Minutes of the Nevada State Legislature

Assembly Committee on TRANSPORTION

Date: April 7, 1981

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MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Price

Mr. Beyer
Mr. DuBois
Mr. Glover
Mr. Mello
Mr. Prengaman
Mr. Schofield
Mrs. Westall

MEMBERS ABSENT: Vice Chairman Polish

GUESTS PRESENT: Hale Bennett, DMV

Sharon Alcamo, DMV Jerry DeForest, DMV Garth Dull, NDOT

Chairman Price called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

AB 327: Removes limitation on motor vehicles eligible for temporary permits.

Mr. Hale Bennett, Chief of Registration for the Department of Motor Vehicles, explained that this bill is a simple bill to correct an inequity in the present law. He said that people buying a vehicle from a new or used car dealer have a ten-day period in which to get the various inspections, permits and licenses. If you buy a car from a private individual, you can only move the vehicle if you go to DMV and get a special eighthour permit which expires at 5:00 p.m. the day of the permit. He said this bill is designed to give equity for transactions to private individuals.

In response to a question from Mr. Prengaman, Mr. Bennett explained that the permit was free; in a sense it is the same as the free usage of the dealer's report of sale for a ten day period when buying from a dealer.

Mr. Mello noted that this is the reason some people sign over a title to a vehicle but do not date it; he added, however, that if the person buying the vehicle has an accident before transferring title, proving liability is difficult. Mr. Bennett stated that this was one of the problems they were hoping to correct with this bill.

Mr. Prengaman asked how insurance fits into this new plan; can they actually operate the car without insurance. Mr. Bennett advised him that most people have a car already and that insurance policy automatically covers the new car for thirty days. This bill does not require insurance, nor does buying a vehicle from a dealer; insurance is required as a prerequisite to registration, not purchase.

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Mr. Mello noted that in most cases the insurance company knows about the transaction before the DMV. Mr. Bennett said that was true.

Mr. Beyer moved DO PASS on AB 327, seconded by Mr. Schofield. Motion carried unanimously.

Bill Draft Request/Additional License Plates (AB 636)

Mr. Glover said that while Mr. Bennett was present it would be a good time to discuss the new bill needed to issue a license plate to the new Congressman. Mr. Bennett said the current law is very specific in that it says "we shall issue a Member of Congress plate to our Congressman" singularly. If that becomes plural, we simply should change the law so that we have multiple Congressmen and multiple ability to issue plates. He noted, however, in talking to Congressman Santini he would prefer the plate marked "H.R." for House of Representatives.

Mr. Bennett said that eight months ago they had a situation whereby plates from Congressman Santini's car were stolen. The only plates that could be issued were new "M.C." plates which would put him in a position of possibly being arrested each time he drove the car. Mr. Bennett said that they issued "H.R." plates. He said they recognized the liability involved in issuing different plates than those authorized by law, but they simply had to cope with the situation. He said "H.R." plates are what most other states issue to their legislators and this would solve our problem.

Mr. DuBois asked if most people would know what "H.R." stands for. Mr. Bennett said he was not sure.

Mr. Mello said that this process was to essentially identify the individual in the car and he was not sure this was being done by using "H.R." Much discussion followed of alternate terms to use.

Mr. Bennett said that whatever is chosen should fall into the normal letters and numbers category or they have to buy a special die just for this plate, and they run about \$1,000 each.

Mr. Glover asked if the tag on the stolen plate might not have expired by now so that they could return to using "M.C." Mr. Bennett said that he did not know, but that "M.C." does cover both Assembly and Senate.

AB 109: Makes various changes to laws governing financial responsibility of owners or operators of motor vehicles.

Chairman Price noted this bill had been discussed before and Sharon Alcamo of the Department of Motor Vehicles was here to answer the committee's previous questions. She presented a memo from DMV, EXHIBIT A, attached, regarding security deposits. A brief discussion followed on the deposits.

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Mr. Schofield said that an amendment was discussed earlier on line 44, adding "and registration" must be suspended.

Ms. Alcamo said their main concern was page 4 through page 5 where it says "two years". Currently it says one year from the date of the accident or date of security deposit and these two things happen at different times. Also the statute of limitations is two years. She said administratively it has caused a lot of problems.

Ms. Alcamo said this would involve the following: page 4, line 40; page 5, lines 7 and 8; page 5, line 25 through 27; page 5, line 37 through 38; page 5, line 46; page 5, lines 17 and 18. The last one mentioned is regarding "proof of financial responsibility" and if they eliminate that, the department would have no authority to resuspend their license.

She said that it was also important to include the definition of registered owner on page 1, lines 3 through 5, and the corresponding section page 2, lines 29 through 31, as these were critical areas to them.

Mr. Mello asked what Ms. Alcamo meant by stating these were critical areas. She replied that these areas were really needed by their department; the other areas of the bill would be helpful but she understood there might be problems with some of those areas.

Chairman Price said he still had some question about the estimate of repairs, and how this could be controlled. Ms. Alcamo responded that they could require three estimates or at least more than one. Mr. Price asked if \$350 was too low as that would be a pretty minor accident. Ms. Alcamo responded that for the ten western states, the average figure was \$325 and for the United States, it was \$263.

Mr. Mello moved to amend page 2, line 44 to add "and registration", seconded by Mr. DuBois. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Glover moved DO PASS AS AMENDED for AB 109, seconded by Mr. Beyer. Motion carried unanimously.

It was mentioned at this point that on page 6 the word "foregoing" was misspelled.

AB 388: Provides method of turning vehicles at certain places on highways and revises provision for pedestrians' right of way in crosswalks.

Mr. Glover moved INDEFINITE POSTPONEMENT, seconded by Mr. Mello. Motion carried unanimously.

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AB 326: Changes wording of signs indicating speed limits for school zones.

Mr. Glover said that Ralph Phillips, who had testified on an earlier date on this bill and who represents the traffic engineering people, had asked that Mr. Glover relate some specific points to the committee. He said they are not strongly committed to the language in the bill; that you might want to leave it up to the counties to decide. Most of all, though, they want the speed limit to be 25 MPH in the school zones. Mr. Glover said they warned him that this will be vigorously opposed by groups such as the PTA, but this is their professional opinion as to what is needed.

Mr. Schofield suggested that Mr. Glover have separate legislation drafted rather than adding it to this bill and Mr. Glover agreed to look into the matter.

Mr. DuBois moved INDEFINITE POSTPONEMENT, Mr. Glover seconded the motion.

Mr. Schofield said that this bill was drafted as a specific request and he would prefer that the bill be held for awhile instead of indefinitely postponing it and he would return to the committee with further information.

Mr. DuBois withdrew his motion, Mr. Glover withdrew his second.

AB 239: Provides money for drivers' education and makes certain other changes relating to drivers' licenses.

Mr. Glover stated that, in his opinion, this bill isn't practical, especially in the rural, smaller counties. He said the last part of the bill is good, and if the committee does take action on this bill, he suggests deleting the new language and concentrating on the last part.

There was a question as to why the drivers licenses would be coded. Mr. Glover replied that the coding would provide statistics on whether or not drivers who did or did not have drivers education had less accidents/tickets. These statistics will be used later to determine the feasibility of continuing drivers education.

Mr. Price said that DMV has stated they continually receive requests to add coding to the drivers licenses such as blood type, etc.; however, they would like the drivers license to contain only the information that identifies the driver and restrictions on driving. Mr. Price suggested that a cost estimate should be obtained and Mr. Glover volunteered to obtain this for the committee.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nykk Kinsley, Secretar

ASSEMBLY

AGENDA FOR COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION Tuesday Date April 7, 1981 Time 5:00 p.m. Room 214

Bills or Resolutions to be considered

Subject

Counsel requested*

AB 327 .

Removes limitation on motor vehicles eligible for temporary permits.

ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

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ate: <u>April 7, 1981</u>

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STATE OF NEVADA

S. BARTON JACKA
Director



DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

555 WRIGHT WAY

CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89711 DRIVER'S LICENSE DIVISION (702) 885-5360

April 6, 1981

T0:

CHAIRMAN PRICE

ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

FROM:

JERRY DEFOREST, SAFETY RESPONSIBILITY OFFICER

DRIVER'S LICENSE DIVISION

SUBJECT:

AB109

During testimony on March 30, 1981, it was requested additional information concerning security deposits be provided to the Committee.

An explanation of the procedure, the fund account, and necessity for a security deposit is described in the following:

If a person is in an accident, is at fault in the accident, and does not have liability insurance coverage, his driving and registration privileges could become subject to suspension action.

When this occurs, one of the alternatives available to prevent the suspension of a driving and/or registration privilege is to deposit security with the Division in the form and amount required by the Division. Presently a person may deposit security in the form of:

- 1. Cash
- 2. Cashier's Check
- 3. Money Order

The security deposited may be returned to the depositor under two conditions. They are as follows:

- 1. There has been no court action instituted against him within one year of the date of the accident.
- 2. All judgments have been paid.

The Division places security deposited in this manner in the custody of the State Treasurer. It can only be used to pay a judgment rendered against the person who was at fault. It is Fund Account 69 (Motor Vehicle Fund), Ledger Number 5241, Financial Responsibility Deposits. The balance as of March 27, 1981 was \$30,320.13. Any interest earned on this money is retained by the State.

Crhibit A