

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dwayne Umbarger at 8:30 a.m. on March 16, 2011, in Room 152-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Senator Les Donovan

Committee staff present:
Daniel Yoza, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Jill Shelley, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Toni Beck, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee.

Proponents:
Senator Pete Brungardt, District 68
Representative Tom Moxley, District 24
Timothy Rives, Deputy Director, Eisenhower Museum
Diane Miller, Mayor of Abilene

Others attending:
See attached list.

SB 225 - Renaming a portion of Interstate 70 as the Eisenhower/Truman Presidential highway

Chairman opened the hearing on **SB225**.

Senator Pete Brungardt testified in favor of the bill stating the facility would like to publicize the scholarly work housed in the presidential libraries. (Attachment 1) Representative Tom Moxley commented that Eisenhower is not just a national leader, but also a world leader. (Attachment 2) Timothy Rives testified in favor of the bill stating the Eisenhower facility received 160,000 visitors in 2010. (Attachment 3) Diane Miller testified eight million people have visited the facility since opening, with 50% coming from other states and foreign countries. In addition, the recession of the economy did not affect Abilene with the Eisenhower Museum cornerstone. They will be celebrating the 150 Kansas anniversary with school functions in the one room school house on the Eisenhower grounds that Chairman inquired about. (Attachment 4)

Chairman closed the hearing on **SB225**.

Senator Hensley made a motion for favorable passage of SB225 out of committee. Seconded by Senator Kultala. Motion carried. Senator Brungardt will carry the bill to the full Senate.

HB 2132 - Issuance of gold star family license plates

Chairman opened the hearing on **HB2132**.

Lt. Col. Meier testified as a proponent in favor of the bill. She stated American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. (Article IV, Section 1) consider induction into the United States Armed Forces for mothers whose sons or daughters died while on active duty, to be included in the organization. This healing organization does not omit grieving family. (Attachment 5) She also presented Department of Defense, A Survivor's Guide to Benefits. (Attachment 6) This is inclusive for next of kin of deceased military personnel with the designation "families of the fallen".

Senator Kultala inquired if the amended bill would include the 'mother' license plate designation, which it would not, as the new license is a separate designation. Senator Reitz commented the amended bill would not satisfy family from battlefield deaths; and the issue is not mollified in committee. Senator Schmidt stated the bill needs to address concerns of the proponents and opponents in a more generic form, and thanked Lt. Col. Meier for all of her research on the issue. Senator Hensley suggested the bill be turned into a Senate Substitute and eliminate Gold Star language.

Chairman closed the hearing on **HB2132**.

CONTINUATION SHEET

The minutes of the Senate Transportation Committee at 8:30 a.m. on March 16, 2011, in Room 152-S of the Capitol.

Senator Hensley made a motion to adopt a ballooned amendment as a Senate Substitute for HB2132. Seconded by Senator Petersen. Motion carried.

Senator Kultala made a motion for passage favorably out of committee on Senate Substitute for HB2132. Seconded by Senator Schmidt. Motion carried.

Jill Shelley, KLRD, stated background information is now available on the KLRD website in regards to rates, state fees and penalties dealing with Electronic Verification of the uninsured motor vehicles issue. A committee could address the aspects of a legislative package on this topic for further discussion.

Senator Reitz made a motion for an Interim Special Committee request to President Morris. Seconded by Senator Kultala. Motion carried.

No additional Transportation Committee meetings are scheduled for the session.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m.