

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

March 12, 2001
9:00 AM

Hearing Room D
Tapes 53 & 54

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Rep. Bruce Starr, Chair**
 Rep. Alan Brown, Vice-Chair
 Rep. Jeff Merkley, Vice-Chair
 Rep. Richard Devlin
 Rep. Jeff Kropf
 Rep. Donna Nelson
 Rep. Diane Rosenbaum
 Rep. Joanne Verger
 Rep. Cliff Zauner

MEMBER EXCUSED:

STAFF PRESENT: **John Leon, Committee Administrator**
 Kate Campeau, Committee Administrator

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD: **HB 2914 Public Hearing**
 HB 2306 Public Hearing and Work Session
 HB 2818 Public Hearing and Work Session

These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words. For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.

TAPE/#	Speaker	Comments
TAPE 53, A		
003	Chair Starr	Calls meeting to order. Opens a public hearing on HB 2914.
<u>HB 2914 PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
005	John Leon	Committee Administrator. Reviews HB 2914.
010	Chair Starr	District 3. Supports HB 2914. Explains that the veterans' plate program honors and respects those who served our county and state.
061	Rep. Merkley	Asks if the provision to retain registration plates means that one can continue to use the plates or is it just physical possession.
063	Chair Starr	Replies that both situations are intended.
075	H. McDonald	Supports HB 2914. Articulates the honor veterans deserve.
080	Bernice Harlan	Wife of deceased veteran. Supports HB 2914. Describes process she had to go through to retain possession of her husband's plates. Proclaims the importance of these plates to survivors.
110	Frank Hills	Testifies on behalf of HB 2914.
120	Kelly Taylor	Legislative Liaison, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). Discusses HB 2914. Inquires as to the definition of the term "retain."
124	Chair Starr	Indicates that he intended that surviving spouses could retain the plates for use and as souvenirs.
126	Taylor	States that "retain" does not indicate that the plates can be used. Suggests an amendment to make legislative intent clear.
127	Rep. Rosenbaum	Asks if \$5 surcharge is a one-time charge.

129	Taylor	Clarifies that it is \$10 fee that has to be paid every time the license plate is renewed.
132	Rep. Rosenbaum	Asks if HB 2914 allows surviving spouses to renew license plates as veterans do now.
135	Taylor	Concures that is the intent of the committee. Persuades that is not how HB 2914 is written.
140	Rep. Zauner	Asks if there are any special parking privileges with these plates.
142	Taylor	Clarifies that there are no special privileges with these plates.
155	Chair Starr	Closes the public hearing on HB 2914. Requests amendments. Opens a public hearing on HB 2306.

HB 2306 PUBLIC HEARING

180	John Leon	Committee Administrator. Reads synopsis of HB 2306 (EXHIBIT A) .
186	Glenn Chastain	Oregon State Police Patrol Services Division. Supports HB 2306 with the -1 amendment.
195	Chair Starr	Closes the public hearing on HB 2306. Opens a work session on HB 2306.

HB 2306 WORK SESSION

200	Rep. Devlin	MOTION: Moves to ADOPT HB 2306-1 amendments dated 02/26/01.
205		VOTE: 7-0
		EXCUSED: 2 - Nelson, Verger
	Chair Starr	Hearing no objection, declares the motion CARRIED.
210	Rep. Devlin	MOTION: Moves HB 2306 to the floor with a DO PASS AS AMENDED recommendation.
215		VOTE: 7-0
		AYE: In a roll call vote, all members present vote Aye.
		EXCUSED: 2 - Nelson, Verger
	Chair Starr	The motion CARRIES.
220	Rep. Zauner	MOTION: Moves HB 2306 be placed on the CONSENT CALENDAR.
225		VOTE: 7-0
		EXCUSED: 2 - Nelson, Verger
	Chair Starr	Hearing no objection, declares the motion CARRIED.
230	Chair Starr	Closes the work session on HB 2306. Opens a public hearing on HB 2818.

HB 2818 PUBLIC HEARING

235	John Leon	Committee Administrator. Reviews HB 2818.
255	Robert Russell	Director of Government Affairs, Oregon Trucking Association (OTA). Supports HB 2818 (EXHIBIT B) . Reviews background information on multi-state highway transportation agreement (MHTA).
303	Rep. Zauner	Asks why California dropped out of MHTA.
305	Russell	Replies that he does not know.
312	Rep. Merkley	Asks if the issue of Mexican trucks entering the US will be discussed by MHTA.
320	Russell	Replies that it will be discussed as well as other issues.
327	Rep. Merkley	Asks about MHTA's decision-making authority.
330	Russell	Acknowledges that there will be no decision-making authority. States that discussions will result in legislative or administrative action.
345	Doug Tindall	Maintenance Engineer, ODOT. Outlines ODOT's concerns with HB 2818 (EXHIBIT C) .

380	Chair Starr	Asks if MHTA's recommendations have to be enacted by state legislatures.
385	Tindall	Agrees with Chair Starr.
390	Chair Starr	Asks if most of these issues have been solved at the federal level.
395	Tindall	Discusses federal involvement.
TAPE 54, A		
020	Chair Starr	Reiterates that MHTA has no binding legal authority. Asks Tindall if ODOT is opposing HB 2818.
022	Tindall	Agrees with Chair Starr. States that ODOT is not opposing HB 2818. Continues to discuss concerns.
025	Chair Starr	Asserts that Tindall's concerns do not relate to HB 2818.
030	Tindall	Maintains that ODOT does not oppose HB 2818. Clarifies that he is sharing ODOT's concerns. Concedes that OTA is not interested in increasing size and weight restrictions for trucks.
050	Chair Starr	Clarifies that ODOT does not oppose HB 2818 and that MHTA recommendations have to be enacted by the legislature.
055	Tindall	Agrees with Chair Starr.
060	Rep. Kropf	Asks about the Ford Bridge in Roseburg.
065	Tindall	Answers that he does not have technical information about that bridge.
075	Rep. Kropf	Asks if the bridges that are cracking today are the result of heavier loads or a combination of other factors.
078	Tindall	Replies that it depends on the bridge.
086	Chair Starr	Asks if the federal government sets size and weight restrictions on interstate freeways.
088	Tindall	Acknowledges that is true.
100	Rep. Merkley	Asks Russell why reporting requirements are being eliminated.
105	Russell	Explains that the requirement is superfluous.
112	Rep. Kropf	Asks for OTA's opinion on the effect of increased loads and traffic on bridges.
117	Russell	Reports that the interstate system was designed to accommodate heavier loads than those imposed on commercial trucks. Suggests that many bridges are at the end of their designed life, which is the cause of many of today's problems.
135	Rep. Kropf	Asks if bridges are designed to have a life span.
138	Russell	States that is how he understands the issue.
139	Rep. Kropf	Asks if bridges were built to accommodate heavier loads than restrictions allow for commercial trucks.
143	Russell	Agrees with Rep. Kropf. Clarifies size and weight restriction issues.
160	Chair Starr	Asks if there will be any additional cost or revenue.
162	Russell	Replies there will be no additional cost.
167	Rep. Devlin	Asks if more bridges will be rebuilt and financed federally.
169	Russell	Answers the federal government has been providing funds to states and giving them discretion on how use them.
180	Rep. Kropf	Asks if other states are facing these issues.
188	Russell	Answers that the interstate system throughout the country is aging.
195	Rep. Rosenbaum	Asks about MHTA's decision making process.
200	Russell	Explains the decision making process.
205	Rep. Rosenbaum	Asks for further clarification.
210	Russell	States he was incorrect and each representative will have a vote.
220	Rep. Rosenbaum	Asks if the MHTA representatives will be legislators.

223 Russell Replies that MHTA representatives will be legislators
225 Chair Starr Elaborates on how representatives will be selected.
230 Rep. Brown States that bridges were not designed for current volumes of traffic.
240 Chair Starr Closes the public hearing on HB 2818. Opens a work session on HB 2818.

HB 2818 WORK SESSION

242 Rep. Zauner **MOTION: Moves HB 2818 to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation.**
244 **VOTE: 7-0**
AYE: In a roll call vote, all members present vote Aye.
EXCUSED: 2 - Nelson, Verger
The motion CARRIES.
250 Chair Starr **MOTION: Moves HB 2818 be placed on the CONSENT CALENDAR.**
Rep. Zauner **VOTE: 7-0**
EXCUSED: 2 - Nelson, Verger
Hearing no objection, declares the motion CARRIED.
255 Chair Starr Closes the work session on HB 2818. Adjourns at 9:50 a.m.
Chair Starr

Submitted By,

Reviewed By,

Kate Campeau,
Administrative Support

John Leon,
Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

- A – HB 2306, LC amendment (2/26/01), staff, 1 p.
- B – HB 2818, written testimony, Robert Russell, 1 p.
- C – HB 2818, written testimony, Doug Tindall, 6 pp.