



Ohio Senate
Senate Building
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 466-7182
O'Brien@ohiosenate.gov

Committees:
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Agriculture & Natural Resources
Transportation

Sandra O'Brien
State Senator
32nd District

Sponsor Testimony – Senate Bill 239
Senate Transportation Committee
Senator Sandra O'Brien
April 24, 2024

Chair Kunze, Vice Chair Reineke, Ranking Member Antonio, and members of the Senate Transportation Committee, thank you for the opportunity to deliver sponsor testimony today on Senate Bill 239.

SB 239 would dedicate a portion of US Route 422 between Warren Burton Road and State Route 534 as the “Chief Radio Operator Walter Dawson Memorial Highway.” Officer Walter Eldon Dawson was on duty the night of May 31, 1953 when his cruiser was hit at the intersection of US Route 422 and State Route 534. His death left his wife widowed and his three kids fatherless, and many officers and fellow radio operators attended his funeral. He was said to be jovial in nature and was never too tired or busy to assist those around him. His life set a standard we all want Ohioans to strive for.

The Chief Radio Operator Walter Dawson Memorial Highway would be a symbol to people in the future, and a great way to demonstrate that the community remembers and cherishes those who put their lives on the line to keep us safe.

Thank you again Madam Chair for allowing me to give sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 239. I am happy to answer any questions from the Committee.