

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Hayzlett at 1:30 P.M. on January 26, 2006 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Ed O'Malley- excused

Committee staff present:

Hank Avila, Kansas Legislative Research

Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes Office

Betty Boaz, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Carmen Alldritt, Director, Motor Vehicle Div.

Pat Lehman, Representing KS Fire Service Alliance

Representative Rob Olson

Joe Woelfel, Jr, volunteer for Catch-A-Ride

Mark Gash, Persons with Disabilities Advisory Board, City of Olathe

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Hayzlett opened the meeting and asked for bill introductions. Representative Burgess asked to introduce a license plate bill. The group behind it is called "Support our Troops." They are working in conjunction with 40 other states to collect money and give it to existing veterans groups. Representative Burgess made a motion to accept this bill, it was seconded by Representative Olson and the motion carried.

There being no other bill introductions the Chairman opened the hearings.

HB 2628 - Registration of motor vehicles, issuance of license plates

Chairman Hayzlett recognized Carmen Alldritt, Director of the Motor Vehicle Division. According to Director Alldritt (Attachment #1) **HB 2628** amends KSA 8-132 allowing for the re-issuance of standard Kansas license plates over a period of three years, as opposed to the current one year, re-issue process. Director Alldritt said the re-issue process could be spread over a period of several years and eliminate much of the re-issue cost by taking advantage of the fact that nearly 450,000 persons purchase a new plate each year. Director Alldritt answered questions from the Committee.

There being no other proponents and no opponents, the Chairman closed the hearing on **HB2628**.

HB 2631 - Motor vehicles, registration, firefighters license plates, low-speed vehicles

Chairman Hayzlett opened the hearing on **HB 2631** and recognized Carmen Alldritt, Director of the Motor Vehicle Division as the first proponent. Director Alldritt showed the firefighter license plate to the Committee. She said it was the largest distinctive license plate they have ever had. Within three days after it became available, they had 1500 plates on the road. Director Alldritt said **HB 2631** simply inserts the word "motorcycle" which would allow motorcycle firefighter license plates to be issued.

The Chairman recognized Pat Lehman, representing the Kansas Fire Service Alliance. According to Mr. Lehman **HB 2631** expands the firefighters license plates to include motorcycles, which is one more way for firefighters to demonstrate pride in their profession. (Attachment #2) Mr. Lehman said the Kansas Fire Service Alliance supports this bill and asks the Committee to do the same.

There were no questions from the Committee. There were no other proponents and no opponents so the Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2631**.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Transportation Committee at 1:30 P.M. on January 26, 2006 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

HB 2635 - Accessible parking, eligible persons

Chairman Hayzlett opened the hearing on **HB 2635**. The Chairman recognized Representative Olson as the first proponent of this bill. According to Representative Olson (Attachment #3) this bill would allow drivers responsible for driving a handicapped individual the same courtesy afforded the handicapped person. It would negate the need to transfer placards between vehicles. He concluded by encouraging the Committee's support of this bill.

The next proponent was Joe Woelfel, Jr. who is a volunteer driver for a Johnson County program called Catch-A-Ride. This program offers transportation to those who need help getting to and from doctors appointments, etc. (Attachment #4) Mr. Woelfel encouraged the Committee to favorably pass this bill out of Committee because there are many handicapped or elderly people who do not have handicapped placards and he felt there needed to be other options for them.

Following Mr. Woelfel's testimony there was some discussion about the necessity of this bill and the cost of placards for eligible individuals. Director Alldritt thought assistance for volunteer transporters was already available and suggested Mr. Woelfel hand out applications for accessible parking to those in need. There was discussion on whether the accessible parking for volunteers was already covered in the statutes.

Chairman Hayzlett asked if there were additional proponents and Mark Gach, with the Persons with Disability Advisory Board, City of Olathe, came forward. Mr. Gach expressed support for **HB 2635**. No written testimony.

The Chairman recognized Anthony Fadale, KS Coordinator of Americans with Disabilities. Mr. Fadale said he applauded what the bill was intended to do but felt it was already covered by current law and if it was not he would look into it.

Chairman Hayzlett asked Bruce Kinzie to research this matter and bring the information back to the Committee.

With that the hearing on **HB 2635** was closed.

It was the Chairman's desire to work **HB 2628** and he asked for comments, questions or motions. Representative Ballard made a motion to favorably pass HB 2628, Representative Ruiz seconded the motion, the motion carried.

The Chairman called for comments, questions or motions on **HB 2631**. Representative Burgess made a motion to favorably pass HB 2631, the motion was seconded by Representative Long, the motion carried.

Chairman Hayzlett drew the Committee's attention to Minutes of the January 24th meeting. Representative George made a motion to approve the Minutes as presented, the motion was seconded by Representative Humerickhouse, the motion carried.

Tom Whitaker addressed the Committee for a few comments about an upcoming tour on February 6, leaving the Capitol Building at 11:30 and returning by 3:30. He will need a list of names of those planning to go.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be on January 31, 2006, at 1:30 in Room 519-S.

HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: 1-26-06

NAME	REPRESENTING
Carmen Aldriff	KDOR - Vehicles
Deane Albert	" "
Anthony A. Fedak	AOA - Admin.
Jose Torres	SILCK
Jess Price (Intern)	
Jessie Casterline	

HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

DATE 1-26-06

NAME	REPRESENTING
MARK A. GASH	PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD TO THE CITY OF CLATHE, KANSAS
Joe Woelfel Jr	Self of Johnson Co. Catch-A-Ride Prog.
Judy Woelfel	visitor
Jack Woelfel	Visitor
Sara Turpin	Rep. Henry
Tom Whitaker	Ks Motor Carriers Assn.
Deann Williams	KMCB
Ken Gudenkauf	KDOT



K A N S A S

JOAN WAGNON, SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
DIVISION OF VEHICLES

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, GOVERNOR

TO: Chairman Gary Hayzlett
Members of the House Transportation Committee

FROM: Carmen Alldritt, Director
Division of Vehicles

DATE: January 26, 2006

SUBJECT: House Bill 2628 – License Plate Issuance

Thank you Mr. Chairman and Committee Members. My name is Carmen Alldritt, and I serve as the Director of Vehicles for the Kansas Department of Revenue.

House Bill 2628 amends K.S.A. 8-132, allowing for the for the re-issuance of standard Kansas license plates over a period of three years, as opposed to the current one year, re-issue process.

Each five years, the division is authorized to re-issue standard license plates, unless the condition of the current plates is such that the Director may extend the plate cycle by one year at a time. Our current license plates were first issued in 2001, and that five year cycle has now been extended.

When the division has previously re-issued standard license plates (2001, 1994, 1989...), the re-issue is begun in January and completed in December. This process costs nearly six million dollars and results in the destruction of many non-issued, old style license plates.

With the passage of HB2628, this re-issue process could be spread over a period of several years, utilizing all old style plates currently in stock, and eliminating much of the re-issue cost by taking advantage of the fact that nearly 450,000 persons purchase a new plate each year. Within three years, 1,350,000 cars will have been re-issued new tags, accounting for approximately 54% of all currently registered vehicles.

Thank you for your consideration of HB2628. I stand for questions.

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Voice 785-296- 3601 Fax 785-291-3755 <http://www.ksrevenue.org/>

House Transportation
Date: 1-26-06
Attachment # 1

Kansas Fire Service Alliance

Kansas State Firefighters Association

Kansas State Fire Chiefs Association

Kansas Professional Fire Chiefs Association

**Testimony to the
House Transportation Committee
HB 2628³¹
Presented by Patrick T. Lehman
For the Kansas Fire Service Alliance
January 26, 2006**

Thank you Mister Chairman and members of the committee. I am Pat Lehman and I represent The Kansas Fire Service Alliance. The Alliance is made up of the Kansas State Firefighters Association, the Kansas State Fire Chiefs Association, and the Kansas Professional Fire Chiefs Association. On behalf of the Alliance, I am speaking in favor of HB 2628.

Firefighters are proud of their profession and display that pride in many different ways. There are 15,000 firefighters in the State of Kansas, and more than 10,000 of them are volunteers with small departments all across Kansas.

During the 2004 session, the legislature approved the firefighter distinctive license plate for vehicles with the first issuance occurring last October. To date there have been over 3,000 firefighter tags issued. That number will likely rise.

HB 2628 simply expands firefighter license plates to include motorcycles, which is one more way for firefighters to demonstrate pride in their profession. The Kansas Fire Service Alliance supports this bill and asks for the committee's support to pass the bill favorably.

I will be glad to answer any questions you may have.

Pat Lehman

House Transportation
Date: 1-26-06
Attachment # 2

Robert (Rob) Olson
REPRESENTATIVE, 26TH DISTRICT
19050 W. 161st St.
Olathe, Kansas 66062
State Capitol, 182-W
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1504
785-296-7632
email: olson@house.state.ks.us



HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

Committee Assignments:
Environment
Financial Institutions
Transportation
Utilities

January 26, 2006

The House Transportation Committee

By: Representative Rob Olson

I am here to testify to the merits of House Bill 2635. The use of handicapped placards is a necessity in our society. No one would question whether or not we need to allow those who have a disability the opportunity to park closer to their destination. However, some handicapped individuals who are unable to drive or without a vehicle are also not able to take advantage of a handicapped parking stall because their driver is unable to use a placard. This bill simply would allow drivers responsible for driving a handicapped individual the same courtesy afforded the handicapped person. It also allows for greater simplicity; negating the need to transfer placards between vehicles. I would be appreciative of your support.

House Transportation
Date: 1-26-06
Attachment # 3

Testimony of Joe Woelfel, Jr. For House Bill 2635

The need for this bill grew from volunteer driving for a Johnson County program called Catch-A-Ride. My first contact with them came after breaking my leg and needing transportation to and from the hospital for rehabilitation. Instead of a cash donation, I decided to volunteer to drive for the program. Two years later I still find it a rewarding thing to do.

The Catch-A-Ride program offers transportation to those who need help getting to and from doctor's appointments, etc. Many of these folks are handicapped in some way but others are "just old". It amuses me to ask if they have a handicapped placard only to have them respond "I'm not handicapped, I'm just old", or "I'm not handicapped, I just can't see well enough to drive anymore". I have to smile when I am told this after putting their walker into the back seat of the car.

After attending several meetings held by the Catch-A-Ride folks, I began to notice that I was probably the only volunteer who had a handicapped placard. This meant that I was the only volunteer who could make use of the appropriate parking needed for those we are to assisting. It then occurred to me that what is needed is a placard, much like the handicapped placard, which can be used by an able bodied person who is assisting someone less able who does not have a placard...but could. For lack of a better term, I have referred to it as a "Samaritan" placard. This placard would allow a non-handicapped person, assisting some who is, to park in those areas even if the person they are assisting has no placard.

One day I noticed volunteers for the Meals On Wheels program, lugging heavy boxes of meals across a parking lot to deliver them. It occurred to me then that they, too, should qualify as an able bodied person assisting someone needing a little help.

As I have mentioned, I have been handicapped since 1943 and have a placard. This will not change my ability to assist others. I may just be a little more sensitive to the needs of others who are trying to help. I also sit on the City of Olathe's Persons with Disabilities Advisory Board and feel certain that they will also support this legislation.

House Transportation
Date: 1-26-06
Attachment # 4