

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Gary Hayzlett at 1:40 p.m. on March 13 , 2002 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Bruce Kinzie, Office of the Revisor
Hank Avila, Legislative Research Department
Ellie Luthye, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Sheila Walker, Director, Division of Vehicles
John Petersen, Attorney for KCERC
Larry O'Donell, Asphalt contractor
Don Popejoy, Kansas Asphalt Pavement Association
Butch Spray, Venture Corporation, Great Bend, Kansas
Tom Ritchie, CEO Ritchie Companies, Inc., Wichita, Kansas

Others attending:

See attached list

SB 506 - educational license plates, definitions

Chairman Hayzlett opened hearings on **SB 506**. Sheila Walker, Director of Vehicles, said this bill, as introduced, would codify that municipal universities and accredited, not-for-profit institutions of higher learning, are eligible to make application for educational institution distinctive license plates. Additionally, **SB 506** waives the \$.50 reflectorized plate fee for distinctive plates that are issued at no charge to the recipient. The current statute unintentionally excluded not-for-profit institutions of higher learning and municipal universities. She concluded this bill would make the provision of school plates accessible to all colleges on an equal basis. (Attachment 1)

There were no other proponents and no opponents. Following discussion Chairman Hayzlett closed hearings on **SB 506**.

There being no objections, Chairman Hayzlett opened **SB 506** for discussion and final action. Representative Levinson made a motion to include a license plate for motorcycles for recipients of the purple heart medal given by the United States government for wounds received in military or naval combat to become effective on January 1, 2003. This was seconded by Representative Osborne and the motion carried.

Representative Powell made a motion to include the "United We Stand" license plate, to become effective on January 1, 2003. This was seconded by Representative Levinson and the motion carried.

Representative Levinson made a motion to include the Masonic Grande Lodge of Kansas license plate, seconded by Representative Vickery and the motion carried. This will take effect on January 1, 2003.

Representative Loganbill made a motion to include a breast cancer logo plate, with the proceeds to go to the Secretary of Health and environment for breast and cervical cancer program and detection fund. This was seconded by Representative Pauls and the motion carried. This will take effect on January 1, 2003.

Following discussion Representative Larkin made a motion to pass **SB 506** favorably, as amended, seconded by Representative Vickery.

Representative Powers made a motion to table the bill. This motion did not prevail for lack of a second.

A vote was taken on the original motion to pass **SB 506**, as amended, and the motion carried.

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE, Room 519-S of the Capitol at 1:40 p.m. on March 13, 2002.

Briefing on KDOT paving recommendations - asphalt vs concrete

Chairman Hayzlett called on John Petersen, Attorney for KCERC (Kansas for Cost Efficient Roadway Construction) as the first presenter. He said KCERC is a Kansas Corporation that monitors and advocates concerns important to the asphalt paving industry in Kansas. He stated there is no specific legislation that has been introduced to deal with these concerns but they would like for the Legislature to review KDOT'S procedures concerning their paving recommendations. He told the committee that Kansas needs to find ways to spend money more efficiently on transportation and utilizing more asphalt on Kansas roadways would accomplish this goal. He then presented graphs showing the cost of using asphalt versus concrete. (Attachment 2)

Larry O'Donnell said, as an owner of a heavy highway paving construction company in Johnson County, he was gravely concerned about the future of the 1999 Kansas Comprehensive Transportation Plan. He told the committee there were two issues he wished to discuss. 1) The first issue was the Life Cycle Cost Analysis used by KDOT to determine pavement types. He said KDOT uses the analysis approved by AASHTO, however, this is a re-write of the original 1956 AASHTO program and is out of date. 2) The second issue was KDOT'S life cycles does not give credit for the new technology in asphalt pavement construction, which is superpave. He concluded these decisions are costing the taxpayers of Kansas hundreds of millions of dollars and they are not fair to the taxpayers of Kansas. (Attachment 3)

Don Popejoy presented a copy of a study done by Prof. Stephen A. Cross and Prof. Robert L. Parsons, of the University of Kansas, entitled *Evaluation of Expenditures On Rural Interstate Pavements in Kansas* and explained the findings. He said when applying historical data to analyze the two alternate pavement types, two conclusions become obvious: 1) hot mix asphalt pavements cost significantly much less initially and 2) hot mix asphalt pavements have demonstrated significantly lower costs over the entire term of the pavement life than have the Portland Cement Concrete pavements. (Attachment 4)

Butch Spray said the 1989 Comprehensive Highway Program was completed on time and within budget. The 1999 program, with reduced funding and cost overruns is in serious trouble which he said was the beginning of a broken promise to the people of Kansas. He then cited several reasons for this problem. (Attachment 5)

Tom Ritchie told the committee he had two concerns 1) the funding of the 1999 program in this time of economic downturn and 2) what he believes is an extremely poor use of available highway funds themselves because of an unwise pavement surfacing selection process that has been adopted by KDOT in recent years. (Attachment 6)

The gentlemen then stood for questions from the committee.

Chairman Hayzlett adjourned the meeting at 3:25 p.m. The next meeting of the House Transportation Committee will be Thursday, March 14, 2002 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.