



MEMBERS:

SEN. TONYA SCHUITMAKER, VICE CHAIR
SEN. TORY ROCCA
SEN. PATRICK COLBECK
SEN. STEVEN BIEDA, MINORITY VICE CHAIR

THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
SENATOR RICK JONES
CHAIR

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Senate Committee on Judiciary
Minutes

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Judiciary was held on Tuesday, January 27, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 110 of the Farnum Building.

The meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m.

Members present: Senators Jones, Schuitmaker, Rocca, Colbeck and Bieda

Members excused: None

Senator Jones called the meeting to order and announced the order of business for the meeting:

Senator Schuitmaker made a motion to adopt the minutes, without objection they were adopted.

SB 34 Sen. Green Weapons, licensing; Weapons, concealed; Counties, other; State agencies (existing), state

The Chairman invited Sen. Green and Sgt. Amy Dehner of the Michigan State Police to speak in support of Senate Bill 34, Senate Bill 35 and the Jones Amendment.

The following individuals submitted a testimony card to note their position on Senate Bill 34, but did not wish to speak:

- Brad Benzing of the Shooters Alliance for Firearms Rights in support of the bill.
- Dana Gill of the Michigan Association of Counties in opposition to the bill

Senator Jones moved to adopt the Jones amendment to Senate Bill 34. The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Jones, Schuitmaker, Rocca, Colbeck, Bieda (5/5)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: none (0)

Senator Jones moved that Senate Bill 34 be reported out of committee as amended as a clean substitute with the recommendation that the bill then pass. 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 Jones, Schuitmaker, Rocca, Colbeck (4/5)

Nays: (0)

Pass: Senator Bieda (1/5)

Excused: none (0)

Senator Jones moved the committee recommend immediate effect. The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Jones, Schuitmaker, Rocca, Colbeck, Bieda (5/5)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: none (0)

SB 35 Sen. Green Criminal procedure, sentencing guidelines; Weapons, licensing; Weapons, concealed; State agencies (existing), state

Senator Jones moved that Senate Bill 35 be reported out of committee with the recommendation that the bill then pass. 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 Jones, Schuitmaker, Rocca, Colbeck, Bieda (5/5)

Nays: (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: none (0)

Senator Jones moved the committee recommend immediate effect. Without objection, the motion prevailed

SB 28 Sen. Bieda Crimes; animals; penalties for crimes against animals; enhance, and make other revisions.

SB 29 Sen. Jones Criminal procedure; sentencing guidelines; sentencing guidelines for crimes of animal cruelty; enact and amend.

The Chairman invited Sen. Bieda to speak in support Senate Bill 28.

The following individuals provided testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee regarding Senate Bill 28 and Senate Bill 29:

- Raj Prasad and Parisa Kiani from the Animal Law Section and Wayne County Prosecutors office in support of the bill.
- Jill Fritz from the Humane Society of the United States in support of the bill.

The following individuals submitted a testimony card to note their position on Senate Bill 28 and Senate Bill 29, but did not wish to speak:

- Mike Penty with the Prosecuting Attorneys Association in support of the bill.
- Bill Zagman with the Michigan Humane Society in support of the bill.
- John Lindly with Best Friends Animals Society in support of the bill.
- Mia McNeil from Protect Michigan Dogs in support of Senate Bill 28.

The Chairman invited Sen. Bieda to speak in support of the Bieda amendment.

Senator Jones moved to adopt the Bieda amendment to Senate Bill 28. The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Jones, Schuitmaker, Rocca, Colbeck, Bieda (5/5)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: none (0)

Senator Schuitmaker moved that Senate Bill 28 be reported out of committee as amended as a clean substitute with the recommendation that the bill then pass. 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 Jones, Schuitmaker, Rocca, Colbeck, Bieda (5/5)

Nays: (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: none (0)

Senator Jones moved that Senate Bill 29 be reported out of committee with the recommendation that the bill then pass. 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 Jones, Schuitmaker, Rocca, Colbeck, Bieda (5/5)

Nays: (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: none (0)

With no further business before the committee, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 3:31 p.m.

Date Approved by Committee: 2/3/2015

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