

MINUTES
SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, February 19, 2013

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room WW53

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Brackett, Vice Chairman Johnson, Senators Keough, Winder, Rice, Nonini, Hagedorn, Bock and Buckner-Webb

ABSENT/ EXCUSED:

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the Senate Transportation Committee (Committee) office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Chairman Brackett** called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and asked the secretary to take a silent roll. With a quorum present, **Chairman Brackett** welcomed new Senate Page, Robin Crotteau, to the Committee and asked her to introduce herself.

INTRODUCTION: **Ms. Crotteau** said she was a 17 year old senior from Timberline High School in Boise. She was one of fraternal triplets that include a sister and a brother. She enjoys cross country running and rock climbing; and is a member of the debate team. This year the national debate topic is on transportation. She is very familiar with port authority issues. **Ms. Crotteau** stood for questions.

Senator Winder welcomed Ms. Crotteau to the Senate. He told her to enjoy her time here as six weeks goes by quickly. He then asked what her plans were beyond high school. **Ms. Crotteau** said she graduates in May and plans to go to college where her interests are outdoor programs and political science. She is looking at liberal arts colleges in Maine and Iowa.

MINUTES: The **Chairman** asked for a motion on the minutes of the January 24 meeting of the Committee.

MOTION: **Vice Chairman Johnson** moved that the minutes of the January 24 meeting of the Senate Transportation Committee be approved. **Senator Keough** seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous **voice vote**.

RS 22002 **Chairman Brackett** said that this RS is a streamlined version of **S 1066**, dealing with an extension of the 129,000 pound truck routes, that the Committee had previously had printed. He said that his intent was to get unanimous consent from the Committee to send it to the Senate State Affairs Committee, a privileged committee, to be printed and returned to the Senate Transportation Committee for a hearing.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT: **Senator Rice** asked for unanimous consent to send **RS 22002** to the Senate State Affairs Committee for printing. **Senator Keough** objected.

MOTION: **Senator Rice** moved that **RS 22002** be sent to the Senate State Affairs Committee for printing and returned to the Senate Transportation Committee for a hearing. **Vice Chairman Johnson** seconded the motion. **Chairman Brackett** asked for discussion.

Senator Keough submitted a letter stating that she had a potential conflict of interest through her private sector employment with the Associated Logging Contractors and her legislative district has many logging industry representatives. **Senator Keough** explained her objection to the legislation.

Chairman Brackett thanked Senator Keough and said her objection was duly noted. The **Chairman** called for a vote on the motion. The motion carried by a majority **voice vote**. **Senator Keough** asked to be recorded as voting against the motion.

S 1081

Chairman Brackett announced that he was reordering the bills on today's agenda to accommodate Senator Hagedorn who has a scheduling conflict. Following Senator Hagedorn's presentation, the **Chairman** would take up the other bills as they appear on today's agenda. With that, **Chairman Brackett** asked Senator Hagedorn to present **S 1081**.

Senator Hagedorn gave a brief history of **S 1081**. Three years ago the North America Trailer Plate was created. It is a permanent trailer plate that requires a one time purchase of \$105, it can be purchased anywhere in the United States, and the vehicle is registered in Idaho. This was created to accommodate large fleets from large companies that travel over many states, like Walmart. Other states liked the idea and created their own permanent trailer plates, i.e. Illinois for the United Parcel Service fleet. The program has netted \$500,000 per year for the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD), but there are now marketing challenges because of the competing states. This bill reduces the one time fee from \$105 to \$99 for marketing reasons. On page 2, line 22, it allows Idaho trailer manufacturers to purchase a one year plate for \$15 to move a trailer to a final destination. The buyer can then purchase the permanent plate in the state where the trailer will reside. The state of Maine charges a \$30 one year fee; **S 1081** competes with Maine. The new owner also has the option to buy the permanent plate in their residence state, or buy a reduced Idaho plate for \$85. **Senator Hagedorn** was not certain on how much market share would be captured; he stood for questions.

Senator Bock asked if ITD had been consulted in creating this legislation. **Senator Hagedorn** confirmed that ITD was involved.

MOTION:

With no further questions or discussion, **Senator Rice** moved that **S 1081** be sent to the Senate floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Winder** seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous **voice vote**. **Senator Hagedorn** will carry the bill on the Senate floor.

S 1065

Chairman Brackett welcomed Senator Heider to the Committee and asked him to present **S 1065**. **Senator Heider** said this bill provides an exception to last year's legislation dealing with lighting on guyed towers over 50 feet tall, H 511. **S 1065** specifically exempts citizen band (CB) operators and all other amateur towers. He said there is no way to know how many towers are affected, which is why this legislation legitimately amends last year's bill. **Senator Heider** urged the bill's passage and stood for questions. There were no questions for Senator Heider.

TESTIMONY:

Rex Green of Idaho Radio Amateurs testified in favor of **S 1065**. He said his organization represents 6,000 licensed amateur radio owners in Idaho. He commended Senator Heider on this legislation, and stood for questions. There were no questions for Mr. Green.

MOTION:

Vice Chairman Johnson moved that **S 1065** be sent to the Senate floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Buckner-Webb** seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous **voice vote**. **Senator Heider** will carry the bill on the Senate floor.

S 1083

Chairman Brackett welcomed Senator Vick to the Committee and asked him to present **S 1083**. **Senator Vick** said he has heard from many constituents whose specialty license plates were being retired by ITD because of a lack of sales. These individuals wish to keep their plates through the life of the plate. This bill addresses their concerns and simply allows them to keep their license plates for up to seven years, the useful life of a license plate according to ITD. There is an emergency clause so that people who have received a letter from ITD indicating their plates would need to be replaced can continue to use them. **Senator Vick** stood for questions.

Vice Chairman Johnson thanked Senator Vick for making the fiscal impact clear and asked whether other plates would qualify under this bill's emergency clause in Section 2. **Senator Vick** said this only applies to plates that are currently viable; those who no longer have valid plates do not qualify. There were no further questions.

MOTION:

Senator Keough moved that **S 1083** be sent to the Senate floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Buckner-Webb** seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous **voice vote**. **Senator Vick** will carry the bill on the Senate floor.

S 1084

Chairman Brackett asked Senator Rice to present **S 1084**.

**UNANIMOUS
CONSENT:**

Senator Rice asked the Committee for unanimous consent that **S 1084** be held in Committee at the call of the Chair. He said he had been approached by interested parties to make changes to the legislation and would like to work on the bill before conducting a hearing. There was no objection.

ADJOURNED:

With no further business before the Committee, **Chairman Brackett** adjourned the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

Senator Brackett
Chairman

Gaye Bennett
Secretary