

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Gary Hazylett at 1:40 p.m. on February 8, 2001 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

- Representative Marti Crow, excused
- Representative Judith Loganbill, excused

Committee staff present:

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

Conferees appearing before the committee:

- Paul Meierhenry, Potentate, Arab Shrine, Topeka
- Don McClafin, Marshal, Arab Shrine, Topeka
- Sheila Walker, Director, Division of Vehicles, Department of Revenue

Others attending:

- See attached sheet

HB 2191 - license plates for Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of North America

Chairman Haylett called on Don McClafin, Marshal, Arab Shrine, as the first proponent. He stated to the committee the Shrine Centers of Kansas had requested this legislation for two primary reasons: 1) as a fund raiser to help support the Shrine Hospital for Children and 2) to promote the Shrine in Kansas. The Shrine in Topeka has transported 44 patients to their hospital in St. Louis, making 41 trips and traveling 25,625 miles - all without cost to the patients. He attached a mock-up of what the Shrine envisions the license plate might look like. (Attachment 1)

Paul Meierhenry, Potentate of the Arab Shrine in Topeka, said the Shrine is a fraternal organization that supports 22 Shrine Hospitals for Children at no cost to the patients. They spend \$1.55 million every day helping children. He stated the Potentates of the five Kansas Shrine Centers would constitute the official board of directors for the plate and attached letters from each of them giving their support for promoting and distributing these plates. He concluded their goal was to have 1000 Shrine License Plates on Kansas vehicles by 2005. (Attachment 2)

Sheila Walker, Director of Vehicles, Department of Revenue, was the next conferee to appear before the committee. She said under this bill, applicants would be required to pay an annual fee to the Shrine Temple of not less than \$25 nor more than \$100 - the fee to be set by the Shrine and these royalty payments would be used to support the Shriners hospitals for children. Also, each license plate issued would be subject to the \$40 personalized plate fee and there would need to be an initial minimum order of 500 plates before production is authorized. She concluded from an administrative standpoint, it would not be difficult to manufacture these plate. (Attachment 3)

Following questions from the committee Chairman Hayzlett closed hearings on **HB 2191**.

There being no further business the Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m. The next meeting of the House Transportation Committee will be Tuesday, February 13, 2001 in Room 519-S.



Honorable Gary Hayzlett, Chairperson and members of the House Transportation Committee.

My name is Don McClafin, I am the Marshall of Arab Shrine Center and I am here as a proponent of HB 2191.

The Shrine Centers of Kansas have asked for this legislation for two primary reasons. First, as a fund raiser to help support the Shrine Hospitals for Children. We operate the hospitals and provide care to our patients without any charge to the patient or their families or insurance carriers. One way we do this is to sponsor the Kansas East-West High School Shrine Bowl Football Game as a fund raiser for the hospitals. A year ago we lost one of our largest corporate sponsors and the result was a substantial loss of revenue from the game. We view HB 2191 as one way to help restore support for the hospitals. I have attached a fact sheet about the 22 Shrine Hospitals located throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico. The 2001 budget for the Hospitals is \$567 million, or over \$1.55 million every day, 24 hours per day. To bring this closer to home, Arab Shrine provides transportation between Topeka and the hospital. During CY 2000 we transported 44 patients, making 41 trips to St. Louis traveling 25,625 miles. Just as the State of Kansas has felt the budget crunch we in the Shrine have felt the same pinch and are looking for ways to increase our revenue.

The second reason we support this bill is that it provides a way to promote the Shrine and our primary reason for existence. Shriners take great pride in what we do for children who otherwise might not get the care they need. There are over 12,000 Shriners who are members of the five Shrine Centers located in Kansas. Much of the work the Shrine has been done without a lot of fanfare or publicity and many people are unaware of the work done by the Hospitals or by the Nobility in support of the hospitals. Shriners Hospitals have been described as the "Worlds Greatest Philanthropy" with a patient roster of over 193,000 children.

I have also attached a mock-up of what we envision the license plate might look like.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today in support of HB 2191 and ask for your favorable support of it.

Respectfully submitted,

Don McClafin

Don McClafin, Marshall, Arab Shrine Center, Topeka

House Transportation Committee
February 8, 2001
Attachment 1

2000

Shriners Hospitals for Children

FACTS AND FIGURES

For 79 years, Shriners Hospitals for Children have provided some of the best medical care in the world, totally free of charge, to more than 650,000 children with orthopaedic problems, severe burns and spinal cord injuries. Founded in 1922 and today supported by the 515,000 members of the international Shrine fraternity, this network of 22 pediatric specialty hospitals is located across the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

The orthopaedic Shriners Hospitals are dedicated to providing specialized medical and rehabilitative services to children with congenital deformities, problems resulting from orthopaedic injuries, and diseases of the musculoskeletal system. Some of the most commonly treated disorders include club foot, limb deficiencies and discrepancies, scoliosis (curvature of the spine), osteogenesis imperfecta (brittle bone disease), cleft lip and palate, craniofacial abnormalities, juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, and problems related to spina bifida, cerebral palsy, dwarfism and muscular dystrophy. The orthopaedic hospitals in Chicago, Philadelphia and Sacramento also provide spinal cord injury rehabilitation.

Located in Galveston, Boston, Cincinnati and Sacramento, the burn Shriners Hospitals have been leaders in burn research and treatment



since opening in the mid-1960s. Treatment is provided for severe burns injuries and related scarring, along with physical and emotional rehabilitation. This vast experience and knowledge has had far-reaching effects on burn treatment techniques world wide.

With the approval of 34,880 new patient applications in 2000, Shriners Hospitals had an active patient roster at year-end of 193,368 children. Since the first Shriners Hospital opened in Shreveport, La., in 1922, there have been approximately:

- ◆ 8,055,515 X-rays taken;
- ◆ 6,013,459 outpatient & outreach clinic visits;
- ◆ 1,011,808 braces and prostheses applied;
- ◆ 646,749 operations performed; and
- ◆ 13,980,304 physical therapy treatments.

Shriners Hospitals total budget for 2001 is \$567 million, of which \$485 million is targeted for operating expenses (including \$25 million for research) and \$82 million for buildings and equipment expenditures. During the 79-year history of Shriners Hospitals, approximately \$5.1 billion has been spent to operate Shriners Hospitals, and nearly \$1.1 billion has been spent on construction and renovation costs.



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KANSAS -

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Shriners
Help
Kids



HLP-KDS

SHRINERS



ARAB TEMPLE

A.A.O.N.M.S.

TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-1332

1305 KANSAS AVENUE

(785) 234-5656

House of Representatives
House Transportation Committee
State of Kansas

Re: HB 2191 License plates for Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic
Shrine of North America
Testimony of Paul Meierhenry- Potentate of Arab Shrine, Topeka, Kansas

The five Shrine Centers in Kansas are Abdallah Shrine in Overland Park, Arab Shrine in Topeka, Isis Shrine in Salina, Midian Shrine in Wichita, and Mirza Shrine in Pittsburg, Kansas. The total Shrine membership in Kansas totals about 12,500 members.

The Shrine is a fraternal organization that supports 22 Shrine Hospitals for Children at no cost to the patients. Shriners spend \$1.55 million every day helping kids. Shriners transport patients to the hospitals primarily in vans driven by Shriners. Most of the patients from Kansas go to the Shrine Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri, so the licensee plate donations will go to that hospital.

The Potentates of the five Kansas Shrine Centers will constitute the official board of directors for the plate and they all support HB 2191. The Kansas Shrine Bowl Game is the primary Kansas fund raiser for the Shrine Hospitals. Sporting clay shoots, dances, shrimp feeds and personal donations help fund the hospitals as well. Part of each Shriner annual dues go to the Shrine Hospitals.

We hope to have 1000 Shrine License Plates on Kansas vehicles by 2005. The plates will help the general public be aware of the Shrine Hospitals and what the Shriners do.

I ask for your support of HB 2191. Are there any questions? Thank You!

Paul Meierhenry
Potentate – Arab Shrine, Topeka, Kansas

House Transportation Committee
February 8, 2001
Attachment 2

Have you considered naming the Arab Temple Endowment Fund in your will?



ABDALLAH SHRINE

A.A.O.N.M.S.

5300 METCALF – OVERLAND PARK, KS – 66202

TELEPHONE (913) 362-5300

FAX (913) 362-0776

WEB SITE: abdallah-shrine.org

E-MAIL: abdallah@qni.com

Lee Wilson
Potentate

Herb Shultz
Chief Rabban

Richard Bell
Assistant Rabban

Edward A. McConwell
High Priest & Prophet

Gerald Jeffries
Oriental Guide

Vern Vaubel
Treasurer

John Hogg
Recorder

Robert Payne
Administrator

February 5, 2001

Transportation Committee
House of Representatives
State of Kansas

On behalf of the majority of our members and myself as Potentate of Abdallah Shrine Temple we strongly urge you to pass a bill allowing personalized shrine license plates in the state of Kansas. We have a current membership of 1,985.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

LEE WILSON
Potentate
Abdallah Shrine



Mirza Shriners



PAUL W. UTTLEY, Potentate
Residence (316) 231-8376

ANCIENT ARABIC ORDER NOBLES OF THE MYSTIC SHRINE
110 West Fifth-P.O. Box 666
Pittsburg, KS 66762

ART HARTSHORN, Recorder
Office (316)-231-4180

February 5, 2001

State of Kansas Transportation Committee
Topeka, KS

Re: House Bill #2191

Dear Sirs,

As potentate, I would like to assure you that the officers and members of Mirza Temple wholeheartedly support Bill #2191 pertaining to Shrine license plates. We believe that the minimum order of 500 can be acquired easily.

Sincerely,

Paul W. Uttley
Potentate

PWU/jl

GERALD HARDY
Chief Rabban

HAROLD BRYAN
Assistant Rabban

JERRY JAMES
High Prst & Prophet

DARRELL ORENDER
Oriental Guide

RANDY VOGTS, PP
Treasurer

JERRY ALLISON
1st Cere Master

STEVE BROWN
2nd Cere Master

DARRELL MASONER, PP
Director

JOHN LAIR
Marshal

JOHN WULFEKAMMER
Capt of the Guard

DAVID TITUS
Outer Guard

2-3



Isis Temple
Salina, Kansas

GARY W. ANDERSON
Potentate

John R. Gilpin
Recorder

336 South Santa Fe · PO Box 2778 · Salina, Kansas 67402-2778
Phone 785-825-0206 · 1-800-210-7163 · FAX 785-825-0060

February 02, 2001

State of Kansas Transportation Committee
House Bill 2191
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Sirs;

Isis Shrine and our jurisdiction will support bill 2191 regarding Shrine plates and believe the 500 minimum plate order can easily be met.

Signed,

Gary W. Anderson
Potentate

Sheila J. Walker, Director
Division of Vehicles
915 SW Harrison St.
Topeka, KS 66626-0001



(785) 296-3601
FAX (785) 291-3755
Hearing Impaired TTY (785) 296-3909
Internet Address: www.ink.org/public/kdor

Division of Vehicles

TESTIMONY

TO: Representative Gary Hayzlett, Chairman
House Transportation Committee Members

FROM: Sheila J. Walker, Director of Vehicles *Sheila J. Walker*

DATE: February 8, 2001

SUBJECT: House Bill 2191

Chairman Hayzlett and members of the House Transportation Committee, my name is Sheila Walker, and I serve as Director of the Kansas Division of Vehicles. I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony today regarding House Bill 2191.

House Bill 2191 creates a new distinctive license plate for the Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of North America, or Shriners as they are more commonly known. Kansans who own or lease an automobile or truck registered for a gross weight of not more than 20,000 pounds, and are a member in good standing of the Shrine, are eligible to make application for this new plate.

Under this bill, applicants would be required to pay an annual fee to the Shrine Temple of not less than \$25 nor more than \$100. These royalty payments would be used to support the Shriners hospitals for children.

Each license plate issued will be subject to the \$40 personalized plate fee (K.S.A. 8-132) plus the county service fee (K.S.A. 8-1,141). If 6,000 Shriners opt for the new plate, the Department of Revenue estimates approximately \$240,000 in new personalized plate fees would be deposited into the State Highway Fund during calendar year 2002. On a fiscal year basis, \$120,000 would be received in FY2002 and \$120,000 would be received in FY2003.

There will need to be an initial minimum order of 500 plates before production is authorized. The shrine temples of Kansas shall pay the initial cost of the silk-screening, and provide a toll-free number applicants can call for information. In addition, the plate design must be approved by the Director of Vehicles.

There are 5 Shrine temples in Kansas with a total membership of 12,545. To produce enough plates to supply adequate inventory for all counties statewide, the Division of Vehicles would need to produce and distribute approximately 6,000 plates at a total cost of \$16,500.

House Transportation Committee
February 8, 2001
Attachment 3

February 8, 2001

From an administrative standpoint, it would not be difficult to manufacture these plates. This will increase the number of specialty plates handled by the state and counties to 23.

Again, the Division of Vehicles appreciates your consideration.