

CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS  
5TH DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

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ENERGY AND COMMERCE  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

October 2, 2017

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Washington Transportation Commission  
ATTN: Commissioner Jerry Litt, Chairman  
PO Box 47308  
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Commissioner Litt,

On September 13<sup>th</sup>, Freeman High School experienced a devastating tragedy with the loss of Sam Strahan. Sam bravely ran towards an active shooter when many would have ran in the opposite direction, in the process saving many lives. Following Sam's heroic actions, a grassroots petition has circulated to rename State Route 27 to Sam Strahan Memorial Highway.

As you know, § 47.01.420 of the Revised Code of Washington states, "The commission may name or rename state transportation facilities including, but not limited to: State highways; state highway bridges, structures, and facilities; state rest areas; and state roadside facilities, such as viewpoints." It further states, "For the commission to consider a naming or renaming proposal, the requesting entity or person must provide sufficient evidence, as determined by the commission, indicating community support and acceptance of the proposal. Evidence may include the following: (i) Letters of support from state and federal legislators representing the impacted area encompassing the state transportation facility." In that regard, I want to voice my strong support in favor of this community effort to honor Sam and his legacy.

In a time of heartbreak, we must honor Sam's heroic actions and not forget his sacrifice. State Route 27, a 90 mile stretch of road that includes part of the Palouse Scenic Byway passes by Freeman High School. Renaming this stretch of road will memorialize Sam and his life-saving efforts.

I continue to pray for Sam's family and strongly support renaming Washington State Route 27 after him. Please do not hesitate to reach out to my office with any questions at (509) 353-2374.

Warmly,



Cathy McMorris Rodgers (WA-05)  
Member of Congress

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