

Senate Committee on Commerce and Tourism

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Tourism was held Monday, February 1, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the University of Michigan Detroit Center, 3663 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI.

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m.

Members present: Senators Allen, Clarke and Hunter

Members excused: Senators Nofs and Stamas

Senator Allen called the meeting to order.

Senator Allen laid before the committee for considerations Senate Bills 978, 979, 1015, 1016, and 1017.

Senator George explained the bills and some of the background that prompted him to sponsor them.

Turkia Awada Mullin and Jerry Griffin, representing Wayne County, expressed their thanks for the interest in helping to promote redevelopment of abandoned properties in Detroit. They indicated they had some concerns with the bills but were generally supportive of the legislation and of providing additional tools and co-operation.

Deborah L. Younger and Marsha Bruhn, representing the Detroit Land Bank, testified in opposition to the bills.

Jim Casha testified in support of the bills, but asked that provisions in SB 1015 prohibiting Land Bank funds being expended to promote animal farming operations be removed.

Anita Lane, representing the community Development Advocates of Detroit, opposed the bill but did not wish to testify.

Joel Landy testified in opposition to the bills if they involved mandating that Detroit property be transferred to a separate redevelopment authority, but expressed support for trying to encourage cooperation between Detroit and Wayne County.

Senator Allen adjourned the committee 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ken Osborne
Committee Clerk

Jason E. Allen
Chairman

Date Approved by Committee