



MEMBERS:

SEN. ARLAN MEEKHOF, VICE CHAIRMAN

SEN. JACK BRANDENBURG

SEN. COLEMAN YOUNG II, MINORITY VICE CHAIR

THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND ELECTIONS
SENATOR DAVE ROBERTSON
CHAIRMAN

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MINUTES

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Local Government and Elections was held on Wednesday, February 5, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 100 of the Farnum Building.

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

Members present: Senators Robertson (C), Meekhof, and Young
Members absent: None
Members excused: Senator Brandenburg

Senator Robertson announced the agenda for the day:

- Adoption of the minutes from the December 11, 2013 meeting
- HB 4168 Rep. O'Brien Animals; dogs; requirement that county sheriff euthanize unlicensed dogs; eliminate.
- HB 4624 Rep. Haveman Labor; public service employment; firefighter employment with another fire department; create right and make prohibited subject of bargaining.
- HB 4939 Rep. Knezek Cities; employees and officers; city department head to serve as city manager; allow.
- SB 733 Sen. Kowall Torts; governmental immunity; liability for injuries to a pedestrian on road right-of-way; modify.

Senator Meekhof made a motion to adopt the minutes of the December 11, 2013 meeting; being no objection, the motion prevailed.

Senator Robertson announced the next item on the agenda was House Bill 4168. Representative O'Brien came forward to give members an overview of the bill.

Senator Robertson informed members there would not be a vote taken on this measure at this meeting.

Senator Robertson announced the next item on the agenda was House Bill 4624. Representative Haveman, joined by Allendale Fire Chief Michael Keefe and Delta Fire Chief John Clark, came forward to give members an overview of the bill.

The following individuals submitted testimony cards indicating their position on HB 4624:

- Melissa Yutzey, Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union – Oppose

The following individuals submitted testimony cards indicating their position on HB 4624 but did not wish to speak:

- Samantha Harkins, Michigan Municipal League (MML) – Oppose
- Judy Allen, Michigan Townships Association – Support
- Les Rodwell, Michigan State Firemen's Association – Support
- Chief Bill Forbush, Alpena Fire Chief and Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs – Support
- Tony Daunt, Michigan Freedom Fund – Support

Senator Robertson informed members there would not be a vote taken on this measure at this meeting.

Senator Robertson announced the next item on the agenda was House Bill 4939. Representative Knezek came forward to give members an overview of the bill.

The following individuals submitted testimony cards indicating their position on HB 4939 but did not wish to speak:

- Judy Allen, Michigan Townships Association – Support
- Samantha Harkins, MML – Support

Senator Robertson informed members there would not be a vote taken on this measure at this meeting.

Senator Robertson announced the next item on the agenda was Senate Bill 733. Senator Kowall, joined by Margaret Debler of the City of Rochester Hills, came forward to give members an overview of the bill and the S-2 version before the members.

The following individuals testified before the members indicating their position on SB 733:

- John Waterman, PEAC – Oppose
- John Lindenmeyer, The League of Michigan Bicyclists – Oppose
- Steve Hicks, Michigan Association for Justice – Oppose
- Kelly Bartlett, Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) – Neutral
- Angela Stopky, MDOT – Neutral

The following individuals submitted testimony cards indicating their position on SB 733 but did not wish to speak:

- Nancy Krupiarz, Michigan Trails and Greenways – Oppose
- Samantha Harkins, MML – Support
- Judy Allen, Michigan Township Association – Support

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- Tim Fischer, Michigan Environmental Council – Oppose
- Ted Welsh, Michigan Mountain Biking Association – Oppose

Senator Robertson informed members there would not be a vote taken on this measure at this meeting.

Senator Meekhof motioned to excuse absent members and, without objection, they were excused.

Being no further business, Senator Robertson adjourned the committee without objection at 4:02 p.m.

Date Approved by Committee: February 12, 2014

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