

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dwayne Umbarger at 8:30 a.m. on February 10, 2009, in Room 136-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Mike Corrigan, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Hank Avila, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jill Shelley, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Cindy Shepard, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Robert Lee, Deputy Police Chief, City of Wichita
Steve Buckley, Safety Engineer, Kansas Department of Transportation

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Umbarger opened the hearing on **SB 142 - Establishing the safety corridor act administered by the secretary of transportation, safety corridor fund.**

Hank Avila gave a summary of the bill defining a safety corridor as a highway segment identified through specific criteria, with the intent to reduce accident rates and fatalities (Attachment 1).

Robert Lee, Deputy Police Chief for the City of Wichita, testified as a proponent of **SB 142**. The bill would create a traffic safety partnership between Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) and local Kansas communities. Deputy Chief Lee indicated that the City of Wichita needs this legislation to designate Kellogg Avenue/US-54 Highway, as a traffic safety corridor (Attachment 2).

Steve Buckley, Safety Engineer for KDOT, provided testimony in support of **SB 142**. He stated that this bill gives KDOT the authority to establish safety corridors, which has been proven to significantly reduce fatalities, serious injuries, and alcohol-related crashes (Attachment 3).

Discussion and questions followed Mr. Buckley's testimony. Senator Apple requested information from KDOT to quantify the dangers on Kellogg. Mr. Buckley stated he would provide the committee with the "Top Five Report." The Chairman indicated there are many questions to be answered before action can be taken on this bill.

There being no further conferees, the hearing on **SB 142** was closed.

The Chairman turned the meeting over to Senator Marshall. The Senator called for review of requested amendments on **SB 37 - Regulating traffic, concerning golf carts**. Mike Corrigan distributed the proposed amendments (Attachment 4). Senator Hensley pointed out that instead of balloon amendments, this is a substitute bill with one balloon amendment (Attachment 5). Senator Marshall stated the committee members would review the changes and consider further action.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2009.