

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Les Donovan at 9:00 a.m. on March 27, 2001 in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Hank Avila, Legislative Research Department
Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes
Marian F. Holeman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Representative Findley
Steve Rarrick, Deputy Attorney General

Others attending: See attached list.

HB 2145: Re motor vehicles; concerning safety belts

Representative Findley appeared as a proponent and explained the need for a bill to strengthen current Kansas law relating to warranties on motor vehicle safety belts (Attachment 1)

Steve Rarrick, Deputy Attorney General for Consumer Protection, also addressed the need for this bill to incorporate current federal standards applicable to modern seat belt systems, including seat belt components. Ford Motor Company had indicated they would change their policy, but so far they have done nothing (Attachment 2).

For member's information, Chairman Donovan read the copy, which he had just received, of a letter from the Ford Motor Company, addressed to "All Ford and Lincoln-Mercury Dealers in the State of Kansas" (Attachment 3). Members will be provided with a copy of this attachment.

Discussed current law and issues contained in **HB 2145**. The consumer protection language was amended into the bill on the House Floor, but there was a gentleman's agreement that when/if Ford Motor Company complies with the requirements, such language would be removed.

Chairman Donovan introduced an amendment to install **SB 172** as passed by the Senate Committee of the Whole into **HB 2145**. **SB 172** deals with child restraint passenger safety seats, seat belts, etc. It passed out of the Senate on a 22-18 vote. The House has not acted on **SB 172**. It is hoped our action here will allow something to be done with it in conference. Senator Goodwin moved to so amend **HB 2145**. Senator Schodorf seconded the motion. On a count of votes the motion carried 5 to 4.

Senator Goodwin moved to pass out **HB 2145** as amended. Senator Schodorf seconded the motion. On a count of votes, the motion carried 5 to 4.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

The next meeting is "on call."