

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Gary Hayzlett at 1:30 p.m. on March 25, 2003 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative John Ballou
Representative Jeff Jack
Representative Mary Kauffman

Committee staff present:

Bruce Kinzie, Revisor
Mary Galligan, Legislative Research Dept.
Betty Boaz, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Bruce Larkin
Dena McDaniel, Representing the KS County Treasurers' Association
Kathy Porter, Office of Judicial Administration

Others attending:

See attached list

HB 2407 - Disposition of certain vehicle registration fines

Chairman Hayzlett opened the hearing on **HB 2407** by introducing Representative Bruce Larkin. Representative Larkin explained that this bill was introduced in response to concerns raised from discussions with the County Treasurers Association. The issue was inadequate enforcement of the law that requires residents of Kansas to tag their vehicles in Kansas. Under current law a violator is subject to a fine of up to \$2,500 which then goes into the state general fund. This bill creates a financial incentive to enforce the law by allowing the counties to keep 60% of the fine with the remaining 40% coming back to the state.

The next proponent was Dena McDaniel, representing the County Treasurers Association. According to Ms. McDaniel passage of this bill would benefit counties as a revenue source. She said at any given time in their communities they can see many out of state plates on vehicles and mostly these are individuals residing in Kansas using infrastructures, services and school systems but not contributing to the cost of these benefits. She asked for support of this bill not only for the revenue provided but also to send a message to taxpayers of their desire to be fair.

Chairman Hayzlett introduced the only opponent to the bill, Kathy Porter, Office of Judicial Administrator. Her office opposes the bill because as introduced it will create more work for the clerks of the district court across the state. It will cause the clerks to segregate from other fines those fines for failure to properly register, and to divide those fines between two funds. Currently, clerks do not need to note the offense charged and do not need to keep separate fines for certain offenses. Ms. Porter also said

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implementing this bill will require a programming change to the accounting and case management system at a cost of approximately \$7,500. She suggested that when a ticket is written for failure to properly register a vehicle the enforcement officer could notify the county treasurer who would then assess additional fines at the time the individual went in to get proper license tags so the county treasurer, who would benefit from the provisions of this bill, would then participate in the collection of the fine.

There were no other proponents or opponents so the Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2407**.

Chairman Hayzlett said they would not work the bill today but will leave it in Committee to work next year.

The Chairman then adjourned the meeting.