

**Testimony on Senate Bill 507
Senate Committee on Transportation and Local Government
Tuesday, September 7, 2021**

Hello, and thank you Chairman Petrowski and members of the Senate Committee on Transportation and Local Government for allowing me to share my testimony with you regarding Senate Bill 507, which designates the overpass on State Highway 13 over U.S. Highway 10 as the Deputy LaVonne Zenner Memorial Bridge.

Earlier this year, the Wood County Sheriff's Department reached out to me in the hopes of designating a memorial to Deputy LaVonne Zenner. Deputy Zenner was an active member of the Marshfield community who joined law enforcement as a career change. She was employed as a reserve deputy for Wood County, then became a deputy for the city of Pittsville, and finally was hired as a full-time deputy for the Wood County Sheriff's Department. Unfortunately, three weeks into her training with the sheriff's department, Deputy Zenner was traveling to meet her field training officer when she was involved in a car accident. She was in full uniform at the time. The crash occurred on August 3, 1989. She was 39 years old and left behind a son, daughter and husband.

Deputy Zenner was one of the few females in a male dominated field in the 80's and many community members still remember the dedication that she had to serving the community. There is a plaque at the Wood County Sheriff's Department in her honor. Beyond this acknowledgment, we want ensure that Deputy Zenner's commitment to serve her community is never forgotten by designating the overpass on State Highway 13 over U.S. Highway 10 as the Deputy LaVonne Zenner Memorial Bridge.

Thank you again for allowing me the opportunity to share testimony in support of this bill, and I welcome any questions you might have.