



State of Connecticut

SENATE

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Senator Maynard, Representative Guerrero and distinguished members of the committee:

I am State Senator Michael McLachlan, and I am here to speak in support of *Senate Bill 718, An Act Naming The Route 7 Bridge Crossing Over Little Brook in New Milford In Honor of Officer Donald Hassiak.*

Officer Donald Hassiak II, of New Milford, was an active member of the Danbury area community, having attended local schools and churches, as well as a member of many community groups with his family, his whole life. He joined the Danbury Police Department in 1994 and very much enjoyed the work he did making sure the city was always a safe place for its residents.

Sadly, in June of 2010, Office Hassiak was struck by a car while riding his bike to work down Route 7. He passed away the next day from injuries sustained from the accident.

Naming this bridge after Office Hassiak is a small way to honor the memory of a local hero. It is also a means to preserve the importance and legacy of public service for years to come. It is important that we continue to honor the men and women of our police departments, who fight hard and passionately for their communities. Officer Hassiak fought hard for the Danbury community and with this legislation we are able to fight hard for his memory.

Additionally, other members of the Danbury Delegation, as well as members of the Danbury Police Union support this effort.

I urge the committee to support Senate Bill 718 to preserve the memory of one of our state's finest.

Thank you,

Michael A. McLachlan
Senator - 24th District