

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Gary Hayzlett at 1:30 p.m. on March 11, 2003 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Mary Kauffman

Committee staff present:

Bruce Kinzie, Revisor

Hank Avila, Legislative Research Dept.

Mary Galligan, Legislative Research Dept.

Betty Boaz, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Tom Whitaker, Executive Director, KS Motor Carrier Ass'n.

Sheila Walker, Director, Motor Vehicle Division

Others attending:

See Attached list

**SB 130 - Apportioned registration of fleet vehicles; definitions, converter gears**

Chairman Hayzlett opened hearings on **SB 130** and introduced Tom Whitaker, Executive Director, KS Motor Carriers Ass'n. Mr. Whitaker explained that currently Kansas has an exception to the International Registration Plan (IRP) as it relates to vehicle registration for owner/operators. (Attachment 1) Kansas law requires that an owner/operator who leases to a motor carrier company for a period of 30 days or more must have the vehicle registered in the carrier's name. All other states allow the owner/operator to register in their own name or allow for the option to register the vehicle in the name of the owner/operator or motor carrier. The IRP governing board is currently considering sanctions against Kansas if the state does not eliminate this exception. The proposed bill changes the definition of "owner" plus allows for the registration of "converter gear" if such registration is done electronically and a fee of \$1 for each converter gear is paid to the State. This change will allow Kansas based carriers the ability to register converter gears in their base state to be in compliance with the laws of Alabama, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Tennessee and Florida. Mr. Whitaker then stood for questions from the Committee.

The second proponent was Sheila Walker, Director of Motor Vehicles. She reiterated that the IRP governing board is considering sanctions against Kansas because we have an exception pertaining to owner/operators. (Attachment 2) Current Kansas law requires that an owner/operator, who leases a vehicle to a motor carrier for 30-days or more, register the vehicle in the motor carrier's name. All other states allow the option of registering the vehicle in the name of the motor carrier or the owner/operator. By changing the definition in **SB 130** the vehicle could be registered in the carrier's name or the owner's name. Director Walker explained the 'converter gear' part of this bill and concluded by asking the Committee's favorable support for this bill.

There were no other proponents nor any opponents so the Chairman closed the hearing on **SB 130**.

Chairman Hayzlett called for final action on **SB 130**. Representative Larkin made a motion to pass this bill favorably and Representative Ballou seconded the motion. The motion carried.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 12, 2003.