

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Ben Vidricksen at 9:05 a.m. on February 17, 2000 in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Hank Avila, Legislative Research Department
Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes
Marian F. Holeman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Senator Sherman Jones
Richard Payne
Bryce Meeker, Intern
Sheila Walker, KDOR, Div. of Motor Vehicles
Rosalie Thornburgh, KDOT, Traffic Safety
Leslie Kaufman, Kansas Farm Bureau
Mike Beam, Kansas Livestock Assn.
Ken Gudenkauf, KDOT

Others attending: See attached list

SB 591: Concerning issuance of certain driver's licenses

Staff Revisor Kinzie explained the bill. Senator Jones addressed the need for the bill based on the experiences of his constituents, Mr. Richard Payne and introduced Mr. Payne. Mr. Payne's testimony is Attachment 1. Senator Jones' intern, Bryce Meeker, provided members information on laws in other states dealing with DUI Hardship License (Attachment 2).

Sheila Walker, Director Division of Vehicles, Kansas Department of Revenue, explained that current state law clearly determines when a driver's license should be suspended or revoked and that **SB 591** basically takes the teeth out of current law; while at the same time it does nothing to solve this constituent's problem (Attachment 3). This bill addresses DUI problems only. It does not address the issue of unpaid fines and court imposed penalties. Rosalie Thornburgh, Bureau Chief of Traffic Safety, Kansas Department of Transportation, advised that any legislation which compromises the one-year license suspension for DUI offenders will take Kansas out of compliance with federal law (Attachment 4). A fiscal note was not available as the Division of the Budget had to request fiscal impact information from one or more agencies or organizations. That information is not yet available.

Members discussed the bill, questioned Mr. Payne and Bryce Meeker regarding some of the points in the bill. The Chair closed the hearings on the bill, and advised the Committee would return to the bill at a later date.

HB 2643: Regulating traffic; re width of certain loads on certain vehicles

Leslie Kaufman, Assistant Director, Public Policy Division, Kansas Farm Bureau explained that this is merely a technical clean-up bill, which would clarify original legislation passed in 1998 to ensure farm tagged vehicles can haul wide loads of hay on interstate roadways (Attachment 5). Mike Beam, Executive Secretary, Cow-Calf/Stocker Division, Kansas Livestock Association spoke in support of the bill (Attachment 6). Ken Gudenkauf, Assistant Bureau Chief of Traffic Engineering, KDOT advised they support clarification of language in order to fulfill the intent of the 1998 amendment (Attachment 7).

Following discussion, Senator Salmans moved to recommend HB 2643 favorable for passage and further recommended it be placed on the Consent Calendar. Senator Huelskamp seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SB 611: Re US military veterans license plates, motorcycles

The Committee returned to consideration of this bill. Senator Huelskamp advised that in checking with the Division of Motor Vehicles, he found these special plates could be done. Discussed the design.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE, Room 245-N
Statehouse, at 9:05 a.m. on February 17, 2000.

Senator Tyson moved to recommend the bill favorable for passage. Senator Huelskamp seconded the motion. Motion carried. Chairman Vidricksen wished to be recorded as voting “No.” Senator Huelskamp will carry the bill.

Other business

Senator Salmans asked whether or not a law was needed to regulate school “activities” buses which are not the regularly recognized school bus, but may be other buses such as Greyhound, etc. There have been problems with these other buses not stopping at railroad crossings. Staff advised there is already a law regulating this. If there is a problem, it is with enforcement of existing laws.

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 22, 2000.

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