

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Les Donovan at 8:30 a.m. on March 18, 2004 in Room 527-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Hank Avila, Legislative Research Department
Bruce Kinzie, Revisors of Statutes
Marian F. Holeman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Mike Burgess
Deann Williams, DeVore Community Swimming Pool Association
Masie DeVore, Eskridge
Steve Cadue, Chairman Kickapoo Tribal Association
Dale White, Mayor of Horton
Representative Bruce Larkin
Representative Jeff Jack

Others attending:

See Attached List.

HB 2707: Designating part of K-4 highway as the Masie DeVore highway

Representative Burgess, 51st District, testified in support of this bill on behalf of one of his constituents, Masie DeVore. Hers is a well publicized story, and she serves as a reminder to all, of the difference one person can make. It seems only fitting to have her name on a portion of the highway she walked for more than 30 years, collecting aluminum cans, in order to build a swimming pool for the children in her small home town ([Attachment 1](#)). Also in support of this bill, Deann Williams, DeVore Community Swimming Pool Association described other activities undertaken by Masie DeVore to earn moneys for her project to be built. Masie DeVore continues to work at all of her fund raising projects in order to support the continued operation and maintenance of the pool. No tax dollars are received for this. She won the Jefferson Award for the State of Kansas, traveled to Washington, D.C. and was one of five national winners of the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis awards for public service in 2002 ([Attachment 2](#)). She introduced Ms. DeVore to all present. Laura Kelly, Executive Director, Kansas Recreation and Park Association was unable to attend. She provided written testimony in "enthusiastic support" of this bill ([Attachment 3](#)). Senator Jim Barnett, 17th District, also provided written testimony in support ([Attachment 4](#)). Chairman Donovan asked Ms. DeVore for her comments. She advised that when she was about halfway to her goal in raising funds, the Eskridge City Council informed her that they did not intend to provide funding for operation and maintenance of a swimming pool and that is why she continues her fund raising efforts to this day. Hearing closed.

HB 2623: Designating part of K-20 highway as the Kickapoo Veterans Memorial highway

Steve Cadue, Tribal Chairman, Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas spoke in support of this bill. He provided historical information on the Kickapoo Veterans. They see this designation as a way to show travelers the Kickapoo people's respect for and love of this country ([Attachment 5](#)). Dale White, Mayor, City of Horton, Kansas, speaking in support of the bill, stressed the positive effects that he feels would result from passage of this bill ([Attachment 6](#)). Representative Larkin, District 62, did not have written testimony, but had testified in support of the bill on the House side. He reported that statistics presented to the House included the fact that 70% of the male tribal members have served in the U.S. armed forces and he urged the Senate pass this bill. No other conferees were present. Hearing closed.

HB 2136: Designating a portion of U. S. Highway 400 as the 930th Ordnance Ammunition Company Bypass

Representative Jeff Jack, District 7, speaking in support of the bill provided historical background and information regarding this Reserve unit's impact on the community and the sacrifices made by these men.

CONTINUATION SHEET

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Furthermore, they see implementation of this bill as a way to show support to troops who are once again serving overseas (Attachment 7). Representative Jack introduced some members of the 930th Ordnance Ammunition Company who traveled to Topeka for this hearing today; Charley Chenoweth, Ray King, Manual Bayless, and Gerald Bowman. Mr. Bowman's son was also present. In the general discussion that followed their introduction, the unit members stressed how very much they would like to have this bill passed. Representative Jack pointed out there are letters of support from the Board of Commissioners, Labette County, Kansas (Attachment 8); and Mayor Westervelt, City of Parsons, Kansas (Attachment 9). Hearing closed.

Staff explained one more proposed amendment to be included in a highway designation bill. It deals with what is now called the "Hutchinson by-pass", or the new K-96 alignment, which would be named the Senator Bob Dole by-pass. It has the current reimbursement language plus the additional 50% language to defray future maintenance and replacement costs of such signs. An example of the expiration clause is shown in Section (b), if the committee wishes to include it. Members discussed this sunset clause and decided not to include it in this amendment. Senator Schodorf moved to recommend Section (a) only be include in an overall highway designation bill. Senator Salmans seconded the motion. Motion carried. Following further discussion, Senator Salmans moved to amend the 50% language into all the highway designation bills. Senator Schodorf seconded the motion. Motion carried. Members discussed the highway designation bills. In order to simplify the legislative process, it was decided that **HB 2833** would be an appropriate vehicle for all of these bills because it amends a particular section of KSA. The Divisions discussed in this bill are now reserve divisions, but some of them go back to World War I era. Senator Salmans moved to amend **HB 2707**, **HB 2623**, **HB-2136** and the additional amendment on the Senator Bob Dole by-pass designation into **HB 2833**. Senator Goodwin moved to recommend **HB 2833**, as amended, favorable for passage. Senator Schodorf seconded the motion. Motion carried.

HB 2143: Distinctive license plates, regulations

Hearings were held on this bill March 11, 2004. At that time the essential language of **SB 68**, regarding helping schools special plates, was amended into it. Also passed a technical amendment striking the use of signs and punctuation marks on personalized plates. Senator Pugh proposed an additional amendment, which really came from the House side, to add a new section to present K.S.A. regulating distinctive license plates that would allow bronze or silver star recipients who are residents of the State of Kansas to be issued distinctive license plates. All the usual rules and regulations dealing with veterans plates would be applicable in these instances. Discussion revealed that surviving family can keep the plates, but not display them on a vehicle. Senator Pugh moved adoption of this amendment. Senator Goodwin seconded the motion. Motion carried. Senator Jackson moved to recommend **HB 2143**, as amended, favorable for passage. Senator Schodorf seconded the motion. Motion carried. Senator Pugh will carry the bill.

HB 2235: Sun screening devices, decals, exception

Hearings on this bill were held March 11, 2004. Members felt there were many problems needing to be resolved before this bill could become effective law. It is perfectly understandable why the Highway Patrol desires it for the safety and well being of their canine partners. However, it needs more work before being enacted into law. Senator Salmans moved to recommend **HB 2235** be not passed. Senator Lyon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

HB 2709: Regulating traffic, motorized skateboards

Hearings were held on this bill March 16, 2004. It attempts to define motorized skate boards. It is really a much bigger issue than just skateboards. More and more of these motorized "toys" are showing up. At some point we probably need to deal with the entire area rather than passing one law at a time when an obvious problem comes up. The committee took no action on this bill.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m. No more meeting are scheduled for this session.