

Approved 3-17-92
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES

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

9:02 a.m./~~p.m.~~ on February 26, 1992 in room 254-E of the Capitol.

~~All members were present except~~ Members present:

Senators Morris, Doyen, Brady, Hayden, Kanan, F. Kerr, Martin, Sallee and Thiessen.

Committee staff present:

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

Conferees appearing before the committee:

The Committee discussed some of the bills that were still in committee:

S.B. 571 - Regulation of motor carriers, exemption of certain private carriers.

This bill needs further study and should be subject for an interim study. Also, the Research Department and the Chairman were informed by a federal highway commissioner that the Kansas definition of a motor carrier was in variance with the federal definition.

S.B. 617 - Driver licenses, applicants with Alzheimer's disease.

This bill did not please anyone. Some felt it should include other diseases. There was the medical question and also the question of liability. This could be another area for interim study.

S.B. 644 - Motorcycles, requiring wearing of helmets.

The Committee had quite a bit of discussion on this bill. Some felt the helmets were not being used as much as they should be and lives were being lost. There were the medical costs involved and the federal funds that would be diverted from the highway construction funds to the highway safety program. They felt that to delay this bill for even a year there would be many more deaths and a great deal of human suffering. There is a cost to society.

Others felt that there should be more study on the subject. Most of the accidents occur with the more powerful motorcycles and perhaps there should be restrictions on who could purchase them and there should be more care in giving licenses for these cycles. Sen. Martin distributed a chart showing Motorcycle Occupant Fatalities for 1990. This showed the motorcycle size and the number of fatalities for each category. Most of the vehicles involved in accidents were those over 450 cc. (Attachment 1).

Sen. F. Kerr made a motion to recommend S.B. 644 favorably for passage. Motion was seconded by Sen. Bill Morris. Motion did not carry.

S.B. 724 - Drivers licenses, concerning duplicate licenses, proof.

The Chairman said he had checked this bill with John Smith, Department of Revenue and with the Department of Corrections and they support the bill. This would add a 17th category for proof of identity. It would give a parolee or inmate that has been released from prison a document to obtain a driver's license. It would also assist the Motor Vehicle Department in checking the age for those applying for a license.

A motion was made by Sen. Hayden to recommend S.B. 724 favorably for passage. Motion was seconded by Sen. Kanan. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Sen. Thiessen and was seconded by Sen. Martin to approve the Minutes of February 19, 1992 and February 24, 1992. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

SENATE TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

Date 2-26-92 Place 254-E Time 9:02

GUEST LIST

NAME

ADDRESS

ORGANIZATION

Vinton E. Papp	RR#6 Topeka	A.B.A.T.E.
Theresa Shively	Topeka	Ks Legal Services
KENNETH R McNEILL	PEARLY	ABATE OF KS.
R. LIPSEY	Topeka	AP
Tom Whitaker	Topeka	Ks Motor Carriers Assn
Bill Cutler	"	EDOA

MOTORCYCLE OCCUPANT FATALITIES
 FARS FILES - SUB197 (28 May 91)

1990

OCCUPANT FATALITIES												
	TOTAL	UNDER 16	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-60	OVER 60	UNK AGE
Total.....	3,238	84	478	786	666	466	349	187	91	111	78	2
MOTORCYCLE SIZE												
0-50 cc.....	11	2	4	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	2	-
51-349 cc.....	141	26	31	30	21	16	5	4	-	2	6	-
350-449 cc.....	94	6	16	23	17	13	9	4	1	3	2	-
450-749 cc.....	502	7	92	182	96	49	35	16	11	10	4	-
750 cc & OVER...	770	2	57	169	185	141	103	43	29	29	12	-
UNKNOWN CC.....	1,711	40	217	380	346	246	195	119	49	65	52	2
OTHER.....	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Att 1

Att. 1
 T&U
 2-26-92