



MEMBERS:
SENATOR HILDENBRAND,
MAJORITY VICE CHAIRMAN
SENATOR NOFS
SENATOR EMMONS
SENATOR HANSEN
SENATOR HUNTER,
MINORITY VICE CHAIRMAN
SENATOR SMITH

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
THE SENATE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE
SENATOR MIKE KOWALL
CHAIRMAN**

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MINUTES

A meeting of the Senate Economic Development Committee was held on Wednesday, October 5, 2011, at 1:45 p.m. in the Farnum Building, Room 110.

Attendance was recorded as follows:

Present: Kowall (C), Hildenbrand, Nofs, Emmons, Hansen, and Smith

Excused: Hunter

Senator Kowall announced the order of business:

- HB 4394 Rep. Haveman - Employment security; benefits; computation and charging of unemployment benefits; modify for continuing employer.

(Testimony Only)

- SB 410 Sen. Richardville - Transportation; funds; a new international bridge crossing act; create.
- SB 411 Sen. Richardville - Transportation; authorities; authority created under the new international bridge crossing act; include as an eligible governmental agency under the state trunk line highway system act.

Senator Smith motioned, supported by Senator Hansen, that the committee adopt the minutes of October 4, 2011. Without objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous voice.

Charlie Pryde and Bill Storves, representing Ford Motor Company, gave both verbal and written testimony in support of the New International Trade Crossing (NITC) Bridge, SB410, and SB411. Mr. Pryde and Mr. Storves then answered questions from committee members.

Senator Kowall announced that prior testimony had been submitted to the committee on HB4394 on September 28, 2011, and October 4, 2011. Senator Kowall asked the committee members and audience if anyone would like to submit new testimony on HB4394.

The following individual submitted a testimony card in favor of HB4394 but did not wish to speak:

David Jessup, representing the Small Business Association of Michigan
Justin Winslow, representing the Michigan Restaurant Association

Senator Hildenbrand motioned, supported by Senator Emmons, to report with recommendation HB4394.

Yeas: Kowall, Hildenbrand, Nofs, Emmons, Hansen

Nays: None

Pass: Smith

The motion prevailed.

Senator Hildenbrand motioned to recommend immediate effect to HB4394.

Without objection, the motion prevailed with unanimous support.

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William Cook, representing Chrysler, gave both verbal and written testimony in support of the NITC Bridge, SB410, and SB411.

Dick Urban, Retired Chrysler Director of Logistic Integration, gave verbal testimony opposed to the NITC Bridge, SB410, and SB411. Mr. Urban then answered questions from committee members.

Joe Casaroll, Retired General Motors Director Material Transportation, gave verbal testimony opposed to the NITC Bridge, SB410, and SB411. Mr. Casaroll then answered questions from committee members.

Dr. Gary Wolfram, Hillsdale College Professor of Economics, gave both verbal and written testimony opposed to the NITC Bridge, SB410, and SB411. Dr. Wolfram then answered questions from committee members.

The following individuals submitted testimony cards in support of the NITC Bridge, SB410, and SB411 but did not wish to speak:

Matt Smego, representing Michigan Farm Bureau (written testimony also)

Kurt Berryman, representing the Auto Dealers of Michigan

Senator Nofs motioned to excuse Senator Hunter

Without objection the motion prevailed with unanimous support.

Being no further business before the committee, Senator Kowall adjourned the meeting without objection at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Date approved by the Committee: October 11, 2011

(An audio recording of this committee meeting is available upon request for a minimal fee.)