

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Les Donovan at 8:30 A.M. on February 22, 2005 in Room 120-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Anthony Hensley- excused

Committee staff present:
Hank Avila, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Bruce Kinzie, Revisors of Statutes
Maggie Breen, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Senator Pat Apple

Others attending:
See attached list.

SB 210 - Requiring strobe lights on school buses.

Proponent:

Senator Apple said he spent about 12 years on the Louisburg School Board. During that time they asked the people they leased their buses from for white strobe lights on the top of the buses. They have had the system for 5 or 6 years now. He talked to the superintendent last night and found that they are still working well for the area. When you have a late night event, or if you have a highway with a 60 mph speed limit and are picking up children in all kind of inclement weather, the white strobe lights stand out. People soon relate a white flashing light to a school bus. The cost is minimal and most of the new buses are wired for them, it's just a matter of screwing the strobe light in the top. The bill states the new buses would be required to have the strobe lights by January 1, 2006 and all buses by January 1, 2008. He thinks **SB 210** presents an opportunity to create a safe environment for school kids across the state. (Attachment 1)

Chairman Donovan noted that the fiscal note states that according to the Department of Education, the bill would have negligible costs to local districts and would not require any additional state appropriations to the Department.

Senator Wilson moved to pass SB 210 bill favorably. Senator O'Connor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Final action:

SB 35 - School zones, disobeying crossing guard, speeding in zone, fines doubled

Senator Journey explained a balloon he had on the bill. (Attachment 2) Basically it defines crossing guards. It expands the definition so that if the crossing guards are minors under adult supervision it is a violation. It also make it clear that crossing guards do not have the power to issue citations or arrest people other than provided by other statutes. It also authorizes the various governmental bodies in nonpublic schools to train and authorize crossing guards if they wish.

Senator Journey moved to adopt the amendment to SB35. Senator Petersen seconded the motion. Motion carried. Senator Journey moved to pass the bill out favorably as amended. Senator Gilstrap seconded the motion. Motion carried. Senator Journey will carry the bill.

SB 81- Traffic regulation, use of headlamps, windshield wipers

Chairman Donovan reminded the committee that the bill dealt with requiring the use of headlights and time windshield wipers are in full mode.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Transportation Committee at 8:30 A.M. on February 22, 2005 in Room 120-S of the Capitol.

Bruce Kinzie said he received the draft for the bill that was prepared by someone else and he thinks he can reword it and make it a little more precise. On line 25 , add “continuous” before the word use and out “smoke, fog”. On line 30 and 31, strike our the words “except when such windshield wipers are used intermittently in misting rain, sleet, or snow”. And then on line 21, add “; including smoke or fog,”after the word conditions.

Senator Schmidt moved to adopt the above amendment. Senator Petersen seconded the motion. Motion carried. Senator Schmidt moved to pass the bill as amended. Senator Petersen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SB184 - Repealing K.S.A. 75-5010, the division of aviation

Senator Wilson moved to table the bill. Senator Palmer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SB 235 - Highway advertising control act of 1972, amendments

Senator Wilson moved to table the bill. Senator Palmer seconded the motion

Chairman Donovan said the committee had worked all of the bills referred to the committee except **SB 2 - Kansas consumer protection act, disclosure by dealer that motor vehicle was leased or rented, not required**, and **SB 88 -Kansas turnpike authority, speed based tolls**. After much consideration, he decided not to hear these bills.

Senator O’Connor moved to approve the committee minutes of February 2, 3, 9, and 15. Senator Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 a.m.

The date of the next meeting is unknown at this time.