

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Gary Hazylett at 1:40 p.m. on February 8, 2001 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Marti Crow, excused
Representative Judith Loganbill, excused

Committee staff present:

Bruce Kinzie, Revisor
Hank Avila, Research
Ellie Luthye, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Paul Meierhenry, Potentate, Arab Shrine, Topeka
Don McClafin, Marshal, Arab Shrine, Topeka
Sheila Walker, Director, Division of Vehicles, Department of Revenue

Others attending:

See attached sheet

HB 2191 - license plates for Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of North America

Chairman Haylett called on Don McClafin, Marshal, Arab Shrine, as the first proponent. He stated to the committee the Shrine Centers of Kansas had requested this legislation for two primary reasons: 1) as a fund raiser to help support the Shrine Hospital for Children and 2) to promote the Shrine in Kansas. The Shrine in Topeka has transported 44 patients to their hospital in St. Louis, making 41 trips and traveling 25,625 miles - all without cost to the patients. He attached a mock-up of what the Shrine envisions the license plate might look like. (Attachment 1)

Paul Meierhenry, Potentate of the Arab Shrine in Topeka, said the Shrine is a fraternal organization that supports 22 Shrine Hospitals for Children at no cost to the patients. They spend \$1.55 million every day helping children. He stated the Potentates of the five Kansas Shrine Centers would constitute the official board of directors for the plate and attached letters from each of them giving their support for promoting and distributing these plates. He concluded their goal was to have 1000 Shrine License Plates on Kansas vehicles by 2005. (Attachment 2)

Sheila Walker, Director of Vehicles, Department of Revenue, was the next conferee to appear before the committee. She said under this bill, applicants would be required to pay an annual fee to the Shrine Temple of not less than \$25 nor more than \$100 - the fee to be set by the Shrine and these royalty payments would be used to support the Shriners hospitals for children. Also, each license plate issued would be subject to the \$40 personalized plate fee and there would need to be an initial minimum order of 500 plates before production is authorized. She concluded from an administrative standpoint, it would not be difficult to manufacture these plate. (Attachment 3)

Following questions from the committee Chairman Hayzlett closed hearings on **HB 2191**.

There being no further business the Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m. The next meeting of the House Transportation Committee will be Tuesday, February 13, 2001 in Room 519-S.