

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Gary Hazylett at 1:35 p.m. on January 24, 2001 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Bruce Kinzie, Revisor
Hank Avila, Research
Ellie Luthye, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Pat Hubbell, Railroad Association
Warren Sick, Ass't. Secretary and State Transportation Engineer, Kansas Department of Transportation
Jerry Fowler, Saline County Engineer,
Norbert Marek, Myers, Pottroff, Ball Law Firm
James Loumiet, Loumiet Association Inc. Consulting Firm

Others attending:

See attached sheet.

Chairman Hayzlett told the committee he had made the arrangements for the committee to tour the Motor Vehicle Department on Wednesday, January 31st. A memo will be sent out to them with the arrangements.

The Chair then called for introduction of bills. Representative Vickery made a motion to introduce a bill dealing with predatory pricing. This was seconded by Representative Powers and the motion carried.

Representative Hayzlett made a motion to introduce a bill, requested by the Arab Shrine, to create a distinctive auto license plate to be purchased by members of the five Shrine Centers in Kansas. This was seconded by Representative Levinson and the motion carried.

HB 2045 - railroad grade crossings on county and township highways

Chairman Hayzlett called on Pat Hubbell, Railroad Association, as the first proponent on this bill. Mr. Hubbell presented testimony showing how **HB 2045** amends K.S.A. 66-227, concerning railroad grade crossings on county and township roads, by eliminating two elements of the statute which, in their opinion, are ambiguous and nearly impossible to comply with. (Attachment 1)

Warren Sick, Assistant Secretary and State Transportation Engineer of the Kansas Department of Transportation, gave testimony supporting the conceptual change to design standards as contained in this bill. (Attachment 2)

Jerry Fowler, Director, Saline County Public Works, stated they were generally supportive of this bill but felt there were some areas that should be modified and he listed these changes and also discussed the measures they were in agreement with. (Attachment 3)

Norbert Marek, Myers, Pottroff, Ball Law Firm, presented statistics which showed the highway-rail incidents over the past 10 years, also the total injuries in highway-rail incidents over the same period of time, showing the types of grade crossings, by county, for Kansas and closed with sharing information as to grade and vertical alignment as stated by AASHTO - Geometric Design of Highways and Streets. (Attachment 4)

James R. Loumiet, Loumiet and Associates, Inc., was the next presenter. He conveyed to the committee his reasons for supporting **HB 2045** and also stated his qualifications. He concluded that his purpose for appearing before the committee was simply to assist the State of Kansas in producing the best possible grade crossing legislation. (Attachment 5)

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE, Room 519-S Statehouse at 1:30 p.m. on January 24, 2001.

Following discussion and questions by the committee Chairman Hayzlett closed hearings on **HB 2045**.

The Chair called on Tom Whitaker, Kansas Motor Carriers Association, who extended an invitation to the committee to participate in the Kansas Trucking Industry Day at the Capitol by meeting the captains of the Kansas Road Team and driving the 18 wheeler simulator.

Chairman Hayzlett adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m. The next meeting of the House Transportation Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, January 30th at 1:30 in Room 519-S.