



MEMBERS:
SENATOR HILDENBRAND,
MAJORITY VICE CHAIRMAN
SENATOR NOFS
SENATOR EMMONS
SENATOR HANSEN
SENATOR HUNTER,
MINORITY VICE CHAIRMAN
SENATOR SMITH

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
THE SENATE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE
SENATOR MIKE KOWALL
CHAIRMAN**

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MINUTES

A meeting of the Senate Economic Development Committee was held on Wednesday, September 28, 2011, at 1:32 p.m. in the Farnum Building, Room 110.

Attendance was recorded as follows:

Present: Kowall (C), Hildenbrand, Nofs, Emmons, Hansen, Hunter, and Smith

Absent: None

Senator Kowall announced the order of business:

- SB 556 Sen. Proos - State financing and management; funds; Michigan business development program; create.
- SB 644 Sen. Schuitmaker - State financing and management; funds; use of 21st century jobs trust fund for new brownfield replacement program; allow.

(Testimony Only)

- HB 4394 Rep. Haveman - Employment security; benefits; computation and charging of unemployment benefits; modify for continuing employer.
- SB 410 Sen. Richardville - Transportation; funds; a new international bridge crossing act; create.
- SB 411 Sen. Richardville - Transportation; authorities; authority created under the new international bridge crossing act; include as an eligible governmental agency under the state trunk line highway system act.

Senator Emmons motioned, supported by Senator Smith, that the committee adopt the minutes of September 14, 2011. Without objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous voice.

Senator Proos, bill sponsor of SB556, gave verbal testimony explaining the bill. During his testimony, Senator Proos relayed that there was a senate substitute S-1, which he also explained. Senator Proos then answered questions from committee members.

James McBryde and Peter Anastor, representing the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), gave verbal testimony in support of SB556 and SB644. Mr. McBryde and Mr. Anastor then answered questions from committee members.

The following individual submitted a testimony card in favor of SB556 but did not wish to speak:

Andy Schor, representing the Michigan Municipal League

Senator Nofs motioned, supported by Senator Hildenbrand, that the committee adopt the senate substitute S-1 to SB556.

Yeas: Kowall, Hildenbrand, Nofs, Emmons, Hansen, Hunter, Smith

Nays: None

The motion prevailed.

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Senator Hildenbrand motioned, supported by Senator Smith, to report with recommendation SB556 S-1.

Yeas: Kowall, Hildenbrand, Nofs, Emmons, Hansen, Hunter, Smith

Nays: None

The motion prevailed.

Senator Hildenbrand motioned to recommend immediate effect to SB566 S-1.

Without objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous voice.

James McBryde, representing MEDC, gave verbal testimony on behalf of Senator Schuitmaker, bill sponsor of SB644, explaining the bill. Mr. McBryde then answered questions from committee members.

The following individuals submitted testimony cards in favor of SB644 but did not wish to speak:

Chris Fisher, representing the Associated Builders and Contractors

Senator Hildenbrand motioned, supported by Senator Nofs, to report with recommendation SB644.

Yeas: Kowall, Hildenbrand, Nofs, Emmons, Hansen, Hunter, Smith

Nays: None

The motion prevailed.

Senator Hildenbrand motioned, supported by Senator Nofs, to recommend immediate effect to SB644.

Without objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous voice.

Representative Haveman, bill sponsor of HB4394, gave verbal testimony explaining the bill. Representative Haveman then answered questions from committee members.

The following individuals submitted testimony cards in favor of HB4394 but did not wish to speak:

Chris Mitchell, representing Michigan Health and Hospital Assn.

Delaney Newberry, representing the Michigan Manufacturers Assn.

Wendy Block, representing the Michigan Chamber

David Jessup, representing the Small Business Assn. of Michigan

Chris Fisher, representing the Associated Builders and Contractors

Rebecca Park, representing the MI Farm Bureau

Linda Gobler, representing the Michigan Grocers Assn.

Mike O'Brien, representing the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

Justin Winslow, representing the Michigan Restaurant Assn.

Charlie Owens, representing the National Federation of Independent Businesses (written testimony also)

The following individuals of the Southwest Detroit Community Benefits Coalition gave verbal testimony and submitted information (see testimony documents) to the committee members regarding a New International Trade Crossing (NITC) Bridge:

State Representative Rashida Tlaib (written testimony also)

State Senator Coleman Young II

Simone Sagovac, Resident of Detroit (written testimony also)

Deacon Norbert Matowski

Scott Brines, Resident of Detroit

Reverend Jeffery Baker

Professor Michael Belzer, Wayne State University - Economics (written testimony also)

Amy Schultz, University of Michigan School of Public Health (written testimony also)

The Community Benefits Coalition Members then answered questions from committee members.

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Minister Malic Shabazz, resident of Detroit, gave verbal testimony opposed to a NITC Bridge.

Senator Kowall announced that the Economic Development Committee would have to recess due to Senate Session reconvening at 3:30 p.m. Senator Kowall announced that the committee hearing would reconvene at 4:30 p.m.

Senator Kowall recessed at 3:25 p.m.

Senator Kowall reconvened at 5:04 p.m.

Larry Arreguin and Lydia Gutierrez, representing the Society of Hispanic Businesses and Professionals, gave verbal testimony in support of the NITC Bridge. Mr. Arreguin and Ms. Gutierrez then answered questions from committee members.

Phillip Allmond, representing SDEV, gave verbal testimony in support of the NITC Bridge.

Lawrence Garcia with the Law Firm of Turfe & Garcia, representing five community groups, gave both verbal and written testimony opposed to the NITC Bridge.

Janice Garcia, representing the Latin Americans for Social Economic Development, gave verbal testimony opposed to the NITC Bridge.

Senator Kowall announced that due to time constraints, there would have to be a continuation of hearings held to allow for additional testimony. He relayed that the next scheduled Senate Economic Development Committee hearing relative to NITC, SB410, and SB411 will be Tuesday, October 4, 2011, at 1:30 p.m. in the Senate Hearing Room of the Boji Tower. He then announced that if individuals could not return, everyone who submitted a testimony card and any written testimony submitted would have their positions documented into the record.

The following individuals submitted testimony cards in support of the NITC:

Sarah Roberts representing the Economic Alliance for Michigan
Frank Rodriguez representing himself (written testimony also)

The following individuals submitted testimony cards opposed to the NITC:

Reverend Horace Sheffield, representing Detroit Association of Black Organizations
Fred Feliciano, representing Hispanic Young Professional Entrepreneurs
Lawrence Garcia, representing LA SED, et alia
Wilma Cage, Detroit Resident
Gabriel Kenyatta, representing New Marcus Garvey
Barry Ross, Detroit Resident
Malik Shelton, Detroit Resident
Ifraj Schkooor, Detroit Resident
Mary Griffin, Detroit Resident
Marissa Barlow, Detroit Resident
Gwendolyn Shelton, Detroit Resident
K. Johnson, Detroit Resident
Kenneth Holloway, Detroit Resident
Steven Goodin, Detroit Resident
Beverly Brown, Detroit Resident
Sandra Butler, Detroit Resident
Ras'haad Mix, Detroit Resident

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Being no further business before the committee, Senator Kowall adjourned the meeting without objection at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Date approved by the Committee: October 4, 2011

(An audio recording of this committee meeting is available upon request for a minimal fee.)