

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION & TOURISM.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Ben Vidricksen at 9:05 a.m. on January 14, 1999 in Room 254-E of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Hank Avila, Legislative Research Department
Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes
Marian Holeman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Senator Umbarger
Lynn Stennett, Exec. Dir. KS Children's Trust Fund

Others attending: See attached list

Senator Jerry Karr resigned during 1998. Chairman Vidricksen introduced and welcomed his replacement Senator Harry Stephens, from Emporia.

Introduction of bills

Senator Umbarger requested introduction of a bill concerning motor vehicles and certain distinctive license plates for five or six categories. He advised the bill carries an "insignificant" fiscal note. Senator Tyson moved to introduce the bill. Senator Jordan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Lynn Stennett, Executive Director, Kansas Children's Trust Fund, proposed introduction of a bill concerning motor vehicles; providing for issuance of children's trust fund license plates. She explained this would be similar to the university plates. The funds would be earmarked for prevention of child abuse programs. Several states are already using this fund raising method. Senator Jordan moved to introduce the bill. Senator Harrington seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The National Transportation Safety Board recommended all states give consideration to a primary seat belt bill. Under current law one must be stopped for another traffic violation before one can be ticketed for not wearing a seat belt; i.e., a "secondary" offense. Senator Harrington moved to introduce the bill. Senator Goodwin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Board's second recommendation concerns aggressive driving issues. Several states have already enacted laws concerning this matter. The proposed bill combines a number of things to define an offense under the bill. It proposes the same penalty as that for reckless driving. Senator Gilstrap moved to introduce the bill. Senator Goodwin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Possible committee subjects

Chairman Vidricksen announced that a draft of the Transportation 2000 bill is being prepared. That, along with the governor's bill, will come before this committee. We will try to schedule hearings with the House, perhaps jointly, or at least on the same date in order to accommodate conferees from out of town. We will have an informational meeting prior to introduction of the bill.

Betty McBride, Director of the Division of Vehicles, resigned at the end of December, 1998. Introduced Alan Anderson, Acting Director, Division of Vehicles, Sheila Walker, Special Assistant to the Secretary, who will be working with bills, as well as Rick Schieb, with title and registration.

Regarding the question of national identification driver's license, the Chair will check to see if we should go ahead with that. All states were definitely opposed to it and they indicated it would be dropped.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 19, 1999.

