

Approved 1-19-89 Date _____

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES

The meeting was called to order by Sen. Bill Morris at _____
Chairperson

9:00 a.m./~~pm~~ on January 17, 1989 in room 254-E of the Capitol.

Members present were:

Morris, Francisco, Kanan, Kerr, Martin, Rock, Sallee, and Thiessen.

Committee staff present:

Hank Avila, Legislative Research Department
Ben Barrett, Legislative Research Department
Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes
Louise Cunningham, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

The Committee was briefed on the following Proposals which are available in the Research Department.

Proposal No. 43 - General and Commercial Aviation.

Hank Avila said the interim committee had been directed to review the present status of general and commercial aviation in Kansas and make recommendations pertaining thereto.

There are no state funds earmarked for aviation. The Aviation Division is funded from the State Highway Fund and is under KDOT administration. Local airport authorities must rely on their own resources or on federal sources to provide funds for airport improvements. Other states have been more active in providing funds for their local airports. Currently 25 states have established a state aviation fund to assist locals in matching federal funds. The interim committee recommended adoption of a concurrent resolution which urges KDOT to develop a comprehensive state aviation plan. (S.C.R. 1602).

Proposal No. 52 - Railroad Crossing Safety Devices.

Hank Avila said the interim committee reviewed present policies regarding installation of safety devices at railroad crossings to determine what changes were needed in order to enhance safety. This came about as a result of a 1988 automobile-train accident in Crawford County which resulted in seven fatalities.

The interim committee recommended that school buses and placarded hazardous material vehicles should stop at all railroad crossings protected by active warning devices. (S.B. 19).

The committee also recommended that improvements in safety on railroad crossings could be enhanced if some state funds were made available to local units of government to assist them in meeting a federal program matching requirement. (S.B. 20). Twenty-five states are currently meeting some of the requirements.

Minutes of the meeting of January 12, 1988 were approved on a motion from Sen. Thiessen and a second from Sen. Francisco.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

