

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Hayzlett at 1:30 P.M. on February 1, 2005 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Representative Virgil Peck- excused

Committee staff present:
Chris Courtwright, Kansas Legislative Research
Bruce Kinzie, Revisors Office
Betty Boaz, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Pam Scott, KS Funeral Directors Ass'n.
Larry Baer, League of KS Municipalities

Others attending:
See attached list.

Chairman Hayzlett opened the committee meeting by asking for bill introductions. Tom Whitaker, KS Motor Carriers Association asked to introduce a bill amending the interstate motor fuel use act. A motion was made by Representative Yonally to introduce this bill, it was seconded by Representative Faber and the motion carried.

Chairman Hayzlett recognized Tom Whitaker for a second bill introduction. Mr. Whitaker said a technical amendment was needed that would continue to allow the Wichita Technical College to register their tractor-trailers under the school district rules that keeps them from having to pay the higher registration fees. A motion was made by Representative Ballard to introduce this bill, seconded by Representative Long, motion carried.

Representative Burgess made a motion to introduce a bill whereby persons who were recipients of the purple heart medal could have distinctive license plates for their motorcycles. The motion was seconded by Representative Menghini and the motion carried.

Representative Burgess made a motion to strike language in KSA 8-1597 concerning the height of handlebars on motorcycles. The motion was seconded by Representative George and the motion carried.

There being no additional bill introductions the Chairman opened hearings.

HB 2078 - Lead motor vehicle of funeral procession, lights.

Chairman Hayzlett recognized Pam Scott, Executive Director of the Kansas Funeral Directors and Embalmers Association. Ms. Scott explained **HB 2078**. She said it allows for the use of headlamps which alternately flash from high to low beam or simultaneously flash from high to low beam when used on a motor vehicle which is the lead motor vehicle of a funeral procession. (Attachment 1) Ms. Scott said the Kansas Funeral Directors and Embalmers Association supports the bill but would like language added to the bill to include "wig-wam" lights which generally are low beam alternating flashing headlamps. Bruce was going to work on the amendment to this bill.

The next proponent was Larry Baer, Assistant General Counsel for the League of Kansas Municipalities. Mr. Baer said the League gives its qualified support to **HB 2078**. (Attachment 2) The League supports the use of alternating flashing headlights on the lead vehicle in a funeral procession to alert on-coming traffic as a sound safety practice. Their concern with **HB 2078** is that it is unclear as to what rights, if any, it gives a funeral procession to disregard traffic control devices. If the intent is to simply add additional safety factors to the procession then the League supports this bill.

There were no other proponents and no opponents.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Transportation Committee at 1:30 P.M. on February 1, 2005 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

The Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2078**.

Chairman Hayzlett then introduced Tom Whitaker, Executive Director of the Kansas Motor Carriers Association. Mr. Whitaker introduced Charlie Brown and read a Senate Resolution to the Committee commending Charlie Brown who had been named the 2004 National Truck Driver of the Year by the American Trucking Association.

Mr. Whitaker also introduced the 2004 Kansas Road Team which is made up of six truck drivers who have combined safe driving miles of 11.2 million miles and 128 years of driving experience. The Kansas Road Team members educate students in drivers education classes on the proper way to "share the road" with trucks. In addition they help train new recruits of the Kansas Highway Patrol. Members of the Kansas Road Team are: Darren Bogart, Chris Jones, Don Jordan, Rick Mason, Richard Melton and Jay Stoddard.

Mr. Whitaker gave the Committee a briefing of several topics, i.e. how trucks pay taxes, size and weights, restrictions on triple trailers, hours for truckers, inspections, etc.

There being no further business Chairman Hayzlett adjourned the meeting. The next meeting will be at 1:30 on February 2, 2005 in Room 519-S.

HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: Feb 1, 2005

NAME	REPRESENTING
Don Jordan	Kansas Motor Carriers Assoc.
Jay D. Stoddard	KMCA - Kansas Road Team
Christopher C. Jones	KMCA - Kansas Road Team
DARREN BOGART	Kmca - Kansas Road Team
Richard Melton	KMCA - Road Team
Rick Mason	KMCA - KANSAS ROAD TEAM
Eric Dark	Dark Oil Company, Inc.
DAVE EATON	KMCA CUMMINS MID AMERICA
Calvin Koehn	Kmca Circle K Transport, Inc.
Perry Koehn	Circle K transport, Inc.
Brenda Jones	KMCA - Road Team wife
Dennis Todd	KMCA
Paula Stewart	KMCA
Helen Puello	KFDA
John Prather	Groendyke Transport, Inc.
Chuck Mosqueda	Wichita Area Technical College
Larry R. Baer	LKM
Mack Smith	KS ST Bd of Mortuary Arts
Michael W. Ross	Kmca -

HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

DATE Feb 1, 2005

NAME	REPRESENTING
Pan Scott	KS Funeral Directors Assn
Charlie Brown	Yellow Transportation
DAVID Krisley	YELLOW ROADWAY CORP.
Ken Leicht	Frito-Lay
Karen Shum	Kansas Motor Carriers Assn.
Tom Whitaker	Ks Motor Carriers Assn.
Bob Sudbury	Sudbury Transportation
Michael Topp	T T & T Towing
JERRY TAYLOR	HILLCREST WRECKER LAWRENCE
Lynn Taylor	Hillcrest wrecker Lawrence
Nancy Forge	Studdard Transfer & Storage Leavenworth
JEFF W. Robertson	J.M.I. Projects INC
George F. Edwards	Arrow Yaw Recovery, Wichita
Jess Cafferata	Kearney & Assoc.
DANIEL RIDDER	J+H TRUCKING, INC. / KMCA
PATRICIA PLATT	KDOR
Edith Martin	KDOR
Ken Gudenkauf	KDOT
Deann Williams	KMCA
JAMES MISHLER	KMCA
Joan Braben	TU DSI ^{Wash Co.} ^{Twin Valley Transit}
Percy Rudolph	MSCOADA Transit ^{Marshall Co.}



1200 KANSAS AVE. | TOPEKA, KS 66612
785.232.7789 | 785.232.7791 FAX
WWW.KSFDA.ORG

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Emporia

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PAM SCOTT
Topeka

February 1, 2005

To: House Transportation Committee

From: Pam Scott, Executive Director

Re: House Bill No. 2078

Chairman Hayzlett and members of the Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you to day on behalf of the Kansas Funeral Directors and Embalmers Association (KFDA), in support of House Bill No. 2078. The KFDA represents over 300 funeral homes in the state of Kansas.

House Bill No. 2078 was introduced at the request of one of our members. It allows for the use of headlamps which alternately flash from high to low beam or simultaneously flash from high to low beam when used on a motor vehicle which is the lead motor vehicle of a funeral procession.

The KFDA supports the bill but would like language added to the bill to include so called "wig-wam" lights which generally are low beam alternating flashing headlamps.

We believe the use of such flashing lights adds to the safety of funeral processions. In most Kansas communities, funeral escorts are provided by police or paid escort services which are usually comprised of off duty police officers. Once vehicles in a procession leave the city limits, the funeral procession is left on its own. When funeral escorts are not available, the use of such lights by the lead vehicle in the funeral procession would provide a warning to other vehicles on the road that a funeral procession is approaching.

Also, many of today's newer vehicles are equipped with headlamps that are automatically lit once the vehicle is in the driving mode. Therefore, the time honored tradition that all lights in a funeral procession have their headlamps may not be the most effective way of warning the public that a procession is approaching. Alternately flashing headlamps on the lead vehicle of a funeral procession would provide such notice.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. The KFDA would appreciate your support of House Bill No. 2078.

House Transportation
Date: 2-1-05
Attachment # 1



League of Kansas Municipalities

300 SW 8th Avenue
Topeka, Kansas 66603-3912
Phone: (785) 354-9565
Fax: (785) 354-4186

Date: February 1, 2005
To: House Committee on Transportation
From: Larry R. Baer
Assistant General Counsel
Re: HB 2078 - Qualified Testimony in Support

The League of Kansas Municipalities gives its qualified support to H B 2078. The use of alternating flashing headlights on the lead vehicle in a funeral procession to alert on-coming traffic is a sound safety practice. Funeral processions tend to be slow moving and can be lengthy, therefore, the use of flashing headlights as an additional method of alerting other traffic has merit.

The concern with HB 2078 is that it is unclear as to what rights, if any, it gives a funeral procession to disregard traffic control devices. It appears that 2078 does not give any such authority. This is the position that the League supports.

Funeral processions should not be able to disregard traffic control devices unless they are accompanied by traffic control officers.

If the intent of HB 2078 is to simply add additional safety factors to the procession, the League supports this. However, the League cannot support HB 2078 if the intent is to permit funeral processions to disregard traffic control devices.

Thank you for consideration of this matter.

House Transportation
Date: 2-1-05
Attachment # 2

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