

Senate Committee on Commerce and Tourism

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Tourism was held Tuesday, September 7, 2010 at 2:30 p.m. in Room 100 of the Farnum Building.

The meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m.

Members present: Senators Allen, Nofs, Stamas and Clarke

Members excused: Senator Hunter

Senator Allen called the meeting to order.

Senator Nofs moved to adopt the minutes from the meeting held Tuesday, June 22, 2010 with unanimous consent. Senator Stamas supported the motion. By unanimous consent, the minutes from the meeting were adopted.

Senator Nofs moved to adopt the minutes from the meeting held Tuesday, August 24, 2010 with unanimous consent. Senator Stamas supported the motion. By unanimous consent, the minutes from the meeting were adopted.

Senator Allen laid before the committee Senate Bill 1237 (Transit Oriented Development).

Senator Birkholz testified about the Governor's 2003 Land Use Council's discussion on the subject covered in SB 1237. Senator Birkholz explained that she served on the council, and that her background in local government and on a planning commission informed her thoughts on this matter. Senator Birkholz further explained that the issue of access and lack of depth when planning was always a concern of hers, and that it was critical for planners to look at the whole scope of the community when planning. Senator Birkholz commented that these matters were a topic of discussion by the council.

Senator Allen thanked Senator Birkholz for her testimony, and stated that he appreciated her leadership on this matter. Senator Allen noted that some who have testified before brought up concerns with this issue, and he appreciated Senator Birkholz providing some clarity on this issue.

Mike Frederick, representing Mid-Michigan Health, opposed the bill and did not wish to testify.

Ken Osborne testified in explanation of the substitute, stating that the substitute has two changes that clarify that it would only apply to new hospitals or new hospital beds for licensed facilities.

Senator Nofs moved to adopt the substitute (S-1) to Senate Bill 1237. Senator Stamas supported the motion. By an affirmative vote of the majority of members serving, the substitute was adopted. Voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Allen, Nofs, Stamas and Clarke (4/5)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: Senator Hunter (1)

Senator Clarke moved that Senate Bill 1237 (S-1) be reported out of committee with the recommendation that the bill then pass. Senator Nofs supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Allen, Nofs, Stamas and Clarke (4/5)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: Senator Hunter (1)

Senator Stamas moved that Senate Bill 1237 (S-1) be given immediate effect. Senator Nofs supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Allen, Nofs, Stamas and Clarke (4/5)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: Senator Hunter (1)

Senator Allen laid before the committee House Bills 5716 and 5717.

A representative from Representative Hansen's office was present to answer any questions the committee might have.

Randy Slikkers, representing Goodwill Association of Michigan, supported the bill and would testify if necessary.

Ken Osborne updated the committee on the legislation. Mr. Osborne explained that testimony was taken on these bills a few weeks ago, and while there were still some

technical questions about the scope of 5717, the parties were comfortable moving the bills forward while these issues were being addressed.

Senator Nofs moved that House Bill 5716 be reported out of committee with the recommendation that the bill then pass. Senator Stamas supported the motion. The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Allen, Nofs, Stamas and Clarke (4/5)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: Senator Hunter (1)

Senator Clarke moved that House Bill 5716 be given immediate effect. Senator Stamas supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Allen, Nofs, Stamas and Clarke (4/5)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: Senator Hunter (1)

Senator Stamas moved that House Bill 5717 be reported out of committee with the recommendation that the bill then pass. Senator Nofs supported the motion. The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Allen, Nofs, Stamas and Clarke (4/5)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: Senator Hunter (1)

Senator Stamas moved that House Bill 5716 be given immediate effect. Senator Clarke supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Allen, Nofs, Stamas and Clarke (4/5)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: Senator Hunter (1)

Senator Allen asked Ken Osborne to brief the committee on upcoming topics. Mr. Osborne stated that next week's agenda was still being determined, but that it would likely cover the rest of the transit package.

Senator Allen adjourned the committee 2:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren K. Michalak
Committee Clerk

Jason E. Allen
Chairman

Date Approved by Committee