

ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
April 22, 1975

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Members Present:	Chairman Glover Mr. Howard Mr. Dini Mrs. Hayes Mr. Dreyer Mr. Jacobsen Mr. May
Members Absent:	None
Guests	Representing
Donald Crosby	New Highway Dept
Phyllis Otten	
Frank Cody	UNR
Dede Doughty	Intern
Virginia Share	Dept Economic Development
Robert Guinn	New Franchised Auto Dealers New Motor Transport Assn
Howard Hill	Dept Motor Vehicle
Bill Fitzpatrick	Dept Motor Vehicle
Hale Bennett	Dept Motor Vehicle
John Ciardelli	Dept Motor Vehicle

Chairman Glover called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. The first bill discussed was:

A.B. 120 Changes letter and number systems of vehicle license plates

John Ciardelli, Dept Motor Vehicle, told the Committee that some counties will definitely exhaust their present numbers before the next session of the Legislature. These counties are Douglas, Washoe, Clark, and possibly Humboldt and Lyon. Also the Truck and motorcycle series will need more expansion of their numbering system. Mr. May indicated that he would still like to see amended in the bill the wording allowing a person to keep his old plate numbers and pay for them as a personalized plate. He suggested setting a certain number that could be handled this way. Maybe 1,000.

Howard Hill explained they were asking for expansion in more counties than may be necessary right now so they won't have to come back to the legislature every session asking for more. He said because of the staggered registration system it is impractical to continue with the county designation. This causes too much work and wastes too much time and money. Mr. Ciardelli said the county designation in a way loses its significance because a person can register his car in any county he wants now. Mr. Hill stated that there are 15,000 personalized plates now, and if we set a designated number that can become personalized, his dept might get challenged as discriminating. He said there is a bill before the Governor now stating that if a person loses his

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plates, they will be replaced with a substitute and not a duplicate.

Mr. Dini suggested deleting the counties from the bill that are not running out of numbers at present. The are Esmeralda, Eureka, Lander, Lincoln, and Storey.

Assemblyman Getto also stated that he was against losing the county designation on license plates. He asked if the motor vehicle dept had considered reissuing license plate and maybe starting over some way. Mr. Hill said if the committee wants to delay the bill longer, perhaps his dept could get together and try and work up some type of compromise that would come within their budget and still begin using the 3 letter codes in some way and keep the county designation.

(See attached letters from various counties against bill)

A.B. 551 was discussed next.

A.B. 551 Exempts disabled veterans from motor vehicle registration and license plate fees and from privilege tax

Don Crosby, State Highway Engineer, spoke against this bill. He stated he was not against the veterans at all, but the highway fund is in a declining financial situation right now and this would just make them go broke much faster. Mr. Jacobsen asked if he had any idea how much money this would amount to. Mr. Hill stated that he had checked with the Veterans Affairs and they said this bill would entitle 45 people to these privileges. That would take \$2,600 from the highway fund. Mr. Hill said his dept had no stand on this bill but if bill passes, he would like to see it state clearly where the person would pick up documents to get this exemption.

Mr. May made a motion that this bill be re-referred to the committee on taxation. Mr. Howard seconded, and the motion was unanimous.

A.B. 657 Permits bell to be used on vehicle as theft alarm signal device

Howard Hill stated that this bill would have no problems with his Department.

A.B. 564 Allows slogan "Bet on it" to be placed on motor vehicle license plates.

Phyllis Otten opposed this bill. She said there were many people who would not want this on their license plate. She didn't like to see gambling singled out in Nevada when there were many other more pleasant attractions. She felt this would only give Nevada a slanted image. She also said it would just be more expense. She indicated that she was for the big horn sheep emblem because it pays for itself because it was like a personalized license plate.

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Howard Hill stated after discussing this with the Dept of Economic Development they found this bill would cost \$14,950. The best time to do this he said was when the Dept of Motor Vehicle was issuing new license plates. He felt one problem if this bill were passed would be that a lot of people would want this slogan so there would be a big rush on license plates, and their budget would not allow enough money to issue so many license plates in one year. Mr. Ciardelli tried to explain why the costs would be so high. Chairman Glover asked if the costs would come down if we waited to do this change all at one time. Mr. Ciardelli said at least they could get it included in their budget. He also invited the Committee to go to the prison to see how the license plates are made.

Mr. May suggested that Economic Development get some bumper stickers with the slogan so people could put this on their car if they want to and they would pay for it-not the Dept of Motor Vehicle. Mr. Jacobsen suggested making little license plates from the scrapes with this slogan on it.

A.B. 117 Revises provisions relating to vehicle dealers and licensing thereof.

Mr. Guinn, Nevada Motor Transport, stated the amendments had been completed. He then refreshed the committee's memory of the changes.

As there was no other testimony, Chairman Glover declared a five minute recess.

After the recess the following action was taken:

A.B. 117 Mr. Jacobsen moved Amend and Do Pass; Mr. Dreyer seconded and the motion was unanimous.

A.B. 564 Mr. Dini moved a Do Pass but the motion died for lack of a second. Mr. Jacobsen moved Indefinite postponement; Mr. May seconded, and the motion was unanimous.

A.B. 120 Mr. Jacobsen moved amend and Do Pass deleting Esmeralda, Eureka, Lander, Lincoln, and Storey. Mr. May seconded, and the motion was unanimous.

A.B. 657 Mr. Jacobsen stated that this bill would cause a problem because trucks have to have a bell on them to use when they are backing up. Mr. Dreyer moved fo Indefinite postponement, Mr. May seconded, and the motion was unanimous. Mr. Glover and Mr. Dini voted No.

Chairman Glover adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Camille Lee
Assembly Attache

ASSEMBLY

AGENDA FOR COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Date Tuesday, Apr 22 Time 3:00 p.m. Room 214

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Bills or Resolutions
to be considered

Subject

Counsel
requested*

A.B. 120

Changes letter and number system of
vehicle license plates.

A.B. 551

Exempts disabled veterans from motor
vehicle registration and license plate
fees and from privilege tax.

A.B. 564

Allows slogan "Bet on it" to be placed
on motor vehicle license plates.

A.B. 657

Permits bell to be used on vehicle as
theft alarm signal device.

A.B. ~~658~~

Provides for coding of drivers' licenses
to indicate type of training.

AB 117

Carson City, OR or ORA to ORZ, inclusive, and when exhausted OAA to OZZ, inclusive, except the series ORA to ORZ;
 Churchill, CH or CHA to CHZ, inclusive, and when exhausted FAA to FZZ, inclusive;
 Clark, C or CA to CZ, inclusive, or CAA to CZZ, inclusive;
 Douglas, DS or DSA to DSZ, inclusive; and when exhausted DAA to DZZ
 Elko, EL or ELA to ELZ, inclusive, and when exhausted EAA to EZZ, inclusive, except the respective series ELA to ELZ, ESA to ESZ and EUA to EUZ;
 Esmeralda, ES or ESA to ESZ, inclusive; and when exhausted TAA to TZZ
 Eureka, EU or EUA to EUZ, inclusive; and when exhausted GAA to GZZ
 Humboldt, HU or HUA to HUZ, inclusive; and when exhausted HAA to HZZ
 Lander, LA or LAA to LAZ, inclusive; and when exhausted JAA to JZZ
 Lincoln, LN or LNA to LNZ, inclusive; and when exhausted KAA to KZZ
 Lyon, LY or LYA to LYZ, inclusive; and when exhausted LBB to LZZ
 Mineral, MN or MVA to MNZ, inclusive; and when exhausted MAA to MZZ
 Nye, NY or NYA to NYZ, inclusive, and when exhausted NAA to NZZ, inclusive, except the series NYA to NYZ;
 Pershing, PE or PEA to PEZ, inclusive; and when exhausted PAA to PZZ
 Storey, ST or STA to STZ, inclusive; and when exhausted SAA to SZZ
 Washoe, W or WAA to WZZ, inclusive; and
 White Pine, WP or WPA to WPZ, inclusive, and when exhausted ZAA to ZZZ, inclusive.

Prefix letters which do not duplicate nor conflict with the foregoing code letters may be reserved by the department for number plates assignable to dealers, exempt vehicles and motorcycles, as may be determined; but the letters I and Q shall not be used for any vehicle. Following the county code, or special prefix letter, or five or fewer numerals, commencing with 1 to 99,999, shall be used for Carson City and each county as the need may be. The letters H, I, O, P, Q and U shall not be used as the second letter in Clark and Washoe counties.

5. The director shall first exhaust the code letters containing the fewest letters before assigning any additional letter.
6. No number plates may contain more than six letters and numbers in combination.
7. All letters and numbers shall be of the same size.
8. The director may omit letters added to a single- or double-letter county code when appropriate to avoid misleading or offensive combinations.

482.272 License plates: Motorcycles.

1. Each license plate for a motorcycle shall contain five numbers and no letters. Only one plate shall be issued for a motorcycle.
2. Motorcycle license plates shall be issued in consecutive numerical order for statewide distribution.
(Added to NRS by 1973, 865)
3. In the event the department exhausts the license plate code of sub-section 1, the department may substitute letters in combination with numerals for expansion of this code.

482.273 License plates: Code letters for trucks.

1. The director shall order the preparation of vehicle license plates for trucks in the same manner as provided for passenger cars in NRS 482.270.

2. The registration numbers assigned to trucks, after January 1, 1970, shall be coded for Carson City and the several counties and consecutively numbered. The code letters and numbers assigned shall be as follows:

Carson City, OA0001 to OZ9999, inclusive;
 Churchill, AA0001 to AZ9999, inclusive;
 Clark, BA0001 to BZ9999, inclusive; and when exhausted YA0001 to YZ0001
 Douglas, DA0001 to DZ9999, inclusive, except DS0001 to DS9999,
 inclusive;
 Elko, EA0001 to EZ9999, inclusive, except EL0001 to EL9999,
 inclusive;
 Esmeralda, FA0001 to FZ9999, inclusive;
 Eureka, GA0001 to GZ9999, inclusive;
 Humboldt, HA0001 to HZ9999, inclusive, except HU0001 to HU9999, inclusive;
 Lander, JA0001 to JZ9999, inclusive;
 Lincoln, KA0001 to KZ9999, inclusive;
 Lyon, LB0001 to LZ9999, inclusive;
 Mineral, MA0001 to MZ9999, inclusive, except MN0001 to MN9999, inclusive;
 Nye, NA0001 to NZ9999, inclusive, except NY0001 to NY9999, inclusive;
 Pershing, PA0001 to PZ9999, inclusive, except PE0001 to PE9999, inclusive;
 Storey, SA0001 to SZ9999, inclusive;
 Washoe, WA0001 to WZ9999, inclusive; and XA0001 to XZ9999
 White Pine, ZA0001 to ZZ9999, inclusive. (except X00001 thru X09999)

3. Any license plates issued for a truck prior to July 1, 1971, bearing a different designation than that provided for in this section, shall be valid during the period for which such plates were issued.

(Added to NRS by 1969, 1050; A 1971, 53)



HUMBOLDT COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

AND

WINNEMUCCA CITY ATTORNEY

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March 24, 1975

Honorable Helen Herr, Chairman
Senate Transportation Committee
Honorable Alan Glover, Chairman
Assembly Transportation Committee
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Re: AB 120-Elimination of County Designation
on License Plates

Dear Senator Herr & Assemblyman Glover:

When I first read AB 120, I was very concerned and have been awaiting a hearing on the matter.

Now, some six or seven weeks later, I'm still quite concerned, but since a hearing might come and go without my being aware of it, I thought it best that I write you both now as Chairmen of your respective committees on transportation.

I favor County designations on license plates for several reasons:

1. As a matter of pride and principle. I dare say virtually everyone in the State of Nevada is very proud of his or her own respective community, and that they derive some personal satisfaction out of comments at a gas station in another community such as "Oh, I see you're from Las Vegas or Winnemucca, whatever." We are probably as proud of being from our respective Counties as we are proud of being from Nevada. I think we would all deeply resent an attempt to change our license plates to blue and gold with three numbers followed by three letters so that we looked identical to California plates. We enjoy our identity and our individuality.

2. Law Enforcement Benefits. I think most law enforcement officials will tell you that having County designation on plates serves a very real law enforcement purpose. An out-of-County car parked in an usual location may prompt an officer to investigate and discover a burglary in process. A witness may see a

Humboldt County

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Honorable Helen Herr, Chairman
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car leaving the scene of an accident or a crime. It might be a very common appearing car such as a blue Volkswagen and the individual is not able to get the entire license plate; however, they were able to recognize it as a Humboldt or a White Pine or a Clark plate. This might enable law enforcement to locate the vehicle. If we just had California style plates with three numbers and three letters, there would be less likelihood of the bystander being able to recall any of the license except the State.

3. Change Doesn't Seem Necessary. If special license plates were being done away with because of some necessity to conform all plates to three letters and three numbers whether dictated by computer problems or otherwise, then I could possibly understand why County designations need to be removed. Since there does not seem to be such a compelling need, then I see no reason to tamper with our system for it's already gone too far. The current law permits HU 1, but would not permit an HA 1. That requires HA0001. I see no need to have all the zeros in our current truck and trailer plates that are being issued.

At any rate, I hope that the Legislature doesn't do any more tampering with our license plate designations and, to the contrary, I would hope that they would restore the truck and trailer designations eliminating all the extra zeros before our numbers.

Yours truly,



WILLIAM MACDONALD

WM/dsc
cc Committee members

DOUGLAS COUNTY - - STATE OF NEVADA

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April 8, 1975


TO: MEMBERS OF TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

RE: AB 120

This is to advise you that the Douglas County Commissioners at a regular meeting on April 7, 1975, unani-
mously passed a resolution urging the defeat of AB 120. The
Commissioners feel that the County license plate designations
should be continued and would therefore urge the defeat of
AB 120.

Should you desire additional information on this
matter, please feel free to contact this office.

Yours truly,



HOWARD D. MCKIBBEN
Douglas County District Attorney

CC: Roland Adams, County Manager
Douglas County Commissioners