Approved: April 27, 2016

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mike Petersen at 8:30 am on Thursday, March 10, 2016, 546-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Anthony Hensley – Excused

Committee staff present:

Scott Wells, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Jill Shelley, Legislative Research Department
Whitney Howard, Legislative Research Department
Adam Siebers, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Carolyn Long, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Speaker Pro Tem Peggy Mast Senator Forest Knox Jennifer Nauertc Dean Reynoldson, Chief Investigator, Kansas Department of Revenue

Others in attendance:

See Attached List

<u>Hearing on: HB2473 — Providing for an Alzheimer's disease awareness distinctive license plate; decals for certain military medals or badges.</u>

Chairman Petersen opened the hearing on <u>HB 2473</u> and asked Adam Siebers, Assistant Revisor, Office of Revisor of Statutes, for an explanation. Mr. Siebers replied that the bill in its current state is in two sections; the first authorizing the creation of the Alzheimer's disease awareness license plate and the second authorizing military decals placement on license plates.

Senator Forest Knox, speaking in support, stated that no one in the room would be exempt from the affects of this debilitating disease and reminded the Committee that this plate would, in addition to raising awareness, generate funding for research (Attachment 1).

Speaker Pro Tem Peggy Mast added her support to this bill, stating it was a way to support and recognize the caregivers who willingly adjust their lives by dedicating themselves to the comfort of those who have been afflicted by this dreadful disease (Attachment 2).

Jennifer Nauertc thanked all who supported her efforts, on behalf of her father Coach Bill Freeman, who passed away as a result of this disease and drew their attention to an article on him in a 2015 edition of Life Care Leader, a publication of Life Care Centers of America (Attachment 3).

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Transportation at 8:30 am on Thursday, March 10, 2016 in Room 546-S of the Capitol.

Ms. Nauertc also presented written testimony from the Reverend Aaron M. Wakins (Attachment 4), Mark and Lori Lange (Attachment 5), Aaron Watkins (Attachment 6), Nancy Crowley (Attachment 7), Scott C. Stidham (Attachment 8), Hope Weaver (Attachment 9), Christiane Walker (Attachment 10), Thomas W. Williams (Attachment 11), and Gary Bedore (Attachment 12).

The Chairman thanked all who testified and closed the hearing on **HB 2473**.

<u>Hearing on HB2522 — Clarifying facial imaging practices for drivers' licenses.</u>

The Chairman opened the hearing on <u>HB 2522</u> and asked Mr. Siebers for an explanation of the bill. Mr. Siebers replied that this legislation would allow Kansas' licenses and cards to include a black and white laser engraved photograph, as well as a digital color image, and add to statute this image would be displayed on the front of Kansas driver's licenses and identification cards, which is current practice.

Dean Reynoldson, Chief Investigator, Kansas Department of Revenue, informed the Committee that driver's license fraud is a building block crime, enabling criminal organizations to commit crimes of a more serious nature. This bill will make it as difficult as possible to counterfeit or alter Kansas' licenses or identification cards. An advanced process of producing portrait images known as laser etched engraving, provides for higher resolution images that are very difficult to counterfeit or alter. Some vendors provide the option of a black and white print which has a higher resolution and distinctive, and color laser engraving also is available although more expensive at this time. The bottom line is that this bill would broaden options for the Department to consider among advanced security features in the future (Attachment 13).

Possible action on bills previously heard

No bills were worked

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:00 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2016.

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.