

**MINUTES OF THE  
TRANSPORTATION INTERIM COMMITTEE**  
Wednesday, July 21, 1999 - 2:00 p.m. - 405 State Capitol

**Members Present:**

Sen. Peter C. Knudson,  
Senate Chair  
Rep. Marda Dillree,  
House Chair  
Sen. R. Mont Evans  
Sen. Karen Hale  
Sen. Eddie "Ed" P. Mayne  
Rep. Gerry A. Adair  
Rep. Carl W. Duckworth  
Rep. Kory M. Holdaway  
Rep. Bryan D. Holladay  
Rep. Dennis H. Iverson  
Rep. Brad King  
Rep. Karen W. Morgan  
Rep. Joseph G. Murray  
Rep. Lowell A. Nelson  
Rep. Richard M. Siddoway

**Members Absent:**

Sen R. Lane Beattie

**Members Excused:**

Rep. Don E. Bush

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Benjamin N. Christensen,  
Research Analyst  
Mr. Dee S Larsen,  
Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Junie G. Anderson,  
Legislative Secretary

**Note:** A list of others present and a copy of materials distributed in the meeting are on file in the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.

**1. Committee Business -** Chair Dillree called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m.

**MOTION:** Rep. Adair moved to approve the minutes of the June 16, 1999 meeting. The motion passed unanimously, with Rep. Holladay absent for the vote.

**2. Uninsured Motorist Identification Database Program -** Mr. Christensen briefed committee members on the program history and discussed a document titled "Uninsured Motorist Identification Database Program" that was mailed to the committee prior to the meeting.

Mr. Kay J. "Skip" Nielsen, Driver License Division, distributed a handout titled "Uninsured Motorist Identification Database," and discussed its contents. He reported on the database operation, performance, and financial history. He said the current balance in the program is approximately \$1,919,124. He outlined potential ways to use the database to enhance enforcement and provide other services if directed by the Legislature.

Mr. Palmer DePaulis, Utah State Tax Commission, distributed a letter addressed to Commissioner Craig L. Dearden, with the subject "Audit of Uninsured Motorists Identification Database (UMID) Program Report # 99-3," and explained the contents of the letter. He was accompanied by Mr. Aman Kudiya who helped answer questions. Mr. DePaulis said the audit found that the internal controls over the process of payments of contracted fees to Insure-Rite are

accurate and that Insure-Rite is performing an acceptable job of matching registration with insurance company records.

Ms. Viola Bodrero, Motor Vehicle Division, answered questions regarding vehicle registration and insurance.

Mr. Rod Marrelli, Utah State Tax Commission, responded to the possibility of using the database to verify insurance before a vehicle is allowed to be registered, by stating that adding one more step to the registration process will further complicate vehicle registration and create administrative difficulties. He indicated that the Tax Commission would work with the Driver License Division to explore possible future applications of the database.

Sen. David H. Steele distributed a draft bill titled "Uninsured Motorist DataBase Reauthorization," and discussed the bill with members of the committee. He noted that he intends to sponsor the bill in the 2000 General Session.

**MOTION:** Rep. Holdaway moved to approve the draft legislation titled "Uninsured Motorist DataBase Reauthorization," as a committee recommended bill. The motion passed, with Rep. Murray and Rep. Nelson voting in opposition to the motion.

**3. Special Mobile Equipment – Vehicle Registration and Taxation** - Mr. Christensen discussed a document titled "Special Mobile Equipment Registration and Taxation Issues" that was mailed to committee members prior to the meeting. He explain that the key issue is what types of vehicles should or should not be allowed to be considered special mobile equipment (SME). He pointed out that the handout contains 13 exceptions or differences from commercial motor vehicles that apply to SME's, including special fuel tax and vehicle registration exemptions.

Mr. Steve Young and Mr. Gary Thorup, Holme Roberts & Owen LLP, explained the identification and function of the cement pumper trucks and oil-well drilling rigs. They urged the committee to recommend not changing the current definition pertaining to special mobile equipment (SME). Mr. Young said that cement pumper trucks have been paying special fuel tax and are willing to continue to pay it. He said that since these trucks travel fewer miles than most commercial vehicles, they should not have to pay the same registration fees.

Mr. Rick Adams, Burbidge Concrete Pumping, said his company has 40 cement pumper trucks and they averaged 18 miles per day, per truck.

Mr. Rick Clasby, Utah Department of Transportation, Motor Carrier Division, said the department recommends that commercial motor vehicles, as defined by statute, should consistently comply with credentialing and safety requirements.

Mr. Richard Greenwood, Utah Highway Patrol, agreed with Mr. Clasby, and asked committee members to require that SME vehicles carry documentation in the vehicle to identify it as such. He said it is critical to the investigation of accidents and issuing of citations for incidents on the highways.

Mr. Marrelli said the Tax Commission needs more guidance in identifying SME vehicles.

Sen. Knudson explained that he had requested a bill on the subject and was working with staff. He noted that he had met in a June 18 meeting with industry and Tax Commission members on this subject. He explained his intention to bring forth options in a future meeting of the committee in the form of legislation.

Mr. Larsen summarized that the issues of fuel tax, license plates, the need for identification, and clarification on the safety inspection appear to be agreed upon. He said that the main unresolved issue is registration fees.

**5. Adjourn -**

**MOTION:** Sen. Evans moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously at 3:50 p.m. Sen. Mayne was absent for the vote.

