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February 12, 2021

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**VIA E-MAIL: [mike.petersen@senate.ks.gov](mailto:mike.petersen@senate.ks.gov)**

Senator Mike Petersen  
Senate Committee on Transportation  
Statehouse, Room 345-S  
Topeka, KS 66612

**Re: SB20 - Dennis M. Wilson Memorial Highway**

Dear Senator Petersen:

I am pleased to write today in support of SB20, an act to designate a portion of US 69 Highway in Johnson County as the "Dennis M. Wilson Memorial Highway". I recognize that such a designation is reserved to honor a limited class of individuals that exemplify service to the State and their communities. It is with that understanding that I would respectfully suggest that Dennis Wilson through his life of public service is most worthy of this honor.

A Veteran of the U.S Air Force, Dennis embarked on a career continuing to focus on the idea of service to others. As a member of both the Kansas House of Representatives and the State Senate, Dennis served both the State and his constituents with dedication, honesty, and a commitment to make our State better for generations to come. Later, service in the Brownback Administration as Director of the Kansas lottery continued his efforts to help move our State forward. But service in Topeka was not his only gift to us. Dennis was always particularly in tune with finding ways to serve his local community. Elected Johnson County Treasurer in 2001, and to the Johnson County Water One Board in 2015, he spent untold hours finding solutions and making the community better in terms of government fairness and efficiency.

Finally, and most importantly, Dennis was a living gift to nearly every person he met. A man of unbridled enthusiasm with a big, a very big, heart he was a friend to all and an especially good friend to those in need. Dennis never forgot where he came from and never forgot our first priority should not always be to our self but to others. Honoring him with this Highway designation will serve all of us well, as a reminder, of what service to God, our country and community really means.

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Senator, thank you for your time to consider my comments about Dennis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John D. Petersen".

John D. Petersen

JDP:jlh