

MINUTES
SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, March 12, 2024

TIME: 1:00 P.M.

PLACE: Room WW53

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Okuniewicz, Vice Chairman Den Hartog, Senators Winder, Hart, Carlson, Toews (Toews), Trakel, Just

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Senator Rabe

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: **Chairman Okuniewicz** called the meeting of the Senate Transportation Committee (Committee) to order at 1:00 p.m.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Chairman Okuniewicz passed the gavel to Senator Winder.

H 640 **MOTOR VEHICLES - Amends existing law to define the term "service-only facility."** **Chairman Okuniewicz** stated this legislation created a definition for a "service-only facility" for automobile dealerships. **Chairman Okuniewicz** stated automobile dealerships had to operate as full-service business if they offered service and warranty work. **Chairman Okuniewicz** also stated this change enabled dealerships to own and run facilities solely dedicated to servicing and warranty work, eliminating the need for a full-time salesman on staff.

DISCUSSION: **Senator Hart** asked what would be the difference of the terms customer-facing and non- customer-facing facility. **Chairman Okuniewicz** invited Loren Piel to speak to Senator Hart's question.

TESTIMONY: **Loren Piel**, Kendall Auto Group, provided clarification of the terms customer-facing and non-customer-facing. **Mr. Piel** stated a customer-facing facility permitted customers to bring their vehicles for service and have them returned after completion and a non-customer-facing facility served as an auxiliary space for moving vehicles back and forth to perform services. **Mr. Piel** stated customer-facing service only facilities proved more efficient, particularly in densely populated metro areas where expansion for service capacity was constrained by limited space. A service-only facility offered dealerships the chance to enhance customer service, process recalls, and handle warranty repairs more effectively.

MOTION: **Senator Hart** moved to send **H 640** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Carlson** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Senator Winder passed the gavel back to Chairman Okuniewicz.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Senator Hart** moved to approve the Minutes of February 20, 2024. **Senator Carlson** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Senator Just moved to approve the Minutes of February 27, 2024 and March 5, 2024. **Senator Trakel** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business at this time, **Chairman Okuniewicz** adjourned the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

Senator Okuniewicz
Chair

Alicia Fowler-Rynearson
Secretary