

ROADS AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING -- MARCH 15, 1971

The Roads and Highways Committee met in room 535 at 2:45 P. M. on March 15, 1971. Chairman Dierdorff called the meeting to order and all members were present except Representatives Dugan and Weaver (excused).

Conferees were: Representatives John Hayes and David Mills on House Bill 1435; Representative Harry Sprague, Gordon Sailors and Claud McCammet on House Bill 1283.

House Bill 1435 - AN ACT providing for the construction of modern express highways in the state of Kansas; authorizing the issuance of highway revenue bonds to pay the cost of such construction; providing that such highway revenue bonds shall be payable solely from tolls and other revenue derived from the operation of said highways.....

Mr. Hayes and Mr. Mills explained the bill and urged the committee to give it support. This bill provides for construction of a toll road with issuance of bonds by the Kansas Turnpike Authority. They said a lot of money has been spent on studies and it is time to do something about it. The seven counties this road would go into constitute one-fourth of the population of the state of Kansas. The completion of the Port of Catoosa at Tulsa makes it more imperative that we be able to get there.

Mr. Mills pointed out that about 40% non-residents would help pay for the toll road.

Mr. Dierdorff asked Mr. Hayes if he thought this could be built cheaper by the Turnpike Authority than by the Highway Commission - that the fiscal note showed \$180 million is not enough.

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

Mr. Hayes said he does. Part of the right-of-way could be used. Some of it is already four lane. The by-pass around Wichita could be used. He does not think one would have to figure on the entire 210 mile figure.

Mr. Dierdorff pointed out that the Turnpike Authority does not have any money for a feasibility study.

Mr. Hayes said if the legislature would authorize the road, he would work on the money for the feasibility study.

HOUSE BILL 1283 - AN ACT concerning educational institutions; authorization of tuition for driver improvement programs as therein defined; exemption from certain limitations; driver improvement courses for persons convicted of certain traffic offenses; court cost fees for support of programs thereunder.

Mr. Sprague explained the bill. This bill has passed the Education Committee, and on the floor of the House it was re-referred to the Roads and Highways Committee. Mr. Sprague said that on the floor there was an objection and he proposed the following amendment, which he felt would handle the objection: "On page 2, in line 7, following the period, by inserting a new sentence as follows: "Whenever a judge requires attendance under this section, he shall designate a drivers' improvement program conducted in the school district in which the convicted person resides, unless the convicted person requests designation of such a program in a different school district."

Mr. Sailors, driver ed teacher at Topeka West High, said there are over 800 teachers that are certified to teach driver

education.

Mr. McCammett said 92% of our high schools have the program. A number of the junior high schools have it.

Many times when people are brought in for violations, they do not know some of these things they are being brought in on. This would give them an opportunity to come in and learn what their responsibility is. It gives the court an opportunity to feel better about these cases. The fine now goes into the school fund. The reason we were interested in it, according to Mr. McCammett, is that many judges expressed interest. 76% of the cases of fatal accidents were by people with previous conviction.

Mr. Sprague said the 1969 Legislative Council conducted a study and recommended this for enactment.

Mr. Davis made a motion that the committee hold House Bill 1343.

Mr. Spotts made a substitute motion that House Bill 1343 be reported unfavorably. Mr. Ossmann made the second to the motion. Motion carried. (NO - Ratner and Hughes).

Mr. Gray made a motion, second by Mr. Davis, that House Bill 1431 be reported unfavorably. Motion carried. NO - Steffes, Dempsey and Arbuthnot.

Mr. Jacobs made a motion, second by Mr. Ossmann, that House Bill 1459 be reported unfavorably.

Mr. Ratner made a substitute motion, second by Mr. Lady, that House Bill 1459 be held in committee. Motion carried.

10 YES - 5 NO.

The Chairman announced the agenda for Tuesday, March 16th. Final action will be taken on House Bills Nos. 1092, 1136, 1236, 1424, 1462, 1475, 1560, 1600, 1602.

The meeting was adjourned.

Fran Stafford, Recording Secretary

APPROVED:


ARDEN DIERDORFF, CHAIRMAN

March 16, 1972