

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Hayzlett at 1:30 p.m. on February 4, 2004 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Kenny Wilk- excused
Representative Valdenia Winn- excused

Committee staff present:

Mary Galligan, Legislative Research Department
Hank Avila, Legislative Research Department
Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes Office
Betty Boaz, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Dennis Wilson, Wyandotte County Treasurer
Carmen Alldritt, Director of Division of Motor Vehicles
Joyce Cussimano, Executive Director of Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund
Debra Prideaux, Alumni Director, Fort Hays State University

Others attending:

See Attached List.

HB 2143 - Restrictions on distinctive license plates for motor vehicles

Chairman Hayzlett opened the hearings on **HB 2143** by introducing Dennis Wilson, Wyandotte County Treasurer as the first proponent. (Attachment 1) Mr. Wilson said that Riley County Treasurer Eileen King would be unable to attend the hearing because of the weather so he was going to present her testimony in addition to his own. According to Mr. Wilson the Treasurers Association has noticed that the intent and spirit of the law have been violated by some of the groups that now have special license permission. He said these groups do not actually purchase their required 500 plates, resulting in excessively high running inventories for all counties and that it is time consuming and cost prohibitive to print, receipt, store, train staff on issuance requirements and maintain special plates that will sit for years and never be sold. Mr. Wilson said the Treasurers Association would ask that the legislature require that 500 plates be sold and maintained to keep their special plate status and if the group fails to maintain their statutory requirements, that no more plates will be printed, sold or maintained.

According to Eileen King, Riley County Treasurer's written testimony, each County Treasurer's office in Kansas acts as an agent for the state in Titling and Registering vehicles and as such it is necessary to keep an inventory of all licenses plates on hand for issuance. Not all of the institutions have achieved the 500 plates that they guaranteed to the state. In order for each county to have these plates available, the state produces 2000 plates for each category. This bill would allow for the continuation of the specialized plates, but it would encourage the institutions to actually "guarantee" the 500 plates and maintain that amount. She concluded by asking for support of **HB 2143**. (Attachment 2)

Carmen Alldritt, Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles, provided information on Kansas license plates and the various plate types and number of current registrations. (Attachment 3) She did not provide written testimony.

There being no other proponents the Chairman asked if there were any opponents to **HB 2143**. One opponent was Joyce Cussimano, Executive Director of the Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund who said this issue is relevant to the Trust Fund because they benefit from the sale of distinctive license plates. (Attachment 4) According to Ms. Cussimano, the sale of these plates support child abuse and neglect prevention in multiple ways and they wish to continue to make funds available to communities through this project. She concluded by saying that in times of tight resources they can ill afford to eliminate this source of revenue that is aimed at preventing future costs to the state.

Chairman Hayzlett asked if there were any other opponents to **HB 2143** and Debra Prideaux, Executive

CONTINUATION SHEET

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Director, Alumni and Governmental Relations at Fort Hays State University came forward. Ms. Prideaux did not have written testimony with her but said she would send it in later. (Attachment 5) She said Fort Hays State University was proud to be part of the distinctive tag program. According to Ms. Prideaux this program is extremely important to an institution the size of Fort Hays State University in terms of generating greatly needed academic scholarship funds in which approximately 80 - 85% of their students receive some type of financial aid. She said it allows them to not only generate important scholarship monies, but also gives Fort Hays State University supporters an opportunity to show pride in their university.

The Chairman called for any other proponents or opponents, none came forward. After all questions were answered the Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2143**.

The Chairman called for introduction of bills. Representative Larkin introduced a bill to put restrictions or suspensions on drivers licenses of students that drop out of high school. Motion was seconded by Representative Henry and the motion carried.

Representative Larkin also introduced a bill regarding driver testing more often after a certain age. Motion was seconded by Representative Henry and the motion carried.

Chairman Hayzlett recognized Secretary Deb Miller, KDOT, who introduced the Governor's proposal for financing the comprehensive transportation program. A motion was made by Representative Miller, seconded by Representative Long and the motion carried.

The Chairman recognized Jeff Bottenberg who wanted to introduce legislation that would amend KSA 2003 Supp. 74-2012 which would allow the Secretary of Revenue to contract with employers, or their authorized agents, such as SAMBA, for motor vehicle record information at a negotiated fee. A motion was made by Representative Davis, seconded by Representative Humerickhouse and the motion carried.

Chairman Hayzlett recognized Andy Shaw with Kearney and Associates. Mr. Shaw requested legislation for the Kansas Automotive Recyclers Association which would require some sort of identification for salvage auctions. A motion was made by Representative Beggs, seconded by Representative Miller and the motion carried.

There being no other business the Chairman adjourned the meeting. The next Committee meeting will be February 5, 2004 at 1:30 p.m.