

Approved: February 1, 2012

(Date)

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dwayne Umbarger at 8:31 a.m. on Tuesday, January 24, 2012, in Room 152-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Anthony Hensley – excused

Committee staff present:

Daniel Yoza, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Scott Wells, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Jill Shelley, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Laura Jurgensen, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jane Wentz, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Ashley Jones-Wisner, Director of State Policy, Local Initiatives Support Corporation
Tom Whitaker, Kansas Motor Carriers Association

Others in attendance:

See attached list.

Bill introduction

"AN ACT concerning historic properties; relating to projects within the environs of such properties; amending K.S.A. 75-2729 and K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 75-2724 and repealing the existing sections." Jill Shelley, Kansas Legislative Research Department, provided the committee with an overview of the bill. Senator Kultala made a motion to introduce this bill. Senator Donovan seconded the motion, and the motion carried on a voice vote.

Ashley Jones-Wisner, Director of State Policy, Local Initiatives Support Corporation, requested a resolution to recognize the importance of livable streets and enable safe travel by all users. The

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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revisors are drafting this resolution and it will be ready soon. Senator Schmidt made a motion to introduce this resolution. Senator Huntington seconded the motion, and the motion carried on a voice vote.

Approval of 1/18/2012 minutes:

Senator Schmidt made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Senator Reitz seconded the motion and the motion carried on a voice vote.

Briefing on:

Motor carrier safety rules and regulations

Tom Whitaker, Kansas Motor Carriers Association introduced the following individuals:

Mike Hoeme, Director, Transportation Division, Kansas Corporation Commission

Amber Whitlock, Staff Attorney, Kansas Corporation Commission

Captain Chris Turner, Kansas Highway Patrol, Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program

Lieutenant Amber Harrington, Kansas Highway Patrol, Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program

Lieutenant Brent Hogelin, Kansas Highway Patrol, Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program

Mr. Whitaker presented a few facts (Attachment 1) regarding the size and composition of the trucking industry before he updated the committee on federal safety rules and regulations in four major areas:

The Compliance, Safety and Accountability program, used to track violations of drivers and companies; commercial driver's license and medical certification; a hand held cell phone and texting ban effective January 3, 2012; and hours of service. In the first major area of change, a four step process will be utilized in notifying a company of non-compliance (Attachment 2).

Senator Donovan asked how the federal fuel tax is calculated for reimbursement back to the states. Mr. Whitaker indicated it is based upon use and not upon purchase of fuel in the respective state.

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Senator Huntington asked how monocular vision, which is a common solution for older contact wearers and/or those who have had laser surgery, meets the new vision requirements. It was stated that the law actually specifies the minimum corrected vision required for each eye.

Senator Schmidt asked if citizen band (CB) radios would be allowed under the new regulations of “hands free” devices. Mr. Whitaker indicated that these devices will be allowed.

Mr. Whitaker indicated that while some companies already use electronic on-board logging of driver hours, a written log book still may be used. The typical salary for an entry-level truck driver is between \$30,000 and \$50,000.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 25, 2012.

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