

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HOUSE HIGHWAYS AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE, JANUARY 4, 1983

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Abrams on Tuesday, January 4, 1983 at 12:30pm, in Room 129, State Capitol. All members of the Committee were present with the exception of Representatives Brown and Kennerly, who were absent.

Each member of the Committee introduced him or herself to those present, providing a brief personal and legislative history.

Open discussion was held regarding whether or not Highway Department personnel would be allowed in Executive Sessions, after which it was determined they would be barred.

CHAIRMAN ABRAMS told committee members he would prefer to set up hearings to allow equal time for both proponents and opponents.

After general discussion, it was determined smoking would be allowed in moderation by committee members only and visitors would be prohibited from smoking during hearings.

CHAIRMAN ABRAMS advised committee members proxy votes should be left either with him or the Committee Secretary.

REPRESENTATIVE O'CONNELL said she thought all highway related bills should be routed through the Highways and Transportation Committee prior to being assigned to other committees, if appropriate.

REPRESENTATIVE HARP told committee members, Representative Yardley had expressed interest in joint hearings with his Taxation Committee on related bills. Chairman Abrams advised he would discuss the matter with Representative Yardley.

REPRESENTATIVE LYBECK asked if railroad problems would be heard in Highways and Transportation Committee and told members a bill had been introduced to change GVW exemptions. Representative Harp commented present exemptions would not be changed by the bill.

REPRESENTATIVE SHONTZ stated there are five or six bills pertaining to GVW fees, which should be addressed by the Committee for uniformity.

MR. BEN HAVDAL, Montana Motor Carriers Association, said he would provide members with information on recent changes in federal legislation relating to highways and transportation.

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The meeting was adjourned at 1:40pm.


REP. HUBERT ABRAMS, CHAIRMAN

Joann T. Gibson, Secretary



VISITORS' REGISTER

HOUSE Highways

COMMITTEE

Date 1/4/82

ROLL

ANSOR

[illegible]

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR LONGER FORM.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.