



THE SENATE

ENERGY POLICY AND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE

SENATOR BRUCE PATTERSON
CHAIRMAN

MEMBERS:

SEN. CAMERON BROWN, VICE CHAIRMAN
SEN. PATTY BIRKHOLZ
SEN. WAYNE KUIPERS
SEN. RANDY RICHARDVILLE
SEN. DENNIS OLSHOVE, MINORITY VICE CHAIR
SEN. SAMUEL BUZZ THOMAS
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COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES October 21, 2009

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Energy Policy and Public Utilities was scheduled for Wednesday, October 21, 2009, for 3:00 p.m., in Room 210 of the Farnum Building.

The agenda summary is as follows:

- 1) SB 725 Sen. Birkholz Environmental protection; landfills; yard waste ban waiver; provide for facilities with methane capture.

The Chairman's arrival was delayed due to his attendance at another committee hearing. Thus, the Chairman called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. He instructed the Clerk to call the roll. At that time, the following members were present; Chairman Patterson, Senators, Birkholz, Kuipers, Richardville, Olshove, Thomas and Clarke, a quorum.

Excused: Sen. Brown

At 3:18 p.m., the Chairman entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the October 15th committee minutes. Sen. Richardville so moved.
The motion Passed without objection.

At 3:20 p.m., the Chairman invited Sen. Birkholz, sponsor of SB 725, Mr. Keith Granger and Ms. Tonia Olson of Granger and Mr. J. Peter Lark, Chairman of the Lansing Board of Water and Light, to present testimony regarding SB 725.

Ms. Olson and Mr. Granger provided the committee with copies of their presentation. (Copies of the document are available in the Clerk's files.)

Sen.(s) Patterson, Kuipers and Thomas posed questions to which the witnesses responded.

The Chairman thanked Sen. Birkholz, Mr. Granger, Ms. Olson and Mr. Lark for their testimony.

At 3:55 p.m., the Chairman invited Ms. Nikki McCord and Mr. Steve Sliver of the DEQ to present testimony regarding SB 725.

Ms. McCord and Mr. Sliver provided the committee with copies of their presentation. (Copies of the document are available in the Clerk's files.)

Sen.(s) Patterson, Kuipers and Clarke posed questions to which the witnesses responded.

The Chairman thanked Ms. McCord and Mr. Sliver for their testimony.

At 4:15 p.m., the Chairman invited Mr. Tom Horton of Waste Management to present testimony regarding SB 725.

Mr. Horton provided the committee with copies of his presentation. (Copies of the document are available in the Clerk's files.)

Sen.(s) Patterson, Kuipers and Olshove posed questions to which the witnesses responded.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Horton for his testimony.

Next, the Chairman read into the record the cards of those in support of the SB 725 but who did not wish to speak.

Kristin Beltzer, Lansing Regional Chamber
Samantha Harkins, Michigan Municipal League
Mark Stadt, DTE
Rod Taylor, Dewitt Township
Brian Brannick, Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council
Elaine Tycocki, SEMCO Energy
Cathy Wilson, Consumers Energy
Doug Roberts, Michigan Chamber of Commerce
Brian Kandler, Detroit Regional Chamber
Andy Such, Michigan Sustainable Energy Coalition
Rick Galardi, Dewitt Township
Stephanie Glysson, Republic Waste and Allied Services

(All testimony provided to the committee is available in the Clerk's files.)

Next, the Chairman read into the record the cards of those neutral on SB 725 but who did not wish to speak.

Eric Davis, Michigan Association of Counties
Shiraugn Rayl, Public Sector Consultants

Next, the Chairman read into the record the cards of those opposing SB 725 but who did not wish to speak.

James Clift, Michigan Environmental Council
Gayle Miller, Sierra Club

(All testimony provided to the committee is available in the Clerk's files.)

At 4:40 p.m., the Chairman invited Mr. Tom Turner of Spurt Industries, Mr. Fred Thompson of Indian Summer Compost, Mr. J.D. Lindeberg of the Composting Council, and Sara Knight and Bernice Berens of I.B. Compost, to present testimony regarding SB 725.

Mr. Lindeberg, Mr. Turner, Mr. Thompson, Ms. Knight and Ms. Berens provided the committee with copies of their presentation. (Copies of the document are available in the Clerk's files.)

Sen.(s) Patterson, Kuipers and Clarke posed questions to which the witnesses responded.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Thompson, Mr. Turner, Ms. Knight, Ms. Berens and Mr. Lindeberg for their testimony.

At 5:15 p.m., the Chairman entertained a motion to excuse Sen. Brown. Sen. Richardville so moved.

The motion Passed without objection.

At 5:15 p.m., Sen. Kuipers moved to adjourn.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m., on a voice vote, without objection.

Scott Jones,
Clerk of the Committee

Senator Bruce Patterson,
Chairman of the Committee

Date Adopted by Committee