

Submitter: George Galligar

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal
and World Affairs

Measure: SB478

February 22, 2023

To the Honorable Senators in Transportation Committee for SB 478

My name is George Galligar and I have been a resident of Elgin, OR since 1970. I served on the Elgin Police Department from 1973-1982 and I was on duty and called to the scene of the accident that took the lives of Deputies Raymond Williams & Michael Cheney . At that time, I also served as a Sergeant on the Police Department, an EMT with the Elgin Fire Department, and served as Deputy Medical Examiner as well. Thank you for receiving my testimony for SB 478

I believe this bill should pass to dedicate this section of Hwy 82 should be dedicated in honor for their service as part of the Law Enforcement Community and for the ultimate sacrifice that was made in the line of duty by this intoxicated driver that took their life. The two Deputies had been out on a search and rescue call and had stopped for a meal at the DbarJ diner in Elgin before heading back to the Sheriff's Office. They had just left the restaurant heading south on Hwy 82 when their service vehicle a chevy blazer was struck head on by a pickup driven by an intoxicated driver heading north. The impact was so severe that their vehicle was pushed backwards 150 feet and two pistons from the engine of their blazer were pushed out of the engine and into the hood of the vehicle. Both deputies were pronounced dead at the scene and most likely were killed on impact. The driver of the pickup that hit them also died on the scene as well.

I support SB 478 because we need to show respect to our Law Enforcement Community for the service, they all offer to us and by dedicating this portion of Hwy 82 where this horrific, needless collision took place taking the lives of these two innocent deputies who were on duty serving our county, we are honoring not only them and their service, but also the service of everyone else who serves in Law Enforcement and puts their lives in danger. We are also honoring the sacrifice of these two men in their service to our county and the sacrifice of their families they were taken from by this senseless crime.

Sincerely,

George Galligar