

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Hayzlett at 1:30 p.m. on January 27, 2009, in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except Representative Virgil Peck who was excused.

Committee staff present:

Betty Boaz, Committee Assistant  
Hank Avila, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Jill Shelley, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Bruce Kinzie, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Others attending:

See attached list.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 29, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hayzlett who opened the meeting with bill introductions.

Representative Burgess asked to introduce three bills. The first bill concerned a Kansas Arts License plate. Representative Burgess made a motion, seconded by Representative Menghini and the motion carried. According to Representative Burgess the next two bills were requested by Chris Maurick with ABATE. Representative Burgess made a motion, seconded by Representative Menghini and the motion carried.

Representative Maloney asked to introduce a bill clarifying classification of an A-B license as a farm vehicle and can operate under a class C license within a 150 miles radius of a farmers location. Representative Maloney made the motion, it was seconded by Representative Swanson and the motion carried

Representative Dillmore was recognized and asked the Committee to introduce two bills for the Department of Revenue. One bill concerned increasing the fees for vehicle license tags. The other bill concerned increasing penalties on infractions of failure to yield. A motion was made by Representative Menghini seconded by Representative Ballard and the motion carried.

Terry Heidner, Legislative Liaison for Kansas Department of Transportation asked to have three bills introduced. The first bill would empower law enforcement to move a vehicle out of the lane of traffic if there has been an accident or the vehicle is obstructing the flow of traffic. The second bill would broaden the group of people who have the authority to control traffic. A motion was made by Representative Swanson, seconded by Representative Ballard and the motion carried.

Mr. Heidner said the third bill involved increasing the fees on permits for oversize or overweight vehicles. A motion way made by Representative Menghini, seconded by Representative Swanson and the motion carried.

Representative Mah asked for a bill to be introduced concerning the license requirements of automobile recyclers and crushers. A motion was made by Representative Menghini to accept this bill, seconded by Representative Ballard and the motion carried.

Representative Vickrey asked to introduce a bill that would exempt any person or organization sponsoring any distinctive license plate authorized by the legislature on or after July 1, 2004, from submitting a nonrefundable amount not to exceed \$10,000. A motion was made by Representative Vickrey, seconded by Representative Swanson and the motion carried.

Representative Long, on behalf of Representative Ruiz, asked to introduce a bill prohibiting the sending, reading or writing text messages while operating a motor vehicle. A motion was made by Representative Long, seconded by Representative Ballard and the motion carried.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the House Transportation Committee at 1:30 p.m. on January 27, 2009, in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

Representative Tfanelli came forward and asked to introduce the graduated drivers license for teens. He said there were three distinct pieces added. A motion was made by Representative Swanson, Seconded by Representative Wetta and the motion carried.

Tom Whitaker, Executive Director, Kansas Motor Carriers Association asked to introduce a bill concerning the Towing and Recovery Lien Law. A motion was made by Representative Swanson, seconded by Representative Worley and the motion carried.

There being no additional requests for bill introductions, the Chairman introduced Tom Whitaker who made a presentation on "Trucking 101".

Mr. Whitaker introduced Jason Hammas with Frito Lay, Topeka, and Ken Leicht with Rawhide Trucking out of Hutchinson, Kansas.

According to Mr. Whitaker 92% of all trucking companies in Kansas operate 19 or fewer trucks. He said the trucking industry in Kansas provides 92,627 jobs and that the trucking industry pays 46 percent of all taxes and fees owed by Kansas motorists, despite trucks representing only 10.3 percent of the miles traveled in the state. Mr. Whitaker said 3,065 trucking companies operating five or more trucks failed in 2008 with high diesel fuel prices being the primary contributor to the bankruptcies. He said fuel prices had fallen in 2009 but so had the amount of available freight. (Attachment 1)

After all questions were answered, there being no further business before the Committee the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 pm.