

HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the 2024 Regular Session

January 30, 2024

Call to Order and Roll Call

The second meeting of the House Standing Committee on Transportation was held on January 30, 2024, at 12:00 PM in Room 154 of the Capitol Annex. Representative Jonathan Dixon, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:

Members: Representative Jonathan Dixon, Vice Chair; Representatives John Blanton, Josh Branscum, Randy Bridges, Adrielle Camuel, Daniel Elliott, Ken Fleming, David Hale, Samara Heavrin, Keturah Herron, John Hodgson, Thomas Huff, Mary Beth Imes, Derek Lewis, Bobby McCool, Kimberly Poore Moser, Amy Neighbors, Ruth Ann Palumbo, Rachel Roberts, Tom Smith, Ashley Tackett Laferty, Walker Thomas, Ken Upchurch, Bill Wesley, and Wade Williams.

Guests: Jim Gray, Secretary, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC); Heather Stout, Executive Director, Office of Information Technology, (KYTC); Tabatha Clemons, President, Kentucky County Clerk's Association; Bill Bell, Executive Director, Office of Highway Safety, KYTC; and Jason Siwula, Executive Director, Office of Project Development, KYTC

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

Approval of January 23, 2024 minutes

Representative Wade Williams made a motion to approve the committee's January 23, 2024 meeting minutes. Representative Thomas Huff seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote.

Bills for Consideration

HB 192/CS

AN ACT relating to highway work zones and making an appropriation therefor.

Sponsor: Representative John Blanton

House Bill 192 was discussed by its sponsor, Representative John Blanton, who indicated there was a committee substitute on the measure. Representative Ken Fleming motioned to adopt the committee substitute. Representative Thomas Huff seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote. Appearing with Representative Blanton was Bill Bell, Executive Director, Office of Highway Safety, KYTC, and Jason Siwula, Executive Director, Office of Project Development, KYTC, who both spoke in favor of the measure. After brief discussion, Representative Tom Smith made a motion to pass House Bill 192 as amended by the committee substitute. Representative Samara Heavrin seconded the motion, which passed on a 23-2-0 roll call vote.

HB 193

AN ACT relating to motor vehicles in a highway work zone.

Sponsor: Representative John Blanton

House Bill 193 was discussed by its sponsor, Representative John Blanton. After brief

discussion, Representative Derek Lewis made a motion to pass House Bill 193. Representative Daniel Elliott seconded the motion, which passed on a 25-0-0 roll call vote.

Discussion of the Implementation of Kentucky Automated Vehicle Information System (KAVIS)

Jim Gray, Secretary, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC), and Heather Stout, Executive Director, Office of Information Technology, KYTC briefed the committee on the recent implementation of the Kentucky Automated Vehicle Information System (KAVIS), a custom Microsoft.NET solution-based system developed in-house at KYTC, which replaced the previous Automated Vehicle Information System (AVIS) that was operable for over 45 years. Secretary Gray and Ms. Stout briefly discussed the success of the new system as well as challenges that have been faced since its January 8, 2024 implementation. To address issues, KAVIS team members have worked many additional hours in January offering in-person technical assistance and training as needed. KAVIS supports more enhancements and extended services while offering faster transaction reporting and an intuitive interface. It also offers greatly improved data analysis.

Tabatha Clemons, President, Kentucky County Clerk's Association, also briefly discussed positives, as well as challenges Kentucky County Clerks have seen since implementation. Ms. Clemons discussed larger wait times due to having to shut down AVIS at the end of December, as well as some unique scenarios that are occurring across the state due to the system change. Overall, Ms. Clemons was supportive of the implementation of KAVIS, and praised the KAVIS team for their efforts.

Understanding that this change is complicated, many members were appreciative and supportive of the new system. When asked if there was anything that could be done legislatively to ease complications during this process, Ms. Stout stated there was not anything she could think of currently, but KYTC would reach out if that changes.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the committee, Chairman Dixon adjourned the meeting at 1:23 P.M.