

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Gary Hazylett at 1:40 p.m. on March 15, 2001 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Andrew Howell

Committee staff present:

Bruce Kinzie, Revisor

Hank Avila, Research

Ellie Luthye, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Judy Showalter

Sheila Walker Director, Division of Vehicles

Others attending:

No sign up sheet given

**SB 55 - medical and vision requirements for drivers' licenses**

Sheila Walker said this bill would basically fine-tune the Driver Review process where drivers' medical or vision conditions are reviewed on an annual basis. She told the committee they review a total of nearly 12,000 cases a year. She then reviewed the process they follow in determining whether to renew a license and also the vision and medical requirements for such licensing. She concluded with two recent, highly-publicized fatality accidents related to persons experiencing medical problems, while driving, it is important for the state to consider amending the law to provide for a more adequate level of safety. She asked for support of **SB 55**. (Attachment 1)

Representative Judy Showalter said **SB 55** addresses some very critical needs for the safety of those who operate motor vehicles and those who ride with them. She told the committee she did not oppose the bill but had a concern with some of the language in the bill, especially Line 41, page 3 of the bill that includes a person who has diabetes and is suffering a mild hypoglycemia or low blood sugar episode. She gave the definition of mild hypoglycemia as defined by the American Diabetes Association. She requested consideration of the language that would make it clear that the bill is addressing seizure disorders and not diabetic symptom. (Attachment 2)

Following questions and discussion by the committee Chairman Hayzlett closed hearings on **SB 55**.

**SB 56 - suspension or revocation of driving privileges**

Sheila Walker said this bill authorizes the Division of Vehicles to suspend the privilege of an unlicensed driver to obtain a license for the same period that a licensed driver's driving privileges are suspended. She told the committee the Kansas Supreme Court had suggested Legislative action to amend current law to deal with suspension of driving privileges of unlicensed drivers. She said current law sends a message to just not get a Kansas driver's license and therefore one could not be charged with driving while suspended. She requested two technical changes, Line 2, page four change "that" to "those" and line 5, page four change "those" to "that". (Attachment 3)

Chairman Hayzlett closed hearings on **SB 56**.

Following discussion it was the consensus of the committee to take no action on **SB 3** and **SB 4**.

**HB 2277 - operation of all-terrain vehicles used for agricultural purposes upon highways.**

At the request of the sponsors of this bill, who felt the need for more study, Chairman Hayzlett stated no action would be taken on this bill.

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE, Room 519-S of the Capitol at 1:40 p.m. on March 15, 2001.

Following discussion Representative McKinney made a motion to amend **HB 2277** and introduced a substitute for **HB 2277** which would state if a short line railroad has an abandonment pending that is opposed by the shippers, they would not be eligible for low interest funds or grants for repairs on another line until the abandonment issue is resolved. This was seconded by Representative Aday and the motion carried. Representative Dillmore made a motion to pass substitute for **HB 2277**, seconded by Representative Crow and the motion carried.

**SB 55 - medical and vision requirements for drivers' licenses**

Chairman Hayzlett called for discussion and final action. Representative Powers made a motion to pass **SB 55** favorably, seconded by Representative Crow and the motion carried.

**SB 56 - suspension or revocation of driving privileges**

Chairman Hayzlett call for discussion and final action. Representative Dillmore made a motion to amend the bill with the two technical changes requested, seconded by Representative Crow and the motion carried. Representative Dillmore made a motion to pass **SB 56**, as amended, seconded by Representative Levinson and the motion carried.

Chairman Hayzlett adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m. There are no other meetings of the House Transportation Committee scheduled.