

2023 HOUSE TRANSPORTATION

HB 1117

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Transportation Committee
Room JW327E, State Capitol

HB 1117
1/12/2023

A bill relating to designating the bridge on state highway 18 as the Veterans' Memorial Bridge.

Chairman Ruby opened the hearing at 9:03 AM.

Members present: Chairman Ruby, Vice Chairman Grueneich, Representatives Anderson, Christensen, Dyk, Frelich, Hauck, Koppelman, Murphy, Timmons, Wagner, Weisz, Dakane, Dobervich. No members absent.

Discussion Topics:

- State Highway 18 name designation

Representative Monson introduced the bill (#13037) and submitted two letters in support from Edward Pavlish, District Engineer with the Grand Forks District (#13059) and from Casey Krieg, Cavalier City Auditor (#13058).

Jim Nelson, North Dakota Veterans Legislative Council, testified in support (#13060).

Wade Swenson, Operations Director for the North Dakota Department of Transportation, neutral testimony verbally.

Chairman Ruby closed the hearing at 9:16 AM.

Representative K. Anderson moved a Do Pass.

Representative Dakane seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Representatives	Vote
Representative Dan Ruby	Y
Representative Jim Grueneich	Y
Representative Karen A. Anderson	Y
Representative Cole Christensen	Y
Representative Hamida Dakane	Y
Representative Gretchen Dobervich	Y
Representative Scott Dyk	Y
Representative Kathy Frelich	Y
Representative Dori Hauck	Y
Representative Ben Koppelman	Y
Representative Eric James Murphy	Y

Representative Kelby Timmons	Y
Representative Scott Wagner	Y
Representative Robin Weisz	Y

Motion carried 14-0-0

Representative K. Anderson is the bill carrier.

Additional written testimony:

Hunter Heck, Cavalier, North Dakota, testimony in support #12998.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 AM

Mary Brucker, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1117: Transportation Committee (Rep. D. Ruby, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (14 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1117 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

2023 SENATE TRANSPORTATION

HB 1117

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Transportation Committee
Fort Totten Room, State Capitol

HB 1117
3/2/2023

A BILL for an Act, relating to designating the bridge on state highway 18 as the veteran's memorial bridge; and to provide a continuing appropriation.
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9:00 AM **Chairman Clemens** opened the hearing.
Chairman Clemens, Senators Conley, Larsen, Paulson, Rummel were present.

Discussion Topics:

- Naming bridges
- Signs

9:01 AM **Representative Munson** verbally introduced the bill.

9:04 AM **Joe Hall, President of ND Veterans Legislative Council**, testified in favor. #21733

9:05 AM **Senator Larsen** moved a **DO PASS** on HB 1117

9:06 AM **Senator Conley** seconded.

Roll call vote.

Senators	Vote
Senator David A. Clemens	Y
Senator Cole Conley	Y
Senator Doug Larsen	Y
Senator Bob Paulson	Y
Senator Dean Rummel	Y

Motion passed 5-0-0

Senator Larsen will carry the bill.

9:05 AM **Chairman Clemens** adjourned the hearing.

Patricia Wilkens, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1117: Transportation Committee (Sen. Clemens, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (5 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1117 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

TESTIMONY

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HB 1117 Testimony

By Hunter Heck

Dear Chairman Ruby, Vice Chairman Grueneich, and the rest of the House Transportation committee, for accepting my written testimony regarding my support for HB 1117. I will admit that this is my first time doing this, but I am confident to write this since this piece of legislation does in fact hit close to home for me. Also, since I am a full-time student, I cannot find the time to be in person or be online so doing this in written form is my only option. I will make the rest of this as brief as possible.

As a lifelong resident of Cavalier, I of course know this bridge very well as I cross it practically everyday back home and especially since I am not far from it. Having this be named as the “Veterans Memorial Bridge” will be nice not just for the community, but for those that have served our country. Please, support this bill in the name of our brave veterans.

Sincerely, Hunter Heck

Testimony on HB1117

Rep. David Monson

District 19

Chairman Ruby and members of the House Transportation Committee, for the record I am Rep. David Monson from District 19 in far northeastern ND.

This bill was submitted on behalf of my constituents in the Cavalier area. I have copies of letters of support from the local American Legion chapter and the City of Cavalier. We were told the only way to name the bridge within the city of Cavalier on state highway 18 is to do it with a bill. Thus, the bill before you is the vehicle we decided to use to name this bridge the Veterans Memorial Bridge. Chairman Ruby and possibly some of you more veteran members on this committee know how this procedure works much better than I do. I understand this is a well-used tool to name bridges, highways, and other structures on state property such as highways, so I would defer most questions to you Mr. Chairman. About all I can add to this discussion is that there is no fiscal note. The local veterans' group and the city of Cavalier have assured me they will cover the costs of any signage and will make sure the signs are placed by the bridge in accordance to state rules and regulations at no cost to the state in any way.

With that I will try to answer any questions you may have, but as I already stated, members on this committee know much more about this procedure than I do. I hope you give this bill unanimous support for a Do Pass recommendation. Thank you for your consideration.



City of Cavalier
301 Division Ave N
P.O. Box 750
Cavalier, ND 58220
Ph. 701.265.8800
Fax 701.265.8720

CAVALIER

Edward Pavlish
District Engineer
Grand Forks District
1951 N Washington
Grand Forks, ND 58208

The City of Cavalier is in support of Lavern J Thompson Post #11 request to dedicate the bridge in the city of Cavalier in memory of all fallen veterans.

The bridge that the city would like to be dedicated is on Division Ave in the city of Cavalier. The latitude and longitude is 48.79737, -97.62243. We are in support of this project as we have 585 veterans that have passed in our community with a current population of 1,234 citizens. We can think of no better way to honor the generations of Cavalier citizens that have served our country and fought for the freedoms we have today.

If there is any other information that you would need to make this project happen, please let me know. As the Auditor for the City of Cavalier it is my pleasure to support this project in any way possible. Thank you for your consideration and helping the Lavern J Thompson American Legion Post and the citizens of Cavalier to remember the fallen veterans.

Casey Krieg
Cavalier City Auditor

Mayor
Lacey Hinkle

Council Ward I
Craig Vaughn
Sara Stevenson

Council Ward II
Mike Carpenter
Kelly Cluchie

Council Ward III
Tom Beard
Al Berry

GOD AND COUNTRY

Lavern J. Thompson Post No. 11

THE AMERICAN LEGION
CAVALIER, NORTH DAKOTA 58220



*Your copy of the
letter sent to
Edward Pavlish*

Edward Pavlish
District Engineer
Grand Forks District
1951 N Washington
Grand Forks, N.D. 58208

The local legion post in Cavalier N.D. is exploring the possibility of dedicating one of the bridges in the city of Cavalier in memory of all fallen veterans.

During our last meeting, it was voted unanimously to pursue this. All legion posts keep a list of the veterans who have passed away. This list is used to place flags on their graves on Memorial Day, and is read every Memorial Day. This post is a small post, but there are 585 names on that list. That is a tremendous contribution that men and women in this community have given to the protection of democracy in this country.

Another reason we need to do this project is to demonstrate to the youth of the community the importance of service to your country. In this community a vast majority of the families have a connection to the 585 names on the Roll of The Honored Dead. Bringing this project to the attention of the community will allow more visibility for the fallen veteran of the entire area. We believe patriotism is on the rise and we need to demonstrate in a small way the contribution veterans have made.

Thank you for your consideration and helping the Lavern J. Thompson American Legion Post remember the fallen veteran of this state.

*Service
Eun District
Post adjutant*

Jim Nelson
ND Veterans' Legislative Council HB 1117

President Harry Truman said “Our debt to the brave heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. American will never forget their sacrifices.” The sentiment expressed in this quote has echoed and re-echoed in the thousands and thousands of speeches on Memorial Day, the Fourth of July, Veteran’s Day, and other instances when speaking about veterans, as we try to show respect for their sacrifices in preserving the freedoms we enjoy in this country. All too often I fear these are empty words spoken purely because the occasion warrants it. So how do we make these words really mean something. This bill will do exactly that. By naming this bridge the Veteran’s Memorial Bridge, we are creating a visual reminder giving us the opportunity of remembrance, reflection, and respect and thus honoring our honoring the brave men and women who have not

only served their country but the great State of North Dakota. It is a small price to pay when compared with the price our veterans have made. North Dakota has a reputation of honoring and supporting the veterans who call North Dakota home. Passage of this bill would provide a visual reflecting the pride and support we have for our men and women who have served in the armed forces of this country. The ND Veterans Legislative Council unanimously support this Bill

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and supporting the veterans who call North Dakota home. Passage of this bill would provide a visual reflecting the pride and support we have for our men and women who have served in the armed forces of this country. The ND Veterans Legislative Council unanimously support this bill and we ask for a yes vote