

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Les Donovan at 8:30 A.M. on March 15, 2005 in Room 527-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Anthony Hensley- excused

Committee staff present:
Hank Avila, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Bruce Kinzie, Revisors of Statutes
Maggie Breen, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Tom Whitaker, Kansas Motor Carriers Association
Mary Ellen Conlee, Wichita Area Technical College
Jennie Rose, Kansas Association of Community College Trustees
Representative John Grange

Others attending:
See attached list.

HB 2315 - Permanent registration for technical college vehicles leased for truck driver training program.

Proponents:

Tom Whitaker, Kansas Motor Carriers Association, appeared today representing the Wichita Area Technical College in support of **HB 2315**. In 2003, the legislature passed a bill that allowed the Wichita Area Technical College to lease 5 tractor trailers and permanently register them just like a school district, or city, or county. Previous to this bill, this section only applied to vehicles owned by the city, county, or school district. With the passage of **SB 7**, the technical college separated from the school district. In order to continue the availability of the permanent registration **HB 2315** needs to be adopted, it talks about technical colleges versus area vocational schools for the lease. It just continues policy which was established in 2003. (Attachment 1)

Mary Ellen Conlee, Wichita Area Technical College, testified in favor of the bill. On July 1, 2004, the Wichita Area Technical College separated from the governance of USD 259 and came under the governance of an independent board of trustees. This was done in order for the college to have the ability to grant Associate degrees. Under school district governance, the college was able to permanently register both owned and leased vehicles at reduced cost for vehicles exclusively used for the Truck Drivers Training Center. This bill would allow the college to continue the existing practice. (Attachment 2)

Jennie Rose, Kansas Association of Community College Trustees, said that they have a truck driving school at one of their community colleges at Fort Scott. While they currently don't lease trucks, by adding "and community colleges" to the bill they could have that option in the future. She requested the bill be amended to add community colleges. (Attachment 3)

Senator Wilson moved to amend **HB 2315** as requested. Senator O'Conner seconded the motion. Motion carried. Senator Wilson moved to pass **HB 2315** as amended. Senator O'Conner seconded the motion. Motion carried. Senator Donovan will carry the bill.

HB 2409 - Designating part of U.S. highway 54 as Veterans Memorial highway.

Proponent:

Representative John Grange appeared in support of **HB 2409**. The bill would designate a portion of highway 54 where it enters the Kansas-Missouri border, then west to the east city limits of Kingman, as the Veterans Memorial highway. The total distance is 205 miles. The designation will honor all veterans of Active, Reserve, and National Guard service, regardless of theater of operation or branch of service. Representative

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Transportation Committee at 8:30 A.M. on in Room 527-S of the Capitol.

Grange said his predecessor, Bill Mason, a 12 year member of the House of Representatives, a champion of Veterans Recognition, and a well-respected member of the community, asked him to carry the bill. The fiscal responsibility of the signage is to be borne by gifts and donations for the signs and an additional 50% of the same costs for maintenance and replacement. There are co-signers of the bill who represent the districts along the route. It passed the House 122 - 0. (Attachment 4)

Senator Wilson said, being a veteran himself, he appreciated the bill and asked for the cost of the signs. Representative Grange said about \$1,000 for the two signs, depending on the size and complexity, and 50 % of that for the maintenance cost. So, they would owe about \$1,500.

Senator Wilson offered an amendment to name the portion of K-10 from the western boundary of Johnson county then east to the junction of K-10 highway and interstate highway 435 the Governor John Anderson, Jr. highway. Senator Wilson said Governor Anderson was a two-term governor and led the state through some pretty difficult times in the early 60's. He's well know, well liked, and well respected. He said the money would be raised privately.

Ken Gudenkauf, KDOT, advised that this highway would have a higher fiscal note because it's on a 3-way section. He would image the signs would run about \$2,500 each. Senator Wilson said they would raise the money.

Senator Wilson moved to amend **HB 2409** per his request. Senator Palmer seconded the motion. Motion carried. Senator Wilson moved to pass **HB 2409** as amended. Senator Palmer seconded the motion. Motion carried. Senator Wilson will carry the bill.

Final Action

SB 278 -Division of vehicles records, certain driver's license records.

Senator O'Connor moved to pass **SB 278** favorably. Senator Schmidt seconded the motion. Motion carried. Senator Wilson will carry the bill.

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2005.