



WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR

DAVE HANSEN

SENATOR – 30TH DISTRICT

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**Testimony: SB 598/AB 699 "PFC
Valentine T. Warrichaiet Memorial Bridge."
1/30/18**

Thank you Mr. Chairman and members.

I am before you today to speak in favor of Senate Bill 598/Assembly Bill 699, legislation to direct the Department of Transportation to designate and mark the bridge on USH 41 across the Oconto River in the city of Oconto as the "PFC Valentine T. Warrichaiet Memorial Bridge."

As the bill states, Private First Class Valentine T. Warrichaiet was mortally wounded on July 9, 1953, while defending Hill #255, also known as Pork Chop Hill. PFC Warrichaiet was directing his squad of infantrymen of the 17th Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division in the absence of his sergeant when he fell defending the hill to an overwhelming enemy force of Chinese soldiers.

For his sacrifice, PFC Warrichaiet received the Purple Heart, National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal and numerous other medals.

This proposal is supported by the Oconto County Board, Oconto City Council, American Legion, AMVETS, VFW, Elks, Kiwanis and Lions Clubs as well as every citizen and organization that expressed an opinion on it.

I hope you will approve this bill to designate the "PFC Valentine T. Warrichalet Memorial Bridge" and honor this fine, young man who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country.

Thank you.