

MINUTES
SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 30, 2020

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room WW53

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Brackett, Vice Chairman Crabtree, Senators Winder, Den Hartog, Lodge, Rice, Burtenshaw, Buckner-Webb, and Nelson

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None

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

CONVENED: With a quorum present, **Chairman Brackett** called the Senate Transportation Committee (Committee) to order at 1:30 p.m.

RECOGNITION: **Senator Lodge** recognized Mark Bayci of Caldwell, Idaho, who owns and operates Bayci Trucking, Inc. of Caldwell, for having driven over 5.125 million miles during his career as a long-haul truck driver.

Mr. Bayci told the Committee about his 46-year career of driving long-haul trucks. He spoke about different states' transportation regulation laws, minimum age for licensing long-haul drivers, the need for more drivers and better driving schools, concerns about distracted driving, and why the 80 miles per hour speed limit is too high.

Chairman Brackett congratulated him for his dedication.

RS 27405 **Senator Lent** presented **RS 27405**, a concurrent resolution acknowledging the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) for its exemplary performance in implementing innovation and cost-saving initiatives. He said the interesting thing about regulations is they are put in place to ensure safety. He spoke about the need to ingrain safety in today's work culture and ITD's accomplishments in employee safety measures. He concluded by stating that the proposed concurrent resolution encourages and recognizes safety, servant leadership, and empowerment of ITD employees.

MOTION: **Senator Den Hartog** moved to send to **RS 27405** to print. **Senator Rice** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

RS 27465 **Lance Giles**, The Giles Group, representing Idaho Walk/Bike Alliance, presented **RS 27564**, to establish the Children's Walking and Biking Infrastructure Program. He said the proposed legislation will make it safer for children to walk and bike to schools, parks, and libraries. He stated that the reason for this legislation is there is an upward trend of collisions between motor vehicles and Idaho children. **Mr. Giles** detailed the conditions of the proposed legislation, which are as follows: 1.) establish an infrastructure program account; 2.) distribute funds through a competitive grant program; 3.) establish criteria for project evaluations; and 4.) cap administrative costs. He stated the proposed legislation does not grow government nor add any new regulations. He listed the several agencies who are in support of the proposed legislation.

MOTION: **Senator Winder** moved to send **RS 27465** to print. **Senator Nelson** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

**DOCKET NO.
35-0105-1901**

Chairman Brackett explained that the Committee had been waiting to act on Docket No. 35-0105-1901, Idaho Motor Fuels Tax Administrative Pending Rules, until the Senate Local Government and Taxation Committee approved their omnibus rules that addressed fuels tax. He announced that had happened, and the House Revenue and Taxation Committee had approved this docket as well.

MOTION:

Senator Nelson moved to approve **Docket No. 35-0105-1901**. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

**MINUTES
APPROVAL:**

Senator Burtenshaw moved to approve the Minutes of Tuesday, January 14, 2020. **Vice Chairman Crabtree** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

Senator Den Hartog moved to approve the Minutes of Thursday, January 16, 2020. **Senator Rice** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

Senator Rice moved to approve the Minutes of Thursday, January 23, 2020. **Senator Nelson** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

PRESENTATION:

Laila Kral, Deputy Director, Local Highway Technical Assistance Council (LHTAC), presented their 2019 annual report. She updated the Committee about the establishment of LHTAC in 1994 under Idaho Code § 24-40 which requires an annual report to the Senate and House transportation committees. She spoke about LHTAC's governance process, detailed membership makeup, and their meeting locations. **Ms. Kral** detailed the work of LHTAC, which included educational programs, tracking revenues and expenditures of local and regional highway districts, pedestrian programs, and the state's bridge predicament. She showed specific projects for which funding was allocated (see attachment 1).

DISCUSSION:

In response to Chairman Brackett, **Ms. Kral** said Idaho is falling behind in bridge repairs. She said annually, approximately 24 bridges are posted as being in need of repair, but annual funds only can replace approximately 12 bridges per year. She explained how local highway districts can apply for grants every year and where LHTAC is able to allocate those funds. She stated that there is funding, but it is not able to keep up with growing needs.

Addressing Senator Nelson's question, **Ms. Kral** stated that LHTAC is unaware of the Dig Once Program for Broadband Internet. She said there are federal funds available for helping to lay internet lines along the side of roads.

ADJOURNED:

With no further business before the Committee, **Chairman Brackett** adjourned the meeting at 2:23 p.m.

Senator Brackett
Chair

Gaye Bennett
Secretary

LeAnn Mohr
Assistant Secretary