

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ronald Ryckman Sr. at 1:30 pm on Tuesday, February 03, 2015, 582-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Richard Proehl – Excused

Representative Kasha Kelley – Excused

Representative Mario Goico – Excused

Committee staff present:

Jill Shelley, Legislative Research Department

Craig McCullah, Legislative Research Department

Adam Siebers, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Scott Wells, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Betty Boaz, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Representative Gail Finney

Representative Couture-Lovelady

Tom Whitaker, Exec.Director, KS Motor Carriers Association

Whitney Damron, representing Polaris Industries

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Bill introductions

The meeting was presided over by Vice-Chair Ryckman due to the absence of Chairman Proehl. He opened the meeting and asked for bill introductions.

Representative Stan Frownfelter asked to introduce a bill designating the jct of interstate highway 70 and 110th street as the Bert Cantwell memorial interchange. Representative Lusker moved to introduce this bill, seconded by Representative Doll and the motion carried.

A bill was proposed by Edward "Woody" Moses. This bill would exempt certain vehicles from gross weight limits on wheels and axles. Representative Schwartz moved the introduction of this bill, seconded by Representative Sloan and the motion carried.

Hearing on: HB2013 — Omega Psi Phi license plate.

Vice-Chair Ryckman opened the hearing on **HB2013**. Staff explained the bill. Vice-Chair Ryckman recognized Representative Gail Finney as the first proponent. ([Attachment 1](#)) According to Representative Finney, Omega Psi Phi is a national and international fraternal organization with an overall mission to improve the status of the communities in which they exist through conducting social action programs which enhance the culture, well-being and quality of life of their communities.

Written testimony in support of this bill ([Attachment 2](#)) was presented by Larry Burks, Lt. Col.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Transportation at 1:30 pm on Tuesday, February 03, 2015, 582-N of the Capitol.

USArmy (Ret).

After questions were answered, there being no other proponents and no opponents the hearing on **HB2013** was closed.

Hearing on: HB2033 — Speed limit increase when passing on two lane highways.

Vice-Chairman Ryckman opened the hearing on **HB2033**. Staff explained the bill. The first proponent was Representative Couture-Lovelady. The Representative explained ([Attachment 3](#)) this bill would create a 10 mile per hour speed limit buffer when passing on a two-lane highway. He said it made sense to not linger in oncoming traffic while passing a vehicle traveling less than the legal maximum speed. He asked for the Committee's support on this "common sense" bill.

The Vice Chairman drew the Committee's attention to written testimony submitted by Representative Troy Waymaster ([Attachment 4](#)) in support of **HB2033**.

There was also written testimony ([Attachment 5](#)) submitted in support of this bill by Jeff Gattenby, Russell, Kansas.

The first opponent was Tom Whitaker ([Attachment 6](#)) . According to Mr. Whitaker this bill creates yet another "buffer" allowing individuals to exceed the posted speed limit. He said the Kansas Motor Carriers Association is opposed to "buffers" and supports uniform speed limits with strict enforcement of such speed limits.

There was also written testimony submitted in opposition to this bill ([Attachment 7](#)) by the Kansas Highway Patrol.

There were no other proponents and no other opponents to this bill so after all questions were answered the Vice-Chairman closed the hearing on **HB2033**.

Hearing on: HB2044 — License, registration and safety requirement for autocycle.

Vice-Chairman Ryckman opened the hearing on **HB2044**. Staff explained the bill.

Representative Couture-Lovelady was the first proponent. ([Attachment 8](#)). According to the Representative the autocycles are not necessarily cars and aren't necessarily motorcycles and therefore a new classification was recommended by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators. He explained that while a motorcycle has handlebars and requires you to straddle or sit astride, the autocycle has a steering wheel and the operator sits in a seat. He stood for questions.

The next proponent was Whitney Damron. ([Attachment 9](#)) He said he was appearing on behalf of Polaris Industries, maker of the Polaris Slingshot, in support of **HB2044** which creates a class of vehicle called an "autocycle." Mr. Damron brought an amendment which would delete the requirement

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Transportation at 1:30 pm on Tuesday, February 03, 2015, 582-N of the Capitol.

for an autocycle to be "enclosed." A balloon amendment was attached to his testimony.

The Committee's attention was drawn to written testimony submitted in support of this bill by Joel Sheltrown, VP of Governmental Affairs, Elio Motors ([Attachment 10](#)) and by Jeff Porter a resident of Norton County, Kansas ([Attachment 11](#)).

After all questions were answered, Vice-Chairman Ryckman closed the hearing on **HB2044**.

Final action on bills previously heard

Due to the lack of time, Vice-Chairman Ryckman said the Committee would not do final action on previously heard bills.

Vice-Chairman Ryckman announced the next meeting would be February 5, 2015.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned.