

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Hayzlett at 1:30 p.m. on January 25, 2011, in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except Representative Don Hill, who was excused

Committee staff present:

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

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Colleen Jennison, Director of Government Affairs for Cox Communications
Tom Whitaker, Executive Director, KS Motor Carriers Ass'n.

Others attending.

See attached list.

Chairman Hayzlett opened the meeting and asked for bill introductions.

Major Mark Bruce, Kansas Highway Patrol, came forward and asked the committee to introduce a bill to increase the cost of VIN inspections. After questions, a motion to introduce this bill was made by Representative Swanson, seconded by Representative Grange and the motion carried.

The Chairman recognized John Faber, representing ABATE. Mr. Faber said ABATE would like to have the committee introduce a bill to increase the fines for right-of-way violations in cases where there are injuries or death. Representative Fawcett made a motion to introduce this bill, seconded by Representative Spalding and the motion carried.

There being no other requests for bill introductions Chairman Hayzlett opened the hearing on HB2033.

HB 2033 – Registration of certain fleet motor vehicles.

The Chairman recognized Coleen Jennison, representing Cox Communications, who said this bill would allow Cox Communications to streamline their vehicle registration process in the state of Kansas. (Attachment #1) She said currently Cox is not included in the definition of those entities considered "fleet motor vehicles." This means that every year staff is required to register each of their approximately 560 vehicles in one of the 17 counties where they are used. Ms. Jennison said registration fees are remitted to the state regardless of where they are collected. She said HB 2033 applies only to commercial fleets of 250 or more vehicles. She concluded by saying there would be no revenue impact, property taxes are paid directly to the counties.

Chairman Hayzlett recognized Tom Whitaker, representing Kansas Motor Carriers Association. Mr. Whitaker said a bill was passed creating the simplified vehicle registration process for fleets

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the House Transportation Committee at 1:30 p.m. On January 25, 2011, in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

containing 250 or more vehicles. (Attachment #2) He said this registration process was implemented to allow a large package carrier with 1,500 plus vehicles to register their vehicles all at once and eliminate the annual process of tracking down each vehicle to place a new sticker on the license plate. Mr. Whitaker said the Kansas Motor Carriers Association supports Cox Communications efforts to utilize this cost saving tool and be included in the fleet registration program.

There were no other proponents and no opponents so the Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2033**.

Chairman Hayzlett asked the committee members to let him know tomorrow if Monday, March 7th or Tuesday, March 8th, would work best for them to go on the tour of Johnson County Community College.

Their being no further business before the Committee the meeting was adjourned.

HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: 1-25-11

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HB 2033 Testimony
House Transportation Committee
Coleen Jennison, Cox Communications
January 25, 2011

Chairman Hayzlett and members of the committee, I am Coleen Jennison, Director of Government Affairs for Cox Communications. Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of HB 2033.

Cox is the largest cable telecommunications provider in Kansas serving 85 communities and employing more than 1,145 Kansans. We provide 100% of our communities with state-of-the-art, broadband fiber technology and donate more than \$1.67 million through cash and in-kind donations annually to community organizations focused on youth, technology and education.

Quite simply, this bill would allow Cox Communications to streamline our vehicle registration process in the state of Kansas.

Under current law, Cox Communications' vehicles are not included in the definition of those entities considered a "fleet motor vehicle." This means that rather than register at the state level, every year our employees must register each of our approximately 560 vehicles in one of the 17 counties where their use is ascribed.

Roughly half of our fleet is registered in Sedgwick County, home to our regional headquarters. We also register vehicles in Ford, Allen, Barton, Butler, Cowley, Crawford, Finney, Geary, Harvey, McPherson, Montgomery, Pratt, Reno, Riley, Saline, and Shawnee Counties.

Changing the definition of "fleet motor vehicle" allows Cox Communications to simplify an onerous process for both our company and one would imagine the counties that must process our numerous registrations. Registration fees are currently remitted to the state regardless of where they are collected. Allowing us to register the vehicles at the state level creates efficiency for business while getting the dollars to their final destination in a more direct way.

HB 2033 would apply only to commercial fleets of 250 or more vehicles and would require that upon registration, the owner of the fleet motor vehicles (unless exempt) shall provide evidence of the taxes assessed.

House Transportation

Date: 1-25-11

Attachment # 1



In harmony with the Cox Conserves eco-friendly program, we are proud to print on Forest Stewardship Council-certified paper.

This bill is revenue neutral. Cox Communications pays our property taxes directly to the county. Under this bill that will not change. Property taxes will continue to be paid to each county where the vehicle is attributed. Cox Communications supports HB 2033 and requests that it be passed.

Thank you for your consideration. I would be happy to stand for questions.



Kansas Motor Carriers Association

Trucking Solutions Since 1936

Sherwin Fast
Great Plains Trucking
President

Jason Hammes
Frito Lay Service &
Distribution
Chairman of the Board

Larry Graves
Farmers Oil, Inc.
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Beaver Express Service, LLC
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Larry "Doc" Criqui
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Corporate Secretary

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ATA State Vice President

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ATA Alternate State VP

Calvin Koehn
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ProTruck PAC Chairman

Jeff Robertson
JMJ Projects, Inc.
Foundation Chairman

Richard Orton
Roberts Truck Center, LTD
Allied Industries Chairman

Tom Whitaker
Executive Director

LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY by the Kansas Motor Carriers Association

In Support of House Bill No. 2033

**Presented to the House Transportation Committee
Representative Gary Hayzlett, Chairman
Tuesday, January 25, 2011**

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE:

I am Tom Whitaker, executive director of the Kansas Motor Carriers Association. I appear here this afternoon representing our 1,100 member firms and the Kansas trucking industry in support of House Bill No. 2033.

In 2004, the House Transportation Committee introduced House Bill No. 2745, which ultimately created the simplified vehicle registration process for fleets containing 250 or more vehicles. This registration process was implemented to allow a large package carrier with 1,500 plus vehicles to register their vehicle all at once and receive permanent registration for such vehicles, thereby eliminating the annual ritual of tracking down each vehicle to place a new sticker on the license plate. Currently, fleet registration is only allowed for those firms that are "state-assessed" for property tax purposes.

House Bill No. 2033 would expand the eligibility for fleet registration allowing all fleets of 250 vehicles or more to utilize this cost saving tool, provided proof of property tax payment is shown. All vehicle registration must be submitted electronically.

KMCA supports Cox Communication's effort to be included in the fleet registration program. Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. I would be pleased to respond to any questions you may have.

House Transportation
Date: 1-25-11
Attachment # 2