

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Gary Hayzlett at 1:30 p.m. on February 19, 2003 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Toelkes, excused

Committee staff present:

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

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Dennis Wilson, Johnson County Treasurer
Eileen King, Riley County Treasurer
Jeremy Anderson, Director of Government Affairs
Sheila Walker, Director, Motor Vehicle Division
Walt Darling, Chief Finance Officer, Kansas Highway Patrol
Tom Whitaker, Executive Director, KS Motor Carrier Association
Ken Gudenkauf, Ass't. Bureau Chief, Traffic Engineering, KDOT

Others attending:

See attached list

HB 2143 - Restrictions on distinctive license plates for motor vehicles

Chairman Hayzlett opened the hearing on **HB 2143** by introducing Dennis Wilson as the first proponent. According to Mr. Wilson, the current method is fine with their association, which states that 500 plates must be sold prior to the state printing and shipping the plates to all county motor vehicle departments for distribution, but needs to add that they will sell and maintain 500 plates to keep this privilege. The association has noticed that the intent and spirit of the law has been violated by some of the groups that have special license permission. These groups are not actually purchasing their required 500 plates, resulting in excessively high running inventories for all counties. The association asks the legislature to require that 500 plates be sold and maintained to keep their special plate status and if the group fails to maintain their statutory requirement that no more plates will be printed, sold or maintained.

The next proponent was Eileen King, Riley County Treasurer and KS County Treasurers' Association Representative. (Attachment 2) Ms. King advised the Committee that each County Treasurer's Office in Kansas acts as an agent in titling and registering vehicles and as such must keep an inventory of all license plates on hand for issuance. The problem that is caused at the local county treasurer's offices is one of secured storage space. With the ever increasing number of specialized plates, the storage problem only gets worse. They now keep an inventory of 22 different kinds of plates in addition to the personalized plates that have been ordered and not yet delivered. In order for the county to have these plates available, the state produces 2000 plates for each category. **HB 2143** would encourage the institutions to actually "guarantee" the 500 plates, in order for the continuance of the plates. She asked for support of **HB 2143**.

Following questions from the Committee, the Chairman asked if there were any other proponents or any opponents. There being none the Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2143**.

The Chairman appointed a sub-committee to work with the treasurers and Div. of Motor Vehicles to come up with a solution to this problem. The Chairman of the sub-committee will be Representative Faber with Representatives Humerickhouse and Miller.

HB 2192 - Increasing fees for drivers' licenses and identification cards

Chairman Hayzlett opened the hearings on **HB 2192** with Jeremy Anderson being the first proponent.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE at on February 19, 2003 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

(Attachment 3) He said both **HB 2192** and **HB 2193** are a necessary part of the Governor's FY 2004 budget. **HB 2192** raises the fee for a driver's license from \$12 to \$18. Driver's licenses are renewed every 6 years which means the fee increase equates to \$1 per year to maintain a license. **HB 2193** would raise the cost of a vehicle title fee from \$8 to \$10.

The Chairman recognized Sheila Walker as the next proponent for **HB 2192** (Attachment 4) According to Director Walker, this bill increases the fees to obtain a driver's license or identification card and creates a "photo fee fund" in which photo fees are to be deposited with the Kansas Department of Revenue. The photo fee would continue to generate approximately \$1.5 million each year, and under **HB 2192**, these fees would be deposited directly into a "photo fee fund" at the Kansas Department of Revenue. This fee fund is designed to cover the costs associated with issuing driver's licenses and ID cards. She urged the Committee's support of **HB 2192** and requested it be passed out favorably.

There were no additional proponents and no opponents. After questions, the Chairman closed hearings on **HB 2192**.

HB 2193 - Increasing fees for certificates of title

Chairman Hayzlett opened hearings on **HB 2193**. Sheila Walker was the first proponent and she explained the bill. (Attachment 5) According to Director Walker this bill increases the title fee \$2 (from \$8 to \$10 and lifts the sunset on the Kansas Department of Revenue's VIPS/CAMA fee fund (a fund designed to maintain the DMV's Vehicle Information Processing System and the Property Valuation Division's Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal System), as well as the Kansas Highway Patrol's vehicle fee fund. She concluded by saying passage of **HB 2193** will enable them to furnish county treasurers and appraisers with the tools they need to continue to provide quality customer service.

The Chairman recognized Walt Darling, Chief Finance Officer for KHP. (Attachment 6) According to Mr. Darling, **HB 2193** makes one change to the financing for the Highway Patrol Fleet Program. It eliminates the sunset attached to the title fee financing for this program and thus, allow the program to continue as established by the 1993 Legislature. Mr. Darling concluded by asking the Committee to pass **HB 2193** out favorably so the program may be continued indefinitely.

There were no additional proponents and no opponents. Following questions from the Committee, Chairman Hayzlett closed the hearing on **HB 2193**.

HB 2220 - Amending uniform commercial drivers' license act

The Chairman opened the hearing on **HB 2220** by recognizing Sheila Walker, Director, Motor Vehicles Division. (Attachment 7) There are four major changes to the existing law; it adds an "S" endorsement for school bus drivers, precludes diversion agreements that would prevent a conviction from appearing on the record, adds disqualifications for several new major and serious offenses in a non-commercial motor vehicle and adds several new railroad-highway grade crossing offenses. **HB 2220** would bring Kansas law into compliance with revised federal rules and regulations that must be implemented by the state to receive federal highway funds.

The Chairman recognized Tom Whitaker, Executive Director of the Kansas Motor Carriers Association as the next proponent. (Attachment 8) According to Mr. Whitaker **HB 2220** is legislation to bring Kansas into compliance with revisions to the Commercial Driver's License program mandated by the Motor Carrier Safety Act of 1999. These changes are designed to further improve the safety of motor carrier operations on our nation's highways by making sure that only safe drivers operate commercial motor vehicles. The changes in **HB 2220** to the Kansas Uniform Commercial Driver's License Act would bring Kansas in compliance with the Motor Carrier Safety Act of 1999. The changes eliminate the possibility of being decertified by the federal government to issue CDL's and lose federally-aided highway funds. Mr. Whitaker concluded by asking the Committee to act favorably on **HB 2220**.

Chairman Hayzlett recognized the last proponent, Ken Gudenkauf, Assistant Chief of the Bureau of

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE at on February 19, 2003 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

Traffic Engineering for KDOT. (Attachment 9) According to Mr. Gudenkauf, **HB 2220** would bring Kansas into compliance with federal requirements for the Commercial Drivers' License. If Kansas does not comply, KDOT stands to lose federal highway funds of \$16 - \$18 million the first year and \$31 - \$33 million the second and subsequent years. He concluded by saying KDOT urges support for passing **HB 2220** out favorably.

There were no other proponents and no opponents. Following questions by the Committee the Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2220**.

The Chairman called for final action on **HB 2191**. Representative Larkin made a motion to add the amendments as requested by Ed McKechnie, proponent for the bill, amending an additional section to clarify that the borrowing of money from an individual would be allowed and also on page 1 in line 29 by striking the "and" and inserting "or". Representative Henry seconded the motion to amend and the motion carried. Representative Beggs made a motion to move **HB 2191** as amended, out favorably, Representative Henry seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Chairman Hayzlett called for final action on **HB 2192**. Representative Ballard made a motion to move this bill out favorably, seconded by Representative Davis and the motion carried.

The Chairman called for final action on **HB 2193**. Representative Myers made a motion to pass this bill out favorably, seconded by Representative Beggs and the motion carried.

The Chairman called for final action on **HB 2220**. Representative Compton made a motion to pass this bill out favorably, seconded by Representative Dreher and the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m. The next meeting of the House Transportation Committee will be Thursday, February 20, 2003.