

MINUTES OF THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Emert at 10:14 a.m. on February 15, 2000 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Gordon Self, Revisor  
Mike Heim, Research  
Jerry Donaldson, Research  
Mary Blair, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Rosalie Thornburgh, Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT)  
Sheila Walker, Revenue Department  
Chris Noble, Kansas Coordinators of Alcohol Safety Action Projects (KCASAP)  
Jerry Gentry, Kansas Ignition Interlock

Others attending: see attached list

The minutes of the February 11<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved on a motion by Senator Bond, seconded by Senator Petty. Carried.

**SB 553—related to driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs; penalties**

Conferee Thornburgh presented testimony on **SB 553** a bill which she stated would modify penalties for repeat “driving under the influence” (DUI) offenders and bring Kansas law into compliance with federal law to avoid penalty transfers of federal highway funds. (attachment 1) Lengthy discussion followed.

Conferee Walker testified as neutral on **SB 553** but expressed several concerns regarding the implementation of the modified penalties for repeat DUI offenders. She stated that of the three options, e.g., impoundment, immobilization or ignition interlock, the Division of Vehicles would choose ignition interlock as their restriction of choice and explained why. She also recommended deleting a confusing sentence in the bill on page 1, lines 37-38. (attachment 2)

Conferee Noble briefly testified in support of **SB 553** with the exception of the ignition interlock device as a restriction. He stated that his organization has testified in opposition to this device for “years.” (attachment 3)

Conferee Gentry testified in support of **SB 553**. He described what the bill does and described how the ignition interlock device works and how it provides accountability concerning an offender’s conduct during the period of installation. He cited studies which reveal it’s effectiveness and impact on driver behavior. (attachment 4)

Written testimony supporting **SB 553** was submitted by Madd. (attachment 5)

The meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m. The next scheduled meeting is February 16.