

**MINUTES OF THE
TRANSPORTATION INTERIM COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, November 18, 2009 – 2:00 p.m. – Room 20 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell, Senate Chair
Rep. Julie Fisher, House Chair
Sen. Brent H. Goodfellow
Sen. David P. Hinkins
Sen. Scott K. Jenkins
Sen. Karen Mayne
Sen. Stephen H. Urquhart
Rep. Stephen D. Clark
Rep. Rebecca P. Edwards
Rep. Janice M. Fisher
Rep. Craig A. Frank

Rep. Lynn N. Hemingway
Rep. Michael T. Morley
Rep. Marie H. Poulson
Rep. Kraig Powell
Rep. F. Jay Seegmiller
Rep. C. Brent Wallis

Staff Present:

Mr. Leif G. Elder, Policy Analyst
Ms. Shannon C. Halverson, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Tracey Fredman, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Van Tassell called the meeting to order at 2:19 p.m.

MOTION: Rep. Hemingway moved to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2009 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Hinkins, Sen. Jenkins, Sen. Mayne, Rep. Clark, Rep. Julie Fisher, Rep. Frank, Rep. Morley, and Rep. Wallis were absent for the vote.

2. 2010 General Session draft legislation, "Motor Vehicle Act Amendments"

Mr. Rod Morrelli, Executive Director, Utah State Tax Commission, briefed committee members on the provisions of 2010 General Session draft legislation, "Motor Vehicle Act Amendments."

MOTION: Rep. Janice Fisher moved to recommend 2010 General Session draft legislation, "Motor Vehicle Act Amendments," as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Jenkins, Sen. Mayne, Rep. Clark, Rep. Julie Fisher, Rep. Frank, Rep. Morley, and Rep. Wallis were absent for the vote.

3. Special Group License Plate Issues

Mr. Terry Schow, Executive Director, Utah Department of Veteran's Affairs, discussed a proposal to allow those who have a vehicle that is registered with a veterans' special group license plate and that is otherwise eligible for a clean fuel special group license plate (C-plate) to travel in the HOV lane regardless of the number of occupants.

Ms. Linda Hull, Director, Legislative and Government Affairs, Utah Department of Transportation, explained that because of the layout of a veterans' special group license plate, adding a C-plate decal that is large enough for enforcement purposes would be difficult. She also stated that hanging a C-plate placard from the rearview mirror would likely be difficult to enforce.

Mr. Morrelli commented on the number of special group license plates already in use and discussed potential problematic issues pertaining to the continued issuance of new special group license plates.

Lt. Robert Anderson, Utah Highway Patrol, said they will support any decision made with respect to the issuance of special group license plates. Lt. Anderson said the concern of the Highway Patrol is visibility of the plates for enforcement purposes.

4. 2010 General Session draft legislation, "Extension of Sunset for Design-Build Contract Award Authorization"

Mr. Elder presented a brief background and introduced 2010 General Session draft legislation, "Extension of Sunset for Design-Build Contract Award Authorization," which was contained in the mailing packet.

MOTION: Sen. Jenkins moved to recommend 2010 General Session draft legislation, "Extension of Sunset for Design-Build Contract Award Authorization," as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Frank and Rep. Wallis were absent for the vote.

5. 2010 General Session draft legislation, "Vehicle Safety Flags on Off-Highway Vehicles"

Sen. Goodfellow introduced 2010 General Session draft legislation, "Vehicle Safety Flags on Off-Highway Vehicles," which was distributed by staff.

Mr. Steve Butler, President, Helmet Flag, Inc., helped respond to committee members' questions.

MOTION: Sen. Urquhart moved to recommend 2010 General Session draft legislation, "Vehicle Safety Flags on Off-Highway Vehicles," as a committee bill. The motion passed with Rep. Clark, Rep. Julie Fisher, and Rep. Morley voting in opposition. Rep. Frank and Rep. Wallis were absent for the vote.

6. REAL ID Act of 2005 Update

Ms. Nannette Rolfe, Director, and Ms. Jill Laws, Bureau Chief, Driver License Division, distributed and reviewed "Driver License," "Notice: Change in Utah Law," "Renewing your Utah License or Identification Card on or after January 1, 2010," and responded to committee members' questions.

7. Compressed Natural Gas Vehicles

Mr. Timothy Hunt, President, Go Natural CNG, briefed committee members on the growth of the use of natural gas in the state and throughout the country. Mr. Hunt discussed the value of tax incentives and making tax incentives transferable to aid in the increase of fueling stations throughout the state.

Mr. Rey Butcher, Questar Corporation, said there is a trucking coalition being put together to approach the trucking industry concerning natural gas vehicles.

8. Other Items / Adjourn

Chair Van Tassell adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.