
HOUSE BILL No. 2478

By Representative Rhiley

1-12

1 AN ACT concerning roads and highways; designating a portion of United
2 States highway 166 as the SGT Evan S Parker memorial highway.

3
4 WHEREAS, Sergeant Evan S. Parker was born at Wesley Medical
5 Center in Wichita, Kansas, on May 1, 1980; and

6 WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker attended South Haven USD 509 public
7 schools from kindergarten through high school and graduated as a South
8 Haven Cardinal in 1998; and

9 WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker attended Cowley County Community
10 College in Arkansas City, Kansas; and

11 WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker joined the United States Army from
12 Arkansas City, Kansas, and went to basic training at Fort Leonard Wood in
13 Missouri; and

14 WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker graduated basic training with Delta
15 Company 3rd Battalion 10th Infantry and his first assignment was at Fort
16 Sill in Oklahoma as a Fire Support Specialist; and

17 WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker was then assigned a permanent duty
18 station at Schofield Barracks in Honolulu, Hawaii, as part of the proud
19 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry and 29th Brigade Combat Team, whose
20 motto is "GO FOR BROKE"; and

21 WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker was deployed to Iraq in October 2004 to
22 Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

23 WHEREAS; Sergeant Parker was awarded his first Purple Heart in
24 May 2005 for head trauma caused by a roadside IED attack; and

25 WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker was promoted to Sergeant in July 2005;
26 and

27 WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker was two weeks away from finishing his
28 11-month deployment when he again suffered head trauma from another
29 roadside IED attack on October 23, 2005, and was flown to Landstuhl
30 Army Medical Center in Germany and removed from life support on
31 October 26, 2005, surrounded by his family; and

32 WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker received the Bronze Star, second merit,
33 the Purple Heart and the Good Conduct Medal presented by two of his
34 commanders; and

35 WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker received the Hawaii Medal of Honor in
36 2006; and

1 WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker was honored by the Fort Shafter Flats
2 Army Reserve 25th Infantry Division in Honolulu, Hawaii, when they
3 dedicated the "Sgt. Evan S. Parker Pavilion" in 2008; and

4 WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker is listed honorably in the 100th Battalion,
5 442nd Infantry "GO FOR BROKE" Hall of Fame in Honolulu, Hawaii; and

6 WHEREAS; Sergeant Parker was highly decorated in the United States
7 Army throughout his military career as a Fire Support Specialist, is
8 defined as a hero and sacrificed his life to protect our freedom and the
9 principles of democracy;

10 Now, therefore:

11 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

12 Section 1. The portion of United States highway 166 from the
13 junction of United States highway 166 with United States highway 81 in
14 Sumner county then east to the western city limits of Arkansas City,
15 Kansas, in Cowley county is hereby designated as the SGT Evan S Parker
16 memorial highway. Upon compliance with K.S.A. 68-10,114, and
17 amendments thereto, the secretary of transportation shall place suitable
18 signs to indicate that the highway is the SGT Evan S Parker memorial
19 highway.

20 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
21 publication in the statute book.