

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Les Donovan at 8:30 a.m. on March 11, 2004 in Room 527-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator David Adkins- absent  
Senator Edward Pugh - absent

Committee staff present:

Hank Avila, Legislative Research Department  
Bruce Kinzie, Revisors of Statutes  
Marian F. Holeman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Dennis Wilson, Johnson Co. Treasurer  
Senator Mark Taddiken  
Diane Albert, Division of Motor Vehicles, KDOR  
Lt. John Eichkorn, Kansas Highway Patrol  
Matt Moser, Motor Vehicles Div., KDOR  
Martha Bean, Medical Review Section, Division of Motor Vehicles, KDOR

Others attending:

See Attached List.

### **SUB. HB 2143: By Committee on House Transportation, distinctive license plates**

Dennis Wilson, Johnson County Treasurer spoke in support of the bill on behalf of the Kansas County Treasurer's Association and Johnson County. They have no problem with the intent of the original bill. However, in reality county treasurers are left to deal with personal and special interest plates that do not sell. This is time consuming and cost prohibitive to continue and this bill will help to solve the problems (Attachment 1). Senator Mark W. Taddiken presented a proposed amendment to include the basic provisions of **SB 68** which the Senate approved last year. This would create the "Helping Schools" distinctive license plate. His amendment would make the provisions conform with provisions in **Sub. HB 2143** (Attachment 2). Diana Albert, Division of Motor Vehicles, KDOR, proposed a technical amendment to remove the use of ampersands and/or any other punctuation marks. The House Committee of the Whole amended this bill to allow usage of the "and" sign. The Division opposes that because it is difficult to distinguish that sign from other letters. Senator Salmans moved to add basic provisions of SB 68 to SUB HB 2143. Senator Schodorf seconded the motion. Motion carried. Senator Salmans moved to adopt the proposed technical amendment. Senator Schodorf seconded the motion. Motion carried. Hearing closed on **SUB HB 2143**.

### **HB 2235: Sun screening devices, decals, exceptions**

Staff described the bill. Existing law allows a 35% darkening of car windows. Briefly, it would allow persons with a medical condition requiring a darker tint on car windows to apply for a special permit for this. The House amended the bill to allow law enforcement, mainly canine units, to do the same thing in order to keep the dogs more comfortable when closed inside the vehicle. Lt. John Eichkorn, Kansas Highway Patrol testified they would support this bill for the proposed amendments regarding canine units as well as the Division of Motor Vehicles request regarding placement of the decal (Attachment 3). Matt Moser, Division of Motor Vehicles, introduced Martha Bean, Head of the Medical Review Section, Division of Motor Vehicles, KDOR to address the issue of rare medical issue. She advised the Division would consider this a bonafide handicap. The medical and vision conditions in this issue would be the rarest of the rare. They presented a balloon amendment which they feel would assist in keeping abuse to a minimum. It simply changes the word "medical" to "medical/vision", or "medical or vision" throughout the bill. There are a few rare visual conditions they do not wish to exclude and then come back later to include them. Also insert on line 20, after special decal, "and letter of authorization." Because, these are extremely rare conditions they believe it calls for the higher level of expertise provided by a licensed physician, ophthalmologist or optometrist and wished to add that language, striking the language on line

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE at 8:30 a.m. on March 11, 2004 in Room 527-S of the Capitol.

23 through 27. This language is basically from the handicapped placard bill. Discussed possible abuses and new technology for checking the darkness of vehicle windows; also the circumstances under which the "letter of authorization" would be used. Questions were raised regarding comparable "handicapped" placard usage. Obviously, it needs to be made clear that the decal and signed authorization, as well as proper identification, must be available for the person in the car. Questions were raised regarding problems with darker glasses on vehicles. Several problems are involved in the identification issue. Some believe the decal and letter should be with the vehicle, regardless of the occupants. When a vehicle leaves Kansas, it must comply with the laws in the state it is in. She had no written testimony. There were no additional conferees on the bill. Time constraints did not allow further debate. Hearing closed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2004