

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dwayne Umbarger at 8:45 a.m. on February 16, 2010, in Room 152-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Bruce Kinzie, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Daniel Yoza, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Julian Efird, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jill Shelley, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Cindy Shepard, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Carmen Alldritt, Director of Division of Vehicles, Kansas Department of Revenue
Jarrod Forbes, Lobbyist, Polaris Industries

Others attending:

See attached list.

Carmen Alldritt, Director of Division of Vehicles, Kansas Department of Revenue presented an overview of the license plate process. She spoke about the different types of military plates, noting that they are exempt from the special plate fee. She continued with special plates, reviewing the fees, and concluded that in the future when new plates are under consideration, to follow the laws that are in place, and send the requesters to meet with the Director of Vehicles prior to any bill request (Attachment 1).

The Chairman asked Director Alldritt to comment on **SB 361 - Gold star family license plates**. She requested the Committee not pass the bill this year due to the overhaul of the Division of Motor Vehicle's computer system, have the group requesting the plate work with the department on the details, and bring a new bill back next year. Senator Kultala moved, Senator Huntington seconded, to table SB 361. Motion carried.

Senator Petersen requested a letter to be sent to the Gold Star Committee explaining today's action and the suggestions from the Director of Vehicles. Chairman Umbarger indicated a letter would be drafted, and sent upon Committee approval.

The Chairman opened the hearing on **SB 536 - Recreational off-highway vehicles, regulation thereof**. Bruce Kinzie, staff revisor, reviewed the bill.

Jarrod Forbes, on behalf of Polaris Industries, testified as a proponent of **SB 536**. He stated that they are asking to add a new definition to the off-road family so that our Kansas Statutes keep pace with the vehicles that are being produced by the industry. A recreational off-highway vehicle means any motor vehicle 64 inches or less in width, having a dry weight of 2,000 pounds or less, traveling on four or more non-highway tires, having a non-straddle seat and steering wheel for steering control (Attachment 2).

It was requested of Mr. Forbes to provide the Committee with clear descriptions of the different off-road vehicles. Director Alldritt commented that these vehicles need a classification to be registered and put on the tax rolls. The department would save money on the cost of programming if it happened this year during their system overhaul.

Chairman Umbarger stated that there would be further action at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2010.