

ROADS AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING -- MARCH 10, 1971

The Roads and Highways Committee met in room 535 at 2:45 P. M. on March 10, 1971. Chairman Dierdorff had laryngitis so Vice Chairman Ratner called the meeting to order and presided. All members were present except Representatives Davis and Hayes.

Conferees were: On House Bill 1602, John Morse, State Highway Department Attorney; on House Bill 1102, Representative Madden, Ken Seals, Lawrence; on House Bill 1305, Representative Madden, J. F. Erland, Overland Park, W. H. Rayburn, Shawnee Mission, both with Continental Oil Company; on House Bill 1374, Representative Madden, H. P. Bolyard, Route 7, Topeka, Carl Poinser; on House Bill 1462, Representative Ervin Grant; on House Bill 1459, Representative Ken Howard, John McNeal, State Highway Engineer.

Other guests were: C. C. Reed, Topeka, Richard Dehn, Topeka.

HOUSE BILL 1602 - AN ACT relating to payment of relocation costs and other relocation benefits to persons dislocated by construction of state and interstate highways; amending KSA 1970 Supp. 74-2020, and repealing the existing section.

John Morse explained the bill. He said at the present time they have certain statutory authority in this field. They have been doing some of these things without legislative authority. Under the enabling act they could do whatever they were required to and receive federal aid. If they had a Kansas financed project they could not do these things.

House Bill 1102 - AN ACT providing for issuance of special license plates to owners of motor vehicles if such vehicle owners are licensed by the federal communications commission as citizens' band radio operators.

Mr. Madden explained the bill and said that he feels those people do a real service when they are needed - that they are the first to volunteer during an emergency. He said they are willing to pay for the license.

Ken Seals appeared in opposition to the bill. He said he is a ham operator and that these citizen band people are not entitled to get a license like the ham operators as they are not trained and their equipment is not of the quality and power to be very effective. He said their range is at most fifteen to twenty miles and they are just used for close operations. He said to issue them a license would be approving of the type of operations that are going on currently - that many of them are operating illegally with a great deal of power.

House Bill 1305 - AN ACT relating to the motor-fuel tax law; providing for the rate of tax; authorizing allowances for certain losses, amending KSA 1970 Supp. 79-3408, and repealing the existing section.

Mr. Madden explained the bill and said this is a tax incentive for the motorists to use this. He said most cars can use non-leaded gasoline now -- Chrysler cannot but most of the smaller cars can.

J. F. Erland and W. H. Rayburn appeared in opposition to

this bill. Mr. Erland said the first assumption is that lead per se is bad. If this bill were passed it would require all of the oil companies to plunge into the lead-free gasoline and that it would not be cheaper for the motorist. He said this is a premature bill. He does not feel this would clear the air. It would require a catalytic muffler.

Mr. Rayburn said their company is doing considerable research in the field at the present time.

HOUSE BILL 1374 - AN ACT concerning registration of antique vehicles; defining certain terms; amending KSA 8-166, and repealing the existing section.

Mr. Madden said that he was introducing this bill at the request of a constituent. Many people own Packards, Nashes and Hudsons and would like to have them licensed as antiques.

Mr. Bolyard was opposed to the bill -- he said that a car 20 years old should not be entitled to an antique tag - that it should be at least 35 years old.

Mr. Poinser objected to the bill also as he felt there would be too many "junkers" getting a free ride on the antique tags.

HOUSE BILL 1462 - AN ACT providing for the issuance of distinctive, personalized motor-vehicle license tags; authorizing the state highway commission to adopt rules and regulations relating thereto; requiring payment of fees and providing for disposition thereof; concerning the manufacture of license plates; amending KSA 1970 Supp. 8-147, and repealing the existing section.

Mr. Grant explained the bill and said it was a revenue

measure used in Texas. He thought we might raise \$150,000 in revenue with it and this might be the year to go for revenue raising measures.

HOUSE BILL 1459 - AN ACT creating a new state highway commission; providing for the election of members; providing for the qualifications and terms of members and for vacancies in the offices thereof; providing for compensation of members; prescribing powers and duties of the commission; providing for the appointment of a director of highways and prescribing his qualifications, duties and compensation; repealing KSA 1970 Supp. 74-2001 and 74-2004.

Mr. Howard explained the bill and said that we have had good and bad commissions. The whole system has been to set up little kingdoms. This would do away with that and would give representation to the people. There would be a continuity of members as some of them would be elected every two years. One advantage would be that it would give people direct representation with probably the biggest budget in the state.

Mr. McNeal of the Highway Commission appeared in opposition to the bill. He said the Commission appeared before the subcommittee. He said there had been need studies and the fact-finding committee did not make a recommendation for a change in the present form.

HOUSE BILL 1601 - AN ACT providing for county tax levies for special road and bridge fund; amending KSA 68-559a and repealing the existing section.

Mr. Ratner asked the secretary to check with the Chief

Clerk to determine if the word "additional" on page 1, line 11 was a typographical error. (Secretary checked and the original bill is correct.)

Mr. Dierdorff made a motion, second by Mr. Ossmann, that House Bill 1601 be reported favorably. Motion carried.

HOUSE BILL 1127 - AN ACT relating to the uniform motor vehicle operators' and chauffeurs' license act; requiring a colored photograph on license issued; amending KSA 8-243, and repealing the existing section.

The sub-committee consisting of Gray, Arbuthnot, Hughes, Davis and Weaver gave their report. Mr. Gray said they were concerned about line 7 regarding the colored photograph as there is no provision for payment of this. They discussed the possibility of getting the revenue from credit card people but that looked like an impossibility. He said the sub-committee has no particular finding or suggestion to make. They do not think it pertains to safety and would cost a great deal of money.

Mr. Ratner asked if the sub-committee thinks we should study it or that it should be held over?

Mr. Gray said it could be saved.

Mr. Lady made a motion, second by Mr. Wilson, that we hold over House Bill 1127 for study with House Bills 1016 and 1126. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned.

Fran Stafford, Recording Secretary

APPROVED:


ARDEN DIERDORFF, CHAIRMAN

March 15, 1971

Except as otherwise noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim and this record has not been approved by the committee or by the individuals making such remarks