

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mike Petersen at 8:30 am on Monday, March 16, 2020, in room 546-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Ty Masterson – Excused
Senator Caryn Tyson – Excused

Committee staff present:

Aaron Klaassen, Legislative Research Department
Adam Siebers, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Chris Waggoner, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Florence Deeter, Committee Assistant
Jill Shelley, Legislative Research Department

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

No conferees present

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Possible Action on Bills Previously Heard

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. and reminded members that the next day's meeting would include approval of Committee minutes for February 18, 19, 20, and March 5.

The Chair invited members to consider **HB2420 - Allowing military surplus vehicles to register with the Division of Vehicles for road use.**

Staff Adam Siebers briefed the Committee on the details of the bill.

Senator Hilderbrand moved to amend the bill on page 1, lines 9 and 33, by inserting the phrase, "or any other country's" after the words "United States." The motion was seconded by Senator Braun.

Senator Hilderbrand explained that the amendment addresses the 10-year gap created by federal guidelines and allows a foreign vehicle to be registered in Kansas during years 26-34. Discussion centered around an assurance that an imported foreign military-surplus vehicle would meet Kansas' safety standards.

The motion to amend passed.

Senator Hawk offered a conceptual amendment to assure that all military-surplus vehicles including

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foreign-imported vehicles meet Kansas safety standards in order to pass registration inspection. Secoded by Senator Bowers, the motion passed.

Senator Hawk made a motion to amend the bill to restrict registration of a military-surplus vehicle to no more than six wheels. The motion was secoded by Senator Randall.

Following discussion, Senator Hawk offered a substitute motion amending the bill to restrict the vehicle to no more than three axles. Secoded by Senator Hilderbrand, the motion to amend passed.

Senator Hawk moved and Senator Hilderbrand secoded to consider the bill as amended to be favorable for passage. The motion passed.

The Chair invited members to consider **SCR1601 - Limiting the expenditure of funds from the State Highway Transportation Fund to those items related to transportation.**

A member agreed that the practice of transferring funds from the State Highway Fund for purposes other than transportation must cease, but he stated that the resolution is not a wise pathway, since it sets a precedent for other agencies to seek similar restrictions on the limited discretionary spending from the State General Fund. Other members expressed similar thoughts.

A motion was made by Senator Hilderbrand to consider the resolution as favorable for passage. The motion died for lack of a second.

The Chairman invited members to consider **SB459 - Creating the distracted driving violation and prohibiting the use of a wireless telecommunications device while operating a motor vehicle.**

Mr. Siebers reviewed details of the bill.

Senator Pettey offered an amendment excluding law enforcement officers or emergency service personnel from the restrictions of the bill. Secoded by Senator Braun, the amendment passed.

Senator Braun offered an amendment to add to the exclusions list (page 1, lines 17-18) the use of a wireless device in a vehicle with an integrated hands-free system. The motion was secoded by Senator Skubal.

Members extensively discussed the applications of the exclusion and agreed that medical devices and On-Star diagnostic devices are already excluded by the bill.

The amendment passed.

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

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The Chair announced that in the interests of time, the meeting would be adjourned, but requested that further action on the bill be considered at the next meeting. He noted two possible changes: that the bill not go into effect until January 1, 2021, and that the bill initially apply only to school and construction zones.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, 2020.