

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dwayne Umbarger at 8:30 a.m. on March 19, 2010, in Room 152-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Bruce Kinzie, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Daniel Yoza, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Jill Shelley, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Cindy Shepard, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Mark Schemm, Treasurer, Smith County
Joe Grisolano, Treasurer, Crawford County
Chris Tymeson, Chief Attorney, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks

Others attending:

See attached list.

The Chairman called for final action on **HB 2561 - Allowing transit buses to be operated on right shoulder of certain highways.**

Senator Huntington moved, Senator Kultala seconded, to amend HB 2561 by limiting it to Johnson County, and to require the Secretary of Transportation and Johnson County to report to the Legislature annually on the program. Motion carried. Senator Donovan voted no and requested his vote recorded.

Senator Huntington moved, Senator Kultala seconded, to recommend HB 2561, as amended, favorably for passage. Motion carried. Senator Donovan voted no and requested his vote recorded.

The Chairman opened the hearing on **SB 577 - Requiring vessels to be titled.** Daniel Yoza, staff revisor, reviewed the bill.

Vice Chairman Marshall assumed Chair of the meeting. He requested additional information from Bruce Kinzie, staff revisor, for further clarification on the bill. Mr. Kinzie gave a historical perspective on the bill, stating that this issue has been around for 20 to 25 years.

Mark Schemm, Smith County Treasurer and President of the Kansas County Treasurers Association, spoke as a proponent of **SB 577**, stating that the bill would require a Kansas certificate of Title to be issued on all watercraft vessels owned by Kansas residents. Titling watercraft will be easily accepted in the DMVS system, due to come online next year. He stated that most states title watercraft and passage of the bill will benefit the boating public, lien holders, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) and law enforcement agencies across the nation (Attachment 1).

Joe Grisolano, Crawford County Treasurer and Vice President of the Kansas County Treasurers Association, appeared in favor of **SB 577**. According to Mr. Grisolano, most boat owners would like to have a title for their vessel. Requiring titles will make it easier for Kansas Banks to perfect a lien, for KDWP to keep a current inventory of all Kansas watercraft, and benefit law enforcement in tracking stolen boats. Additionally, **SB 577** will generate revenue for the State of Kansas through titling fees (Attachment 2).

Chairman Umbarger returned and assumed Chair of the meeting.

Chris Tymeson, Chief Attorney, KDWP, testified in support of **SB 577**. He stated that vessel theft is a continuing problem for KDWP, and states that do not have titling laws are a dumping grounds for marine theft. He indicated technical changes would be offered in a balloon amendment on the Senate floor, if the bill passes out of this Committee. Mr. Tymeson clarified that this is a titling bill, not a Wildlife and Parks registration bill.

There being no further conferees, the hearing on **SB 577** was closed.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the Senate Transportation Committee at 8:30 a.m. on March 19, 2010, in Room 152-S of the Capitol.

Chairman Umbarger requested, from the Kansas Bankers Association and the Division of Vehicles, their position on **SB 577**. Doug Wareham, representing the Kansas Bankers Association, indicated that they are in support of the bill, noting it will help the bankers.

Carmen Alldritt, Director of the Division of Vehicles, stated that the Department was in favor of this legislation, and needs it this year in order to work it into the new DMVS system. She requested the date to be changed from 2012 to 2013.

Senator Apple expressed concern about this bill coming so late in the session, the language taking three months to be developed, and if it not going to take effect until 2013 he suggested bringing it back at the first of next year to iron out all the details.

After further discussion, Senator Hensley moved, Senator Huntington seconded, to amend **SB 577** by changing the date to 2013 on page 6, section 4 and on page 11, section 13. Motion carried.

Senator Hensley moved, Senator Kultala seconded, to recommend **SB 577**, as amended, favorably for passage. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m. No other meetings are scheduled.