

March 10, 2021 Senate Committee on Transportation and Local Government Testimony in favor of SB 101

Mr. Chairman and members,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you this afternoon. Senate Bill 101 would rename the Walnut Street Bridge in Green Bay after Bart Starr, a man who needs no introduction. Representing Green Bay is an honor by itself, but when combined with the storied history of the Packers, it takes on a whole new importance. Titletown has been home to numerous stars over the years, but in the 1960's we were fortunate to have the stellar combination of Vince Lombardi and Bart Starr bring multiple championships home to Green Bay. Despite his initial scouting report suggesting he "might be adequate as a backup", and being the 199th pick in the 1956 draft, Starr went on to lead the Packers to victory in five NFL title games, as well as the first two Super Bowls.

Apart from his playing and coaching career, Bart Starr and his wife Cherry made sure to leave their mark on our community with their generosity and activism, co-founding Rawhide Boys Ranch in New London alongside John Gillespie, who we will hear from a little later.

After such a distinguished life and career, it is only fitting that Bart Starr's name be attached to a place where thousands will see it daily. Thank you for your consideration, and I ask your support for Senate Bill 101.