

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Ben Vidricksen at 9:05 a.m. on January 27, 2000 in Room 254-E of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Hank Avila, Legislative Research Department
 Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes
 Marian F. Holeman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Tom Whitaker, KS Motor Carriers Assn.
 David MacDonald, Roadway Express

Others attending: See attached list

Briefing

The Chair welcomed attending members of the trucking industry and introduced Tom Whitaker, who appeared as spokesperson for the 1,485 member firms of the Kansas Motor Carriers Association. Mr. Whitaker introduced members of the Association Board, as well as Shawn Palmer Farmland Industries driver and Chris Walker, Roadway Express driver; two members of the "Road Team." The "Road Team" consists of some of the top drivers in the industry. They serve as public relations ambassadors to schools and other organization, addressing safety issues and sharing the highways with trucks. He also provided members information on the trucking industry in the State of Kansas and the NO-ZONE SAFETY CAMPAIGN (Attachment 1).

Mr. Whitaker introduced David McDonald, who has driven 3.5 million accident free miles and has amassed many other driving awards including being named American Truckers Association National Driver of the Year. He is also a member of the "Road Team." Mr. McDonald addressed the committee regarding professional truck driver training. He discussed the importance of the "NO-ZONE" areas where the truck driver cannot see vehicles behind and on either side. He also stressed the fact that drivers should not pull back in front of trucks until the entire front of the truck can be seen in the rear view mirror. Members were advised that the Association had a booth set up on the first floor with a video on NO-ZONE driving. Following adjournment, members were invited to participate in a demonstration of the SW Kansas Technical School's truck driving simulator which was set up outside the South entrance to the Capitol.

Approval of minutes

Senator Huelskamp moved to approve minutes of the January 25, 2000 meeting. Senator Tyson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Introduction of bills

Senator Mark Gilstrap requested introduction of two bills: one concerning system enhancement projects and a related bill concerning system enhancements. Senator Gilstrap moved to introduce the two bills. Senator Jordan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 1, 2000.