairman, I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to present testimony on House Bill 324, and I thank the members of the Committee for their patience and attention. I am happy to answer any questions on this important piece of legislation.