

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ron Ryckman at 9:00 am on Monday, March 07, 2016, 112-N of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

Kathy Holscher, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant
David Fye, Legislative Research Department
Jennifer Ouellette, Legislative Research Department
Daniel Yoza, Office of Revisor of Statutes
J.G. Scott, Legislative Research Department
Melinda Gaul, Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Representative Peck
Michael Johnston, Economic Lifelines
Colonel Bruce, Kansas Highway Patrol
Robert McClarty, McPherson Police Department
Sheriff Herman Jones, Kansas Peace Officers Association
Ed Pavey, Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center
Brad Nelson, Salina Police Department

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Opening remarks - Chairman Ryckman

Chairman Ryckman called the meeting to order. He stated that, in accordance to the statutes, committee members have received a copy of the Annual Reports from the University of Kansas Cancer Center ([Attachment 1](#)), Kansas Aviation Research and Technology Growth Initiative ([Attachment 2](#)), and the National Center for Aviation Training ([Attachment 3](#)).

Hearing on: HB2503 — Creating the Kansas highway patrol staffing and training fund; vehicle registration fees.

Daniel Yoza, Office of Revisor of Statute, provided a briefing on the bill ([Attachment 4](#)). The bill creates a fund for the Kansas Highway Patrol, changes the allocation of the vehicle modernization surcharge, and credits \$2 of each vehicle modernization surcharge to the Kansas Highway Patrol staffing and training fund. He noted that during last year's budget process, money was allocated to three projects and any changes to the bill would require an amendment ([Attachment 5](#)).

Daniel Yoza responded to questions from committee members. He stated that under current law \$4 goes

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Appropriations at 9:00 am on Monday, March 07, 2016 in Room 112-N of the Capitol.

to the State Highway Fund, and a proviso would be necessary to change the language in the bill.

Mark Dapp, Legislative Research Department, provided information on the Comparison of Disposition of Revenue Under Current Law and **HB 2503** (As Amended by the House Committee as a Whole) ([Attachment 6](#)). Currently \$3.1 million of the revenue is unspecified and would remain in the Department of Revenue, as they assess the surcharge, it was noted.

Mark Dapp responded to questions from committee members. He stated that \$9.2 million is going to the State Highway Fund. Direct revenue deposit for the Kansas Highway Patrol would be subject to appropriation, of which \$6.1 million would be additional funds. The language in the bill that was adopted by the Committee as Whole, directs \$2 from the revenue, as the language was not adopted that would cut the fee by \$2, therefore, the fee remained at \$4, but there was language that only guided \$2, he stated. \$55 million is appropriated from the State Highway Fund to the Highway Patrol, this would be additional revenue, he added. It was noted that this bill would take \$12 million from the Kansas Department of Transportation fund and possibly more in the coming week(s).

Discussion followed by committee members. Chairman Ryckman stated the bill was referred back to the committee to address the remaining \$2, that was not addressed in the Whole Committee, for further debate on the floor. On-going review of non-State General Funds would continue to be reviewed by the prospective Budget Committee for further discussion in the full committee.

Representative Peck presented testimony in neutral position of the bill ([Attachment 7](#)). He stated his support of the bill for increased funding of the the Kansas Highway Patrol staffing and training programs. However, he stated he does not support the \$2 increase for vehicle registrations. He noted that the Modernization Surcharge was only adopted as temporary and for four years. The sunset was set for January, 2013, however, these funds have continued to be placed in the State Highway Fund. Representative Peck recommended the elimination of the Modernization Surcharge and replace it with the \$2 charge for the Kansas Highway Patrol for staffing and training.

Representative Peck responded to questions from committee members and he reviewed the vehicle property and registration tax as compared to a neighboring state, which are much lower.

Michael Johnston, Economic Lifelines, presented testimony in neutral position of the bill ([Attachment 8](#)). He stated this this year, the Governor's budget recommendation transfers \$440 million from the State Highway Fund and a transfer of \$400 million next year.

In response to a questions from a committee member, Mr. Johnston stated that approximately \$500 million is received from taxpayers to the Highway Fund.

Colonel Bruce, Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP), presented testimony as a proponent of the bill ([Attachment 9](#)) and a power point presentation followed. The additional \$2 per vehicle registration would enable the KHP to expand the workforce by 75 troopers, he stated.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Appropriations at 9:00 am on Monday, March 07, 2016 in Room 112-N of the Capitol.

Robert McClarty, McPherson Police Department, presented testimony as a proponent of the bill on behalf of Ed Klumpp, Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police ([Attachment 10](#)). He emphasized the importance of the vital services provided by the Highway Patrol, and their assistance with public safety efforts.

Sheriff Herman Jones, Kansas Peace Officers Association, presented testimony as a proponent of the bill ([Attachment 11](#)). He provided background information and stressed the importance of law enforcement presence and the impact on public safety.

Written testimony as proponents of the bill was provided by Mitch Melleck, Kansas Troopers Association ([Attachment 12](#)), and Jeff Herrig, Kansas Sheriffs Association ([Attachment 13](#)).

Colonel Bruce responded to questions from committee members. As requested, additional information will be provided regarding city and county support in addressing the needs of citizen protection as related to officer deployment. Discussion continued regarding staffing issues and the need for more troopers on the road.

Representative Peck responded to questions from committee members. He stated that by statute the \$3.1 million would go into the State Highway Fund. The Appropriations Committee could redirect the funds by adding language to the bill, he added.

Chairman Ryckman closed the hearing on the bill.

Hearing on: SB335 — Senate Substitute for SB 335 by Committee on Transportation - Relating to registration, fees; law enforcement training center fund; creating the Kansas highway patrol staffing and training fund.

Daniel Yoza, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, reviewed the bill brief for **SB 335** ([Attachment 14](#)). The bill creates a fund for the Kansas Highway Patrol, creates two new surcharges to vehicle registration, and credits surcharges to the Kansas Highway Patrol Staff and Training Fund and the Law Enforcement Training Center Fund.

Mark Dapp, Legislative Research Department, presented a Comparison of Disposition of Revenue Under Current Law, **HB 2305** (as amended by the House Committee of the Whole) and **Sub. for SB 335** (as amended by the Senate Committee of the Whole) ([Attachment 15](#)). This information reflects what registration fees that would be accessed and the funds would receive these fees, he stated. This bill would increase the vehicle registration fees by \$2 for the Kansas Highway Patrol Staffing and Training Surcharge and \$1.25 for the Law Enforcement Training Center Surcharge.

Mark Dapp presented a Comparison of Disposition of Revenue Under Current Law and **Sub for SB 335** (as amended by the Senate Committee of the Whole) ([Attachment 16](#)). This would increase the Kansas Highway Patrol Staffing and Training Fund by \$6.1 million, and the Law Enforcement Training Center

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CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Appropriations at 9:00 am on Monday, March 07, 2016 in Room 112-N of the Capitol.

Fund by \$3.8 million.

Mark Dapp responded to questions by committee members. He stated that currently the Law Enforcement Center is funded by docket fees of \$15 and municipal court assessments of \$11.50.

Aaron Klaassen, Legislative Research Department, responded to questions from committee members. He stated that only additional funding was requested by the Highway Patrol for projects for this year, and for the for pay plan adjustments the prior year.

Chairman Ryckman opened the hearing on **SB 335**.

Ed Pavey, Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center presented testimony as a proponent of the bill, ([Attachment 17](#)) . He provided background information on the center, and emphasized the importance of the \$1.25 fee for the center, which will be critical to maintaining programs, staff and campus facilities.

Ed Pavey responded to questions by committee members. Mr. Pavey stated that initial training is funded 100 percent by court docket fees and on-going training and transportation costs are paid for by the agencies. No fees are charged for continued education classes, he added.

Brad Nelson, Chief of Police, Salina, Kansas, presented testimony as a proponent of the bill ([Attachment 18](#)) . He acknowledged the outstanding training provided by the Law Enforcement Center, as well as the central location of the facility.

Written testimony as proponents of the bill were as follows: Ed Klumpp, Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police and the Kansas Peace Officers Association ([Attachment 19](#)) ; Robert McClarty, McPherson Police Department ([Attachment 20](#)) ; Don Ash, Wyandotte County Sheriffs Office ([Attachment 21](#)) ; Frank Denning, Kansas Sheriffs Association ([Attachment 22](#)) ; Mike Keller, Andover Police Department ([Attachment 23](#)) and Brad Schoen, Riley County Police Department ([Attachment 24](#)) . Michael Johnston submitted written testimony in neutral position of the bill ([Attachment 25](#)) .

Chairman Ryckman closed the hearing on the bill.

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Closing remarks

Chairman Ryckman stated that Jim Miller, Legislative Office of Information Services, has additional information on **HB 2573** for the committee's review.

Jim Miller presented an overview of the Legislature's Proposed Audio Streaming Project ([Attachment 26](#)) . He stated that every committee room in the building has heavily wired for audio and video streaming. To complete the audio streaming, a computer card would be added to the existing system to capture the analog audio stream. The analog stream would be converted to a digital audio system,

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CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Appropriations at 9:00 am on Monday, March 07, 2016 in Room 112-N of the Capitol.

which would tap into one of the many Category 6 cables and routes the signal to the local network for distribution for web access for users. The main costs for audio streaming is the card for the audio system, encoder and the content distribution network service, he noted.

Meeting adjourned at: 10:45 a.m.

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