

Good morning, Chair Clemens, and members of the committee, my name is Keith Boehm the Senator from District 33 Which runs from NE Mandan to Dodge

I have been given the privilege to present Senate Bill 2277, a bill aimed at honoring the service and sacrifice of North Dakota's peace officers. This legislation proposes the designation of State Highway 200, stretching from the Minnesota border to the Montana border, as the *North Dakota Fallen Peace Officers Memorial Highway*.

This bill serves as a tribute to the peace officers, law enforcement officers, and canine officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty to protect and serve our communities.

The bill outlines three primary provisions:

1. The Department of Transportation will designate and mark State Highway 200 with appropriate signage to officially recognize it as the *North Dakota Fallen Peace Officers Memorial Highway*.
2. To further honor individual fallen officers, the department will work closely with families, colleagues, organizations and communities to designate up to one mile of the highway in memory of a specific peace officer or canine officer.
3. The bill allows for the acceptance of donated signs or funds, which will be appropriated on a continuing basis to ensure the proper placement and maintenance of the memorial signage.

This bill not only ensures the legacy of these officers is preserved but also serves as a constant reminder to all who travel this route of the sacrifices made by our law enforcement community.

I believe this is a meaningful step in demonstrating our state's gratitude and respect for the dedication of those who have served and given their lives in the line of duty.

I respectfully ask for your support of Senate Bill 2277 and would be happy to address any questions you may have.

Thank you.

NORTH DAKOTA
FALLEN
PEACE OFFICERS
MEMORIAL
HIGHWAY

NORTH DAKOTA
200

