

Approved: March 21, 2012

Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Hayzlett at 1:30 p.m. on February 9, 2012, in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except Representative Pottorff who was excused.

Committee staff present:

Scott Wells, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Jill Shelley, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Betty Boaz, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Kelly Law, Director of Membership & Marketing, K-State Alumni Association
Joe Grisolano, KS Treasurers Association/ Crawford County Treasurer
Eileen King, Representing KS Co. Treasurers Association/Riley County Treasurer
Donna Shelite, Director of Motor Vehicles
Tom Whitaker, Executive Director, KS Motor Carriers Association
Deanna Williams, Div. of Vehicles Motor Carriers Services Bureau, KDOR

Others attending:

See attached list.

Vice-Chairman William Prescott, in Chairman Hayzlett's absence, called the meeting to order. He opened the hearing on **HB2431 - Amendments to the educational license plate program.**

The Vice Chairman asked staff to brief the Committee on this bill. After questions were answered of staff, Vice-Chairman Prescott recognized Kelly Law as the first proponent. According to Ms. Law this bill would make three changes to **HB2431**. 1) County treasurers will be allowed to collect royalties on behalf of the institutions. 2) Allow educational plate transfers from a leased vehicle to a purchased vehicle, and 3) Allow treasurers to accept faxed authorization statements by the alumni association or foundation as proof of royalty payments. (Attachment #1)

CONTINUATION SHEET

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Joe Grisolano was the next proponent to provide testimony for **HB2431**. (Attachment #2) According to Mr. Grisolano this bill would allow county treasurers to collect the donation taxpayers make to universities' alumni associations in order to purchase an educational institution license plate. He said the county treasurers look at this bill as a positive step for everyone involved in this process.

The next proponent to provide testimony for **HB2431** was Eileen King. (Attachment #3) She said this bill would eliminate many steps citizens currently have to go through to obtain an educational institution license plate. Ms. King also said the ability for county treasurers to accept faxed copies of certification forms will be beneficial to citizens.

The Vice Chairman recognized Donna Shelite. (Attachment #4) She supported the testimonies of the previous proponents. Director Shelite discussed an amendment to **HB2431** which would allow for original application as well as renewal of the specialty plates by allowing the customers to pay the royalty fees to the county treasurers for the following plates: Educational Plates, Ag in the Classroom, Breast Cancer Awareness, Children's Trust Fund, Shriners, Helping Schools, Support Kansas Arts, Boy Scouts of America, and Pet Friendly. She said this bill also addresses the disbursement of the royalty fees collected by the county treasure to the organizations.

Vice-Chairman Prescott drew the Committee's attention to written testimony from Mary Jane Stankiewicz, Director of Government Relations and Communication, for the Kansas Board of Regents, in support of **HB2431**. (Attachment #5)

There being no other Proponents and no Opponents, the Vice Chairman closed the hearing on **HB2431**.

Vice Chairman Prescott opened the hearing on **HB2557** – **Commercial vehicles' requiring annual registration in lieu of tax payment.**

The Vice Chairman asked staff to brief the Committee on this bill.

Tom Whitaker was the first proponent to testify on **HB2557**. According to Mr. Whitaker, (Attachment #6) this bill creates a commercial vehicle fee in lieu of property tax on trucks or truck tractors between 12,000 pounds gross vehicle weight to 85,500 pounds gross vehicle weight. Those registering their commercial vehicles at the county level would pay the commercial vehicle fee along with their annual vehicle registration fee.

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

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The Vice Chairman recognized Deanna Williams, Bureau Chief for Motor Carrier Services. She said with the elimination of the Motor Carrier Property Tax, the motor carrier will no longer be required to show proof that the property tax has been paid prior to registration. (Attachment #7) Ms. Williams said compliance issues will be greatly reduced; the confusion of interstate commercial vehicles with Apportioned registration and being assessed by the County will be eliminated. She concluded by saying **HB 2557** will level the field for the various vehicles whether interstate or intrastate.

After all questions had been answered, Vice-Chairman Prescott directed the Committee's attention to written testimony submitted by Nancy Weeks, KS County Treasurer's Association, in support of this bill. (Attachment #8)

There were no additional proponents and no opponents so the Vice Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2557**.

There being no additional business before the Committee the meeting was adjourned.