

## **Senate Committee on Commerce and Tourism**

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Tourism was held Tuesday, September 14, 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 Hunter

Members excused: Senator Clarke

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Senator Allen called the meeting to order.

Senator Stamas moved to adopt the minutes from the meeting held September 7, 2010 with unanimous consent. Senator Nofs supported the motion. By unanimous consent, the minutes from the meeting were adopted.

Senator Allen laid before the committee Senate Bill 1487 (Sen. Barcia).

Senator Barcia testified with Steve Black, Deputy City Manager for Community Development in Bay City, in support of the bill. Senator Barcia thanked the chairman and committee members for their speed in taking up the legislation. Steve Black explained that the bill's aim is to clear up some problems with the tax capture clock in brownfield developments when a project does not materialize as planned. The bill would give locals an ability to amend the time frame. Senator Barcia stated that he understood that the MEDC has some concerns, and he is comfortable with the committee working with them to perfect the bill.

Jim McBryde, representing the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), confirmed what Senator Barcia had stated regarding the MEDC's concerns, and stated their willingness to work to perfect the language.

Andy Schor, representing the Michigan Municipal League, supported the bill and did not wish to testify.

Senator Allen laid before the committee Senate Bill 1455 (Sen. Hunter).

Senator Hunter thanked the chairman for his leadership on this issue and for bringing the bill to his attention. Senator Hunter then introduced James Cambridge and James Carey of the Business Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan, to further explain the bill.

Mr. Cambridge explained that the bill dealt with the limited liability act and is largely technical changes to ensure that the statute remains among the best in the nation. Mr. Cambridge explained that the limited liability corporation is the most popular business form since its creation. The form combines the best of both a corporation and partnership.

Senator Allen thanked the gentlemen for testifying, and explained that the committee usually holds a bill over for a week to ensure that it is properly vetted. He stated that he anticipated moving it out of committee in the near future.

Senator Allen laid before the committee Senate Bill 1413 (Sen. Allen).

Ken Osborne gave a brief description of the legislation. Mr. Osborne explained that the bill creates a system for pre-auction dollars to be used for promotion and pre-sale service of the auction.

Gwyn Besner, representing the Board of Auctioneers and Michigan State Auction Association, testified in support of the bill. Ms. Besner brought up Bill Sheridan, representing the Michigan State Auction Association, to testify with her. Ms. Besner stated her appreciation for the bill being taken up, and expressed that they had one concern with the use of the word “accreditation”. She found this word to be problematic, as there are no accrediting schools or institutes for auctioneers in the state. Senator Allen indicated that this issue would be given further scrutiny as the bill is reviewed further.

Senator Stamas moved to adopt the minutes from the meeting held September 7, 2010 with unanimous consent. Senator Nofs supported the motion. By unanimous consent, the minutes from the meeting were adopted.

Senator Allen adjourned the committee 2:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Lauren K. Michalak  
Committee Clerk

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Jason E. Allen  
Chairman

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Date Approved by Committee