

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Gary Hazylett at 1:40 p.m. on February 7, 2001 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Marti Crow, excused
Representative Margaret Long, excused

Committee staff present:

Bruce Kinzie, Revisor
Hank Avila, Research
Ellie Luthye, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Tom Federico, Recreational Vehicle Industry Association
John Eichkorn, 2nd Lt., Kansas Highway Patrol

Others attending:

See attached sheet

HB 2184 - width of motor homes and travel trailers

Chairman Hayzlett opened hearings on **HB 2184** and called on John Federico, Recreational Vehicle Industry Association to present testimony in support of this bill. He told the committee that introduction of this bill is consistent with the RVIA's efforts in other states to lend some uniformity to state statutes across the country as they relate to recreational vehicles and allowable lengths and widths. In short, they are asking to amend Kansas law to eliminate the need to apply for a special permit to drive a recreational vehicle that is fashioned with a retracted awning, or other appurtenances that are integral parts of a motor home or travel trailer, not to exceed 108". He concluded that in the summer of 2002, Kansas will host the Family Motor Coach Association International Rally and this event will attract between 5,000 to 6,000 motor homes to the Kansas State Fairgrounds, which in turn will generate \$20-\$30 million dollars into the area economy. (Attachment 1)

Following questions from the committee, the Chair closed hearing on **HB 2184**.

HB 2143 - auxiliary driving lamps and fog lamps, limitations

Chairman Hayzlett opened hearings on **HB 2143**. The Chair gave a brief statement regarding the bill and the concern for the safety of motorists approaching vehicles with these auxiliary driving lamps and fog lamps.

He then called on 2nd Lt. John Eichkorn, Kansas Highway Patrol, for his testimony. He stated the Patrol understands the intent of the bill is to increase traffic safety, however, they have several concerns in regard to the vehicles being equipped with the means to manually turn them off safely when approaching traffic. (Attachment 2)

The Chair called for discussion and questions from the Committee. Chairman Hayzlett then closed hearings on **HB 2143**.

There being no objections from the committee, Chairman Hayzlett called for discussion and final action on **HB 2184**. Representative Ballou made a motion to pass HB 2184 and place on the Consent Calendar. This was seconded by Representative Levinson and the motion carried.

Chairman Hayzlett called for discussion and final action on **HB 2143**. Representative Ballou made a

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE, Room 519-S of the Capitol at 1:40 p.m. on February 7, 2001.

motion to pass **HB 2143** and place on the Consent Calendar. This was seconded by Representative Osborne and the motion carried.

Chairman Hayzlett adjourned the meeting at 2:10 p.m. The next meeting of the House Transportation Committee will be Thursday, February 8, 2001.

HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: February 7, 2001

NAME	REPRESENTING
JOHN EICHKORN	KHP
Megan Chalfant	Rep. Crow / Agenda Clerk
DON McNEELY	KS AUTO DEALERS ASSN.
Tom Whitaker	KS MOTOR SERVICES ASSN.
Marsha Jean Smith	KMHA
Ken Gudenkauf	KDOT
Sheila Walker	KDOR - DMV
John Federico	RVIA
ROGER TRANZIE	KGE
Andy Shaw	Kearney Law Office
Bob Hein	Marion County Commissioner
Howard Collett	" " "
Leroy A Wetts	✓ - ✓
Bill Watts	KDOT



Testimony In Support Of HB 2184

Offered By John J. Federico, J.D.
Of Federico Consulting

On Behalf Of
The Recreational Vehicle Industry Association
(RVIA)

House Transportation Committee

February 7, 2001

Thank you Chairman Hayzlett and Committee members for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2184. My name is John Federico and I appear on behalf of the Recreational Vehicle Industry Association. Introduction of this bill is consistent with the RVIA's efforts in other states to lend some uniformity to state statutes across the country as they relate to recreational vehicles and allowable lengths and widths.

HB 2184 is a very simple bill. Current state law (K.S.A. 8-1902) restricts vehicles to 102 inches in width. HB 2184 seeks to change the law so that certain vehicles, (motor homes and travel trailers) can exceed 102 inches in width, if the excess width is attributable to certain appurtenances, (as defined in the bill on page 6). The bill further provides that the specific appurtenance shall not extend beyond 6 inches, and under no circumstances shall the total width of the above-mentioned vehicles be wider than 108 inches.

In short, we are seeking to amend Kansas law, as we are in other states, to eliminate the need to apply for a special permit to drive a recreational vehicle that is fashioned with a retracted awning, or other appurtenances that are integral parts of a motor home or travel trailer.

A few quick points worth considering:

1. Individual states, not the federal government, have the authority to set standards for vehicle widths for non-commercial, personal-use vehicles.
2. The bill before you was drafted in as narrow a manner as possible.

House Transportation Committee
February 7, 2001
Attachment 1

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3. This effort in Kansas is consistent with the RVIA's efforts in other states to provide some uniformity as recreational vehicle users travel from state to state across the continental United States. (See attached map)
4. In the summer of 2002, Kansas will host the Family Motor Coach Association International Rally. This event will attract between 5,000-6,000 motor homes to the Kansas State Fairgrounds and is estimated to pump \$20 - \$30 million dollars into the area economy! (See attached article).

Thank you for your consideration of HB2184 and I respectfully ask for your support.

John J. Federico, J.D.
Federico Consulting
On Behalf of the RVIA

Hutch lands motor coach event

5,000-6,000 motor homes to be at fairgrounds in fall 2002

By WES JOHNSON
The Hutchinson News

The phone rang at 6:12 p.m. in the packed Encampment Building at the Kansas State Fair, and Lt. Gov. Gary Sherrer took the call.

"Hello?" Sherrer deadpanned. "Oh really? Oh. OK. All right. I will share that news," Sherrer told the caller.

Seconds later the building erupt-

ed with cheers and applause as Sherrer announced that the Family Motor Coach Association had selected Hutchinson for its Summer 2002 International Rally.

Hutchinson beat out four other cities for the lucrative event, which could inject as much as \$30 million into the area economy.

"Yes! Yes!" cheered state fair manager Bill Ogg, as the news was announced.

Charlie Atkinson, president of FMCA, said the group's board of directors chose Hutchinson because of its central location and because the fairgrounds offered enough

space to accommodate the 5,000 to 6,000 bus-sized motor homes that will arrive.

Atkinson said a promise by Kansas Gov. Bill Graves and Sherrer to air condition the fair's Industrial Building, at an estimated cost of \$140,000, was a key to Hutchinson being selected.

"Absolutely, that was important," Atkinson said in a phone call from the FMCA international meeting in Brunswick, Maine. "We've usually had our summer conventions in the middle of the country, but the members just felt it was too hot. We're going to be coming in

late September, although we still have to work out the dates with your people."

The announcement was made during a chamber of commerce "business after hours" meeting at the encampment building, attended by 400 area business people.

Although he thought FMCA would pick Hutchinson, Ogg told the audience there was no guarantee. He admitted he was nervous up until Sherrer made the announcement.

"There is a god!" Ogg said, after

● See COACHES / A2



Photo courtesy of The Brunswick Times Record

More than 6,000 Family Motor Coach Association motor homes line the twin runways at Naval Air Station Brunswick in Brunswick, Maine, on Thursday. The air base is hosting the 2000 FMCA international rally, which will be coming to Hutchinson in September 2002.

Coaches: State has made commitment

● Continued from Page A1

having invited Sherrer to take the phone call. "We didn't know this was really going to happen until the call came in."

Waiting in the wings in case the call was good news was Kansas State Fair board member Bob Barker and his wife Barb.

As the audience was still cheering the announcement, they pulled up next to the Encampment Building in their 33-foot Pace Arrow Vision motor home, dressed in matching motor-home vests, sunglasses and ball caps.

"We're here for the FMCA rally!" Barker said with a grin, drawing a huge laugh from the crowd.

The FMCA convention will bring more than 12,000 people just like the Barkers to the fairgrounds, book at least 2,000 hotel rooms in Hutchinson and surrounding communities, and require at least 200 rental cars, Sherrer said.

The event will follow on the heels of the 2002 Kansas State Fair and also will follow the prestigious U.S. Women's Open Golf Championship, to be held in June at Prairie Dunes Country Club.

The golf tournament is expected to bring 100,000 people to Hutchinson for the week-long tournament.

"2002 just might have to be called the year of Hutchinson," Sherrer quipped.

Jon Daveline, president of the Hutchinson/Reno County Chamber of Commerce, said that aside from the state fair and the golf tournament, the FMCA convention will be the biggest single event in Hutchinson in recent times.

Daveline said the next challenge will be coordinating the housing needs of both the golf and FMCA events and working with surrounding communities so they can help make both events go off smoothly.

"We'll have several subcommittees organized to reach out to other communities," Daveline said. "These FMCA people will stop and stay at other places in Kansas before they arrive in Hutchinson for the convention."

Jan Peters, manager of the Fox Theatre, said she plans to roll out the red carpet for FMCA members when they arrive.

"This is so awesome," said Peters, a former fair board member. "We will have a couple of shows for them, and we'll do anything we can to accommodate them. It's huge! I hope the people appreciate all the efforts that went into getting them to come here."

Olivia Hecker, director of the Greater Hutchinson

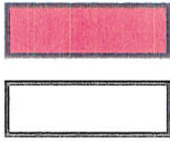
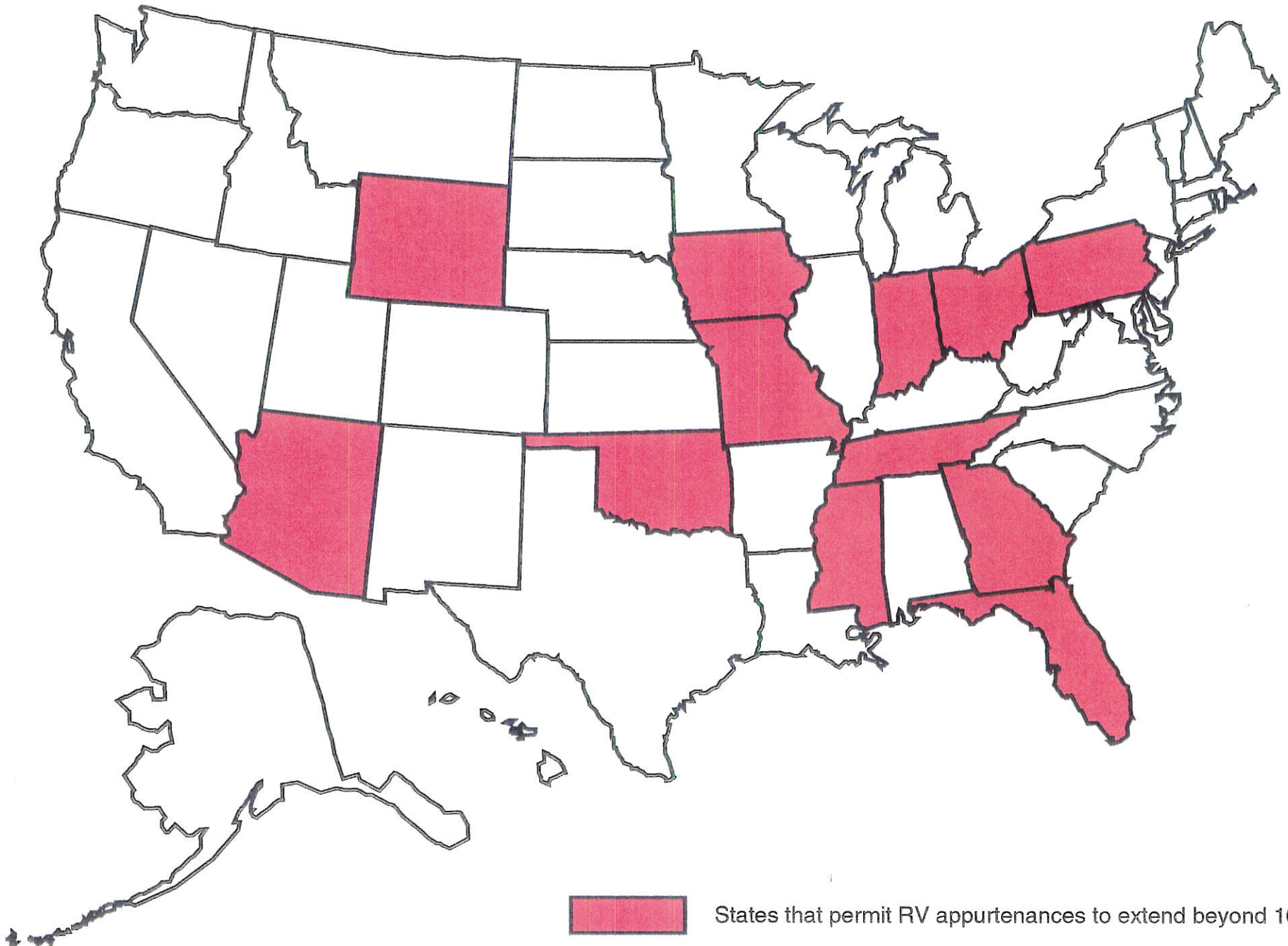
Convention/Visitors Bureau, said she plans to work with the state division of travel and tourism to smooth the way for FMCA members. They'll need places to park their motor homes, which range from \$100,000 to up to \$1 million, as they enter the state. They'll

also want to know about things to do and see while in Kansas.

Hutchinson beat out Oshkosh, Wis., Tupelo, Miss., Billings, Mont. And Green Bay, Wis., for the FMCA event.

"This is one big deal," Barker told the audience. "Our challenge now is to do it right!"

States That Have Considered And Enacted Legislation Allowing RV Appurtenances To Extend Beyond 102"



States that permit RV appurtenances to extend beyond 102"
States that have not yet considered extending
RV Appurtenances beyond 102"

KANSAS HIGHWAY PATROL

Service—Courtesy—Protection

Bill Graves
Governor



Col. Donald Brownlee
Superintendent

**Kansas Highway Patrol
Summary of Written Testimony
2001 House Bill 2143
House Transportation Committee
February 7, 2001**

The Kansas Highway Patrol appreciates the opportunity to comment on House Bill 2143, which attempts to regulate the use of auxiliary driving lamps and fog lamps.

With the increasing popularity of vehicle auxiliary driving lamps and / or fog lamps, the Highway Patrol has become aware that some motorist's are concerned about the intensity of these lights. Under current law, drivers may utilize these lamps at any time, even in the presence of other motor vehicles. House Bill 2143 attempts to address this issue by limiting the circumstances under which auxiliary driving lamps and fog lamps may be used. Their use would be limited in the same way which we currently limit the use of high beam headlights. Drivers would be required to turn off their auxiliary driving lamps or fog lamps within 500 feet of oncoming traffic and within 300 feet of vehicles traveling the same direction.

House Bill 2143 contains a graduated enforcement clause much like Kansas' original seatbelt, window tint and emergency vehicle safety laws. This clause restricts law enforcement officers to issuing only warnings to violators for the first year after the law changes. This allows the public to be educated about the new requirement to deactivate fog and auxiliary driving lamps bringing about a smooth transition and voluntary compliance with the law.

In preparing this testimony, the Patrol contacted Legislative Research to find out how other states have approached this issue. According to Legislative Research no other states have enacted legislation similar to House Bill 2143. However, some states did limit how far ahead of the vehicle the beam of these lights could legally project and at least one other state (Arkansas) prohibited the installation and operation of "after-market" auxiliary driving lamps and fog lamps.

The Patrol understands the intent of this bill is to increase traffic safety, however we have several concerns about the bill. We have been unable to confirm that all motor vehicles that are fitted with these lamps have also been equipped with the means for the driver to manually turn them off upon the approach of other traffic. We are also concerned that when a manual switch does exist, it may not be readily accessible to the driver. This could cause a potentially dangerous distraction to drivers in the presence of other traffic.

The Kansas Highway Patrol appreciates the opportunity to comment on House Bill 2143.

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House Transportation Committee
February 7, 2001
Attachment 2