

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Hayzlett at 1:30 P.M. on February 19, 2008 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Mike Burgess- excused
Representative Pat George- excused
Representative Julie Menghini- excused

Committee staff present:

Hank Avila, Kansas Legislative Research
Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes Office
Mike Corrigan, Revisor of Statutes Office
Betty Boaz, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Candy Ruff
Carmin Alldritt, Director of Motor Vehicles
Duane Simpson
Leslie Kaufman
Terry Heidner, Legislative Liaison, Kansas Dept. of Transportation

Others attending:

See attached list.

Vice-Chairman Peck called the meeting to order. He opened the hearings on **HB 2770**.

HB 2770 - An act giving secretary of revenue rule and regulation authority to set fees for photos, not to exceed \$20.

Vice-Chair Peck asked staff to explain what this bill does. According to staff, the bill provides for an increase in the photo fee fund. This is the photo fee relating to drivers' licenses and other state issued identification cards.

The first proponent was Representative Candy Ruff. (Attachment #1) According to Representative Ruff this bill asks that the Department of Revenue have the authority through rules and regulations to set the cost of driver's license/identification cards She said this bill will help implement Photo First, an important part of insuring that those who apply are who they claim to be.

The Vice-Chairman recognized Carmen Alldritt, Director of Vehicles, as the next proponent. (Attachment #2) According to Director Alldritt, Kansas has been on the path of secure identity management for many years and has one of the most secure drivers license documents and issuance process in place. Director Alldritt said with the disaster experience in Greenburg and the Southeast Kansas floods the need has arisen for secure identity management. She said they were recently notified by the National Guard that they have been directed to require any disaster responders to show proof of identify by presenting a Real ID compliant drivers license or Identification Card. This will allow the National Guard to manage who should or should not be allowed to enter a disaster site. She pointed out that the drivers licenses used to be a license to drive and now the drivers license is a license to drive as well as the number one identification document proving lawful presence, Kansas residency and that you are who you say you are.

The Vice-Chairman Peck asked if there were any other proponents and Randy Mettner, with the Adjutant General Department came forward saying on behalf of the Adjutant General and the National Guard they support **HB 2770**. He said they have been working with Department of Revenue so that any tracking or verification system the National Guard might use for disaster sites would mesh with what the state is doing.

There were no other proponents and no opponents so the Vice-Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2770**.

Chairman Hayzlett opened the hearing on **HB 2824**.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Transportation Committee at 1:30 P.M. on February 19, 2008 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

HB 2824 - Railroad Leasing Act, track leases

The Chairman recognized Duane Simpson, Chief Operating Officer and Vice President for the Kansas Grain and Feed Association and the Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association. (Attachment #3) Mr. Simpson explained what transpired to cause them to ask for this bill and that **HB 2824** would amend the Railroad Leasing Act. It was noted that if the lessees have no recourse to challenge the reasonableness of the lease rate they would be placed in an unfavorable economic situation. The amendment would grant the track lessees the same access to recourse as land lessees currently are afforded. The bill would amend the definition of "lease," as an agreement between a railroad and a tenant, to include track leases when the railroad is a Class II or a Class III railroad as defined by federal regulations.

The next proponent was Leslie Kaufman, Executive Director for the Kansas Cooperative Council. (Attachment #4) Ms. Kaufman asked for support of **HB 2824** to give shippers the same tools for negotiating track leases that they have been relying on in realty negotiations. She pointed out that the land would do no good if the track was too expensive to lease, and if the lease goes, the rail traffic will diminish.

The Chairman drew the Committee's attention to written testimony submitted by the Kansas Department of Transportation in support of **HB 2824**. (Attachment #5)

There being no other proponents and no opponents, the Chairman closed the hearings on **HB 2824**.

It was the Chairman's desire to work **HB 2691**, the Gold star family license plate bill. After some discussion Representative Swanson made a motion to amend this bill to say "Gold Star Mother," not "Gold Star Family." The motion was seconded by Representative Peck and the motion carried.

The Committee then worked the bill as amended. Representative Peck made a motion to favorably pass **HB 2691**, as amended. The motion was seconded by Representative Swanson and the motion carried.

Chairman Hayzlett opened **HB 2704** for discussion and motions. After some discussion Representative Peck made a motion to favorably pass **HB 2704**, seconded by Representative Wetta and the motion carried.

The Chairman opened **HB 2720** to the Committee for discussion and motions. Representative Ballard made a motion to favorably pass **HB 2720**, seconded by Representative McLachlan and the motion carried.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be on February 20, 2008, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 519-S.