

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Hayzlett at 1:30 P.M. on January 26, 2006 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Ed O'Malley- excused

Committee staff present:

Hank Avila, Kansas Legislative Research

Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes Office

Betty Boaz, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Carmen Alldritt, Director, Motor Vehicle Div.

Pat Lehman, Representing KS Fire Service Alliance

Representative Rob Olson

Joe Woelfel, Jr, volunteer for Catch-A-Ride

Mark Gash, Persons with Disabilities Advisory Board, City of Olathe

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Hayzlett opened the meeting and asked for bill introductions. Representative Burgess asked to introduce a license plate bill. The group behind it is called "Support our Troops." They are working in conjunction with 40 other states to collect money and give it to existing veterans groups. Representative Burgess made a motion to accept this bill, it was seconded by Representative Olson and the motion carried.

There being no other bill introductions the Chairman opened the hearings.

HB 2628 - Registration of motor vehicles, issuance of license plates

Chairman Hayzlett recognized Carmen Alldritt, Director of the Motor Vehicle Division. According to Director Alldritt (Attachment #1) **HB 2628** amends KSA 8-132 allowing for the re-issuance of standard Kansas license plates over a period of three years, as opposed to the current one year, re-issue process. Director Alldritt said the re-issue process could be spread over a period of several years and eliminate much of the re-issue cost by taking advantage of the fact that nearly 450,000 persons purchase a new plate each year. Director Alldritt answered questions from the Committee.

There being no other proponents and no opponents, the Chairman closed the hearing on **HB2628**.

HB 2631 - Motor vehicles, registration, firefighters license plates, low-speed vehicles

Chairman Hayzlett opened the hearing on **HB 2631** and recognized Carmen Alldritt, Director of the Motor Vehicle Division as the first proponent. Director Alldritt showed the firefighter license plate to the Committee. She said it was the largest distinctive license plate they have ever had. Within three days after it became available, they had 1500 plates on the road. Director Alldritt said **HB 2631** simply inserts the word "motorcycle" which would allow motorcycle firefighter license plates to be issued.

The Chairman recognized Pat Lehman, representing the Kansas Fire Service Alliance. According to Mr. Lehman **HB 2631** expands the firefighters license plates to include motorcycles, which is one more way for firefighters to demonstrate pride in their profession. (Attachment #2) Mr. Lehman said the Kansas Fire Service Alliance supports this bill and asks the Committee to do the same.

There were no questions from the Committee. There were no other proponents and no opponents so the Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2631**.

HB

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Transportation Committee at 1:30 P.M. on January 26, 2006 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

HB 2635 - Accessible parking, eligible persons

Chairman Hayzlett opened the hearing on **HB 2635**. The Chairman recognized Representative Olson as the first proponent of this bill. According to Representative Olson (Attachment #3) this bill would allow drivers responsible for driving a handicapped individual the same courtesy afforded the handicapped person. It would negate the need to transfer placards between vehicles. He concluded by encouraging the Committee's support of this bill.

The next proponent was Joe Woelfel, Jr. who is a volunteer driver for a Johnson County program called Catch-A-Ride. This program offers transportation to those who need help getting to and from doctors appointments, etc. (Attachment #4) Mr. Woelfel encouraged the Committee to favorably pass this bill out of Committee because there are many handicapped or elderly people who do not have handicapped placards and he felt there needed to be other options for them.

Following Mr. Woelfel's testimony there was some discussion about the necessity of this bill and the cost of placards for eligible individuals. Director Alldritt thought assistance for volunteer transporters was already available and suggested Mr. Woelfel hand out applications for accessible parking to those in need. There was discussion on whether the accessible parking for volunteers was already covered in the statutes.

Chairman Hayzlett asked if there were additional proponents and Mark Gach, with the Persons with Disability Advisory Board, City of Olathe, came forward. Mr. Gach expressed support for **HB 2635**. No written testimony.

The Chairman recognized Anthony Fadale, KS Coordinator of Americans with Disabilities. Mr. Fadale said he applauded what the bill was intended to do but felt it was already covered by current law and if it was not he would look into it.

Chairman Hayzlett asked Bruce Kinzie to research this matter and bring the information back to the Committee.

With that the hearing on **HB 2635** was closed.

It was the Chairman's desire to work **HB 2628** and he asked for comments, questions or motions. Representative Ballard made a motion to favorably pass **HB 2628**, Representative Ruiz seconded the motion, the motion carried.

The Chairman called for comments, questions or motions on **HB 2631**. Representative Burgess made a motion to favorably pass **HB 2631**, the motion was seconded by Representative Long, the motion carried.

Chairman Hayzlett drew the Committee's attention to Minutes of the January 24th meeting. Representative George made a motion to approve the Minutes as presented, the motion was seconded by Representative Humerickhouse, the motion carried.

Tom Whitaker addressed the Committee for a few comments about an upcoming tour on February 6, leaving the Capitol Building at 11:30 and returning by 3:30. He will need a list of names of those planning to go.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be on January 31, 2006, at 1:30 in Room 519-S.