

Senate Committee on Commerce and Tourism

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Tourism was held Tuesday, March 2, 2009 at 2:30 p.m. in room 100 of the Farnum Building.

The meeting was called to order at 2:38 p.m.

Members present: Senators Allen, Nofs, Stamas and Hunter

Members excused: Senator Clarke

Senator Allen called the meeting to order.

Senator Nofs moved to adopt the minutes from the meeting held Tuesday, February 23, 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 for consideration Senate Bill 1139 (Sen. Nofs).

Senator Nofs explained that the bill amends to Local Development Financing Act to revise the 2009 deadline for an authority to apply. Senator Nofs explained that this bill was similar to legislation passed earlier from committee on this issue, and that this bill allows for Rochester Hills to qualify for the extended deadline.

Larry Steckelberg, representing the Department of Treasury, supported the bill and did not wish to testify.

Senator Allen announced that the committee would delay voting on Senate Bill 1139 until Senator Hunter, who was in another committee meeting next door, could join.

Senator Allen laid before the committee House Bill 5555 (Rep. Clemente).

Ken Osborne testified to explain the bill. Mr. Osborne explained that the bill allows the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) to designate an existing renaissance zone for battery technology.

Jim McBryde, representing the MEDC, testified in support of the bill and explained that the bill would give the MEDC one more option to work with in regards to advanced battery technology. Mr. McBryde further explained that all battery plants, except one, have been awarded a renaissance zone designation except for one. This bill would allow the MEDC to make the awards more equal.

Ken Osborne returned to explain that discussions have been had with Senator Brown and his staff regarding a bill that Senator Brown has amending the same act that House Bill 5555 is amending. Mr. Osborne explained to the committee that over the next week staff would be working with Senator Brown's office on this issue.

Senator Hunter entered the committee room.

Senator Stamas moved that Senate Bill 1139 be reported out of committee with 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 Hunter (4/5)

Nays: None (0)

Pass: None (0)

Excused: Senator Clarke (1)

Senator Hunter moved that Senate Bill 1139 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 Hunter (4/5)

Nays: None (0)

Pass: None (0)

Excused: Senator Clarke (1)

Senator Allen announced that next week the committee would return to House Bill 5555, as well as hold a hearing on the PEO legislation.

Senator Allen adjourned the committee 2:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren K. Michalak
Committee Clerk

Jason E. Allen
Chairman

Date Approved by Committee