

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Minutes of the 4th Meeting of the 2025 Regular Session

February 26, 2025

Call to Order and Roll Call

The fourth meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Transportation was held on February 26, 2025, at 9:30 AM in Room 131 of the Capitol Annex. Senator Jimmy Higdon, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:

Members: Senators Jimmy Higdon Chair; Donald Douglas Vice-Chair; Senators Cassie Chambers Armstrong, Karen Berg, Jared Carpenter, Greg Elkins, Brandon Smith, Brandon J. Storm, Phillip Wheeler, and Gex Williams.

Guests: Bob Babbage, Babbage CoFounder, CVG Airport; Sarah Wood, Babbage CoFounder, CVG Airport; David Hale, State Representative, 74th District; Scott Madon, State Senator, 29th district; and Erik Hubbard, Executive Director, Backroads of Appalachia; and Tabatha Clemons, Grant County Clerk, Immediate Past President of the Kentucky County Clerks Association; and Jon Johnson, Assistant General Counsel, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC)

LRC Staff: John Snyder, Dana Fugazzi, Ashley Nash, and Christina Williams.

Approval of February 19, 2025 minutes

The minutes from the February 19, 2025 meeting were approved.

Bills for Consideration

SJR 66

A JOINT RESOLUTION establishing the Air Mobility and Aviation Economic Development Task Force.

Sponsor: Senator Shelley Funke Frommeyer

Senate Joint Resolution 66 was discussed by its sponsor Senator Shelley Funke Frommeyer. Appearing with Senator Funke Frommeyer was Bob Babbage, Babbage CoFounder, CVG Airport; and Sarah Wood, Babbage CoFounder, CVG Airport, who both spoke in favor of the measure. After brief discussion, Senator Phillip Wheeler made a motion to pass Senate Joint Resolution 66. Senator Karen Berg seconded the motion, which passed on a 10-0-0 roll call vote.

SB 38/CS

AN ACT relating to school bus safety.

Sponsor: Senator Greg Elkins

Senate Bill 38 was discussed by its sponsor Senator Greg Elkins, who indicated there was a committee substitute on the measure. Senator Brandon Smith made a motion to adopt the committee substitute. Senator Donald Douglas seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote. Appearing with Senator Elkins was David Hale, State Representative, 74th District, who spoke in favor of the measure. After brief discussion, Senator Phillip Wheeler made a motion to pass Senate Bill 38 as amended by the committee substitute. Senator Gex Williams seconded the motion, which passed on a 10-0-0 roll call vote.

SB 63/CS

AN ACT relating to street-legal special purpose vehicles.

Sponsor: Senator Brandon J. Storm

Senate Bill 63 was discussed by its sponsor Senator Brandon Storm, who indicated there was a committee substitute on the measure. Senator Phillip Wheeler made a motion to adopt the committee substitute. Senator Donald Douglas seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote. Appearing with Senator Storm was Scott Madon, State Senator, 29th district; and Erik Hubbard, Executive Director, Backroads of Appalachia, who both spoke in favor of the measure. After brief discussion, Senator Phillip Wheeler made a motion to adopt Senate Bill 63 as amended by the committee substitute. Senator Gex Williams seconded the motion, which passed on a 9-0-0 roll call vote.

SB 136/CS/TA

AN ACT relating to the Transportation Cabinet titling and registration system.

Sponsor: Senator Jimmy Higdon

Chairman Jimmy Higdon relinquished the Chair to Vice-Chair Senator Donald Douglas. Senate Bill 136 was then discussed by its sponsor Senator Jimmy Higdon, who indicated there was a committee substitute on the measure. Senator Phillip Wheeler made a motion to adopt the committee substitute. Senator Gex Williams seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote. Appearing with Senator Higdon was Tabatha Clemons, Grant County Clerk, Immediate Past President of the Kentucky County Clerks Association, who spoke in favor of the measure. After brief discussion, Senator Gex Williams made a motion to pass Senate Bill 136 as amended by the committee substitute. Senator Karen Berg seconded the motion, which passed on a 9-0-0 roll call vote. Senator Greg Elkins made a motion to adopt the title amendment to Senate Bill 136 as amended. Senator Brandon Storm seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote.

Consideration of Referred Administrative Regulations

600 KAR 004:010 Proposed - Certification of disadvantaged business enterprises.

Jon Johnson, Assistant General Counsel, KYTC, appeared before the committee to explain and take questions on 600 KAR 004:010. No objections were raised, and it was not found to be deficient nor was it deferred.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the committee, Chairman Douglas adjourned the committee at 10:24 A.M.