

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Hayzlett at 1:30 p.m. on January 27, 2004 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative John Faber- excused
Representative Kenny Wilk- excused

Committee staff present:

Hank Avila, Legislative Research Department
Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes Office
Betty Boaz, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative David Huff
Lt. John Eichkorn, Kansas Highway Patrol
David Lake, Bd. Of Emergency Medical Services
Dennis Meyers, Overland Park Fire Chief

Others attending:

See Attached List.

HB 2522 - Mobile infrared transmitters, prohibited, exceptions.

Chairman Hayzlett opened hearings on **HB 2522**. Chairman Hayzlett introduced Representative David Huff who presented testimony in support of this bill. (Attachment 1) According to Representative Huff, this bill will outlaw a private citizen from possessing a transmitting device that would allow the citizen to change a red light to green.

The next proponent was introduced. (Attachment 2) 2nd Lt. John Eichkorn, Kansas Highway Patrol said the Highway Patrol supported this bill but would recommend a simple change be made to subsections (e) and (f). The wording for both of these subsections should read "violating subsection (b)(2)" and not (b)(1) as subsection (1) relates to possession, and (2) relates to actual use. With this minor change, the Kansas Highway Patrol supports **HB 2522** for the safety benefits it provides.

David Lake, Board of Emergency Medical Services was the next proponent to speak (Attachment 3). He said while they supported **HB 2522** there were a couple of issues they would like for the Committee to consider. He said there were several other devices capable of altering the traffic control signals that should be considered. Mr. Lake also asked the committee with regard to designating the emergency vehicles authorized to utilize these devices, to consider identifying emergency vehicles similar to those defined in KSA 8-2010 which was attached to his testimony.

The next proponent to speak in support of **HB 2522** was Overland Park Fire Chief Dennis Meyers (Attachment 4). He said the City of Overland Park has had their traffic control system for emergency vehicles for over 20 years. He said this type of system allows a quicker response and a much safer response.

The last proponent to offer support for **HB 2522** was Steve Kearney of the Kansas State Troopers Association and the Fraternal Order of Police.

There were no other proponents and no opponents.

Following questions from the Committee, Chairman Hayzlett closed the hearing on **HB 2522**.

Chairman Hayzlett called for introduction of bills. Whitney Damron speaking on behalf of the City of Topeka (Attachment 5) asked for introduction of a bill requesting legislation relating to the recovery of a

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vehicle that has been impounded by a law enforcement agency. They are asking for an amendment to KSA 8-1102 that would require an individual to show proof of a valid registration when seeking to obtain their vehicle from impoundment by a municipality. Representative Toelkes made a motion to introduce this bill, seconded by Representative Vickrey and the motion carried.

Representative Bruce Larkin asked for the introduction of a bill designating a part of K-20 highway as the Kickapoo veterans memorial highway. The motion was made by Representative Larkin, seconded by Representative Ballard and the motion carried.

Chairman Hayzlett asked for the introduction of a bill relating to the hauling of harvested cotton. The motion was seconded by Representative Humrickhouse and the motion carried.

Tom Whitaker, Executive Director of the Kansas Motor Carriers Association asked for the introduction of two bills (Attachment 6). The first request would allow the Director of Vehicles to issue permanent credentials to the owner of 100 or more commercial or public utility motor vehicles. The second request, according to Mr. Whitaker, would fix a problem that has developed in south central Kansas. A judge is requiring truck drivers ticketed at the South Haven scales to appear before the court. The Kansas Motor Carriers Association is requesting changes to Kansas statutes to allow the driver to sign for the ticket, much like is done with traffic infractions. Representative Larkin moved to introduce both bills, seconded by Representative Ballou and the motion carried.

Tom Whitaker introduced Gary Davenport, Director of Safety and Risk Management, Kansas Motor Carriers Association, who gave an overview of the new federal hours of service regulations (Attachment 7).

Chairman Hayzlett introduced Carmen Alldritt, Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles, KS Dept. of Revenue, to the Committee.

The Minutes from the House Transportation Committee meetings on January 13, 14, 15, and 21, 2004, were presented for approval or correction. Representation Dreher made a motion to approve the Minutes, seconded by Representative Jack and the motion carried.

Chairman Hayzlett adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:35. The next meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2004, at 1:30 p.m.