

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Les Donovan at 8:30 a.m. on March 19, 2003 in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Les Donovan
Senator Ed Pugh

Committee staff present: Hank Avila, Legislative Research Department
Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes
Marian F. Holeman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Representative Jene Vickrey
Barbara Pringle, Exec. Dir., KS Pupil Transp. Assn.
Ernest Garcia, KS State Dir. Selective Service System
Col. Adam King, KS Nat'l Guard
Sheila Walker, Dir. Division of Vehicles, KDOR
Tonya Reinhardt, Army Reserve Major, SSS

Others attending: See attached list

HB 2113: Re maximum speed limits for school buses

Representative Vickrey briefed the committee on the background of this bill. The primary reason is a concern for safety. The difference in allowable maximum speed limits between school buses and all other vehicles results in school buses traveling slowly enough to be a hazard. Safety instructions teach that we should go with the flow of traffic. This bill will allow school buses to travel at posted speed limits. However, local school boards can still deal with special local conditions. Conferee did not provide written testimony. Barbara Pringle, Executive Secretary, Kansas State Pupil Transportation Association, testified in support of **HB 2113**. The Executive Committee's primary concern is the safety of the thousands of students they transport every day. They believe keeping the present speed level increases the chances of accidents. They want a speed that is equitable as well as safe for every bus to travel its daily route (Attachment 1).

Following discussion on the bill, Senator Jackson moved to recommend **HB 2113** favorable for passage. Senator Gooch seconded the motion. Motion carried. Senator Jackson will carry the bill.

Sub. HB 2073: Re drivers' licenses and identification cards

Debby Bielanski, Deputy Director for Selective Service System (SSS) Region III, located in Denver, Colorado was scheduled to appear in support of the bill. However, weather closed the Denver airport and she was unable to get here. Ernest Garcia, Kansas State Director of SSS, and Lt. Col. Marine Corps Reserve, presented the testimony, explaining why this assistance with registration compliance is needed. He pointed out such registration is required. Failure to do so makes these young men ineligible for

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federally backed student loans and grants, jobs with the U.S. Government, vocational job training, and, if he is an immigrant seeking citizenship, he will be denied citizenship by INS if he hasn't registered. (Attachment 2). Lt. Col. Adam King, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve had no written testimony but also spoke in support of the bill, explaining they are responsible for administering the draft should it be brought back into effect. The on-going registration process guarantees that any future draft would be the most fair and equitable in history. Sheila Walker explained what the bill would do. It requires that persons between ages of 16 and 25 who apply for a Kansas driver's license, instruction permit, or non-driver's identification card, consent to the federal SSS registration requirements. The Division of Motor Vehicles will electronically forward this information to SSS. Updating the driver's license handbook and training examiners would be absorbed in existing Motor Vehicles Division updating. No other conferees appeared on the bill. Hearing closed.

Major Tonya Reinhardt, Army Reservist, who is also with SSS, provided additional information in response to several questions posed by committee members. Senator Schodorf moved to recommend the bill favorable for passage. Senator Harrington seconded the motion. Motion carried. Senator Schodorf will carry the bill.

Approval of minutes

Senator Goodwin moved to approve minutes of the March 13, 2003 meeting. Senator Lyon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2003.