

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Hayzlett at 1:30 P.M. on February 13, 2007 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Terry McLachlan- excused
Representative Tom Sloan- excused

Committee staff present:

Hank Avila, Kansas Legislative Research
Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes Office
Betty Boaz, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Martin Boire, Support Our Troops, Inc.
Brad Smoot, Legal Counsel, Explore Information Services
Sara E. Patrick, Director of Government Affairs, Explore Information Services
Toni Roberts, Div. of Vehicles, Dept. of Revenue

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Hayzlett opened the meeting with a hearing on **HB 2211**.

HB 2211 - Support our troops license plate

Chairman Hayzlett introduced Martin Boire, Chairman of Support our Troops, Inc. According to Mr. Boire, Kansas residents may make application for a support our troops license plate for each passenger vehicle or truck (Attachment #1) He said Kansas Support Our Troops, Inc. is the sponsoring organization of the distinctive plate issued under this section. The annual use fee for this plate would be \$25 with the proceeds being distributed to the sponsoring organization which shall use them for the benefit of the troops and their families in accordance with its articles of incorporation and bylaws.

Chairman Hayzlett called for other proponents or opponents of this bill. There being none the Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2211**.

The Chairman opened hearings on **HB 2374**.

HB 2374 - Division of vehicles, records, access

The first proponent of this bill was Brad Smoot, Legal Counsel, Explore Information Services. According to Mr. Smoot, (Attachment #2) Explore gathers information from public records to assist government agencies, law enforcement, insurers and employers with regard to traffic safety and risk control. He said Kansas has long allowed insurers, law enforcement and auto manufactures to obtain such records in the interest of public safety. This bill would allow employers access to driving records of their employees who are required to drive vehicles as part of their jobs.

The next proponent was Sara Patrick, Director of Government Affairs, Explore Information Services. (Attachment #3) According to Ms. Patrick Explore Information Services has been the leading provider of driver violation monitoring services to the insurance industry for more than a decade. She said under federal law, employers of persons required to retain a commercial driver's license are mandated to review the driver's motor vehicle record on an annual basis. Ms. Patrick said **HB 2374** would allow the Kansas Department of Revenue to contract with employers or their authorized agents, such as Explore/USIS, to monitor employees who drive in the course of employment and provide motor vehicle records for those drivers identified with new traffic violation convictions each month. She concluded by saying allowing the Department of Revenue to contract with employers and their authorized agents to proactively monitor driving behaviors will incrementally increase state revenues.

The Chairman drew the Committee's attention to written testimony submitted by R. Greer Woodruff, Sr.,

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Transportation Committee at 1:30 P.M. on February 13, 2007 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

Vice President Corporate Safety and Security, J. B. Hunt Transport, Inc., in support of this bill.

The last conferee was Toni Roberts, Division of Vehicles. She said that even though they asked to be listed as neutral they are actually proponents of this bill. (Attachment #4) According to Ms. Roberts, **HB 2374** allows the Secretary of Revenue to enter into a lesser rate contract for the purpose of assisting an employer or an employer's authorized agent with monitoring the driving records of their employees to ensure driver behavior, performance or safety. She said it would allow the Division of Vehicles to offer the same monitoring service they currently provide to insurer's when processing application for, renewal of, or cancellation of an insurance policy.

Chairman Hayzlett called for other proponents or opponents. There being none, he closed the hearing on **HB 2374**.

The Chairman directed the Committee's attention to **HB 2071**. This bill had originally been passed favorably out of Committee on January 23, 2007 but was re-referred back to Transportation. There was discussion about removing Section 7 of the bill, which would have designated K-53 Highway as the Patriot Guard Highway. Representative Swanson made a motion to amend this bill to remove Section 7, seconded by Representative Worley and the motion carried. Representative Burgess made a motion to pass HB 2071, as amended, seconded by Representative Wetta and the motion carried.

There being no further business before the Committee the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be on February 14, 2007, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 519-S