

SENATE BILL NO. 196

INTRODUCED BY D. SANDS, B. TSCHIDA

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE BRENT WITHAM MEMORIAL HIGHWAY IN MISSOULA COUNTY; DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO INSTALL SIGNS AT THE LOCATION AND TO INCLUDE THE MEMORIAL HIGHWAY ON THE NEXT PUBLICATION OF THE STATE HIGHWAY MAP; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

WHEREAS, Brent Witham of the Vista Grande Hotshots came to Montana to fight the Lolo Peak Fire in 2017; and

WHEREAS, on August 2, 2017, Brent Witham died fighting the fire after a falling tree struck him; and

WHEREAS, Brent Witham gave his life to protect Montanans; and

WHEREAS, the 66th Legislature of the State of Montana honors Brent Witham.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Brent Witham memorial highway.** (1) There is established the Brent Witham memorial highway on the existing U.S. highway 12 between mile 20 and mile 32.

(2) The department shall design and install appropriate signs marking the location of the Brent Witham memorial highway.

(3) Maps that identify roadways in Montana must be updated to include the location of the Brent Witham memorial highway when the department updates and publishes the state maps.

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 60, chapter 1, part 2, and the provisions of Title 60, chapter 1, part 2, apply to [section 1].

NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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