

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
SENATE TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE

May 3, 2005

1:40 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Charlie Huggins, Chair
Senator John Cowdery, Vice Chair
Senator Gene Therriault

MEMBERS ABSENT

Senator Albert Kookesh
Senator Hollis French

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 268(JUD)

"An Act relating to overtaking and passing certain stationary vehicles."

MOVED CSHB 268(JUD) OUT OF COMMITTEE

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE ACTION

BILL: HB 268

SHORT TITLE: OVERTAKING/PASSING STATIONARY VEHICLES

SPONSOR(S): REPRESENTATIVE(S) RAMRAS

04/14/05	(H)	READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
04/14/05	(H)	TRA, JUD
04/19/05	(H)	TRA AT 1:30 PM CAPITOL 17
04/19/05	(H)	Moved Out of Committee
04/19/05	(H)	MINUTE(TRA)
04/21/05	(H)	TRA RPT 1DP 3NR
04/21/05	(H)	DP: GATTO;
04/21/05	(H)	NR: SALMON, THOMAS, ELKINS
04/25/05	(H)	JUD AT 1:00 PM CAPITOL 120
04/25/05	(H)	Scheduled But Not Heard
04/26/05	(H)	JUD AT 1:00 PM CAPITOL 120
04/26/05	(H)	Scheduled But Not Heard
04/27/05	(H)	JUD AT 1:00 PM CAPITOL 120
04/27/05	(H)	Moved CSHB 268(JUD) Out of Committee
04/27/05	(H)	MINUTE(JUD)
04/28/05	(H)	JUD RPT CS(JUD) 3DP 4NR
04/28/05	(H)	DP: GRUENBERG, ANDERSON, MCGUIRE;

04/28/05 (H) NR: KOTT, DAHLSTROM, COGHILL, GARA
04/29/05 (H) TRANSMITTED TO (S)
04/29/05 (H) VERSION: CSHB 268(JUD)
05/01/05 (S) READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
05/01/05 (S) TRA, JUD
05/03/05 (H) TRA AT 1:30 PM CAPITOL 17

WITNESS REGISTER

JIM POUND

Staff to Representative Jay Ramras

Alaska State Capitol

Juneau, AK 99801-1182

POSITION STATEMENT: Commented on HB 268 for the sponsor.

ACTION NARRATIVE

CHAIR CHARLIE HUGGINS called the Senate Transportation Standing Committee meeting to order at [1:40:05 PM](#). Present were Senators Therriault, Cowdery, and Chair Huggins.

CSHB 268(JUD)-OVERTAKING/PASSING STATIONARY VEHICLES

[1:40:05 PM](#)

CHAIR CHARLIE HUGGINS announced HB 268 to be the first and only order of business before the committee.

JIM POUND, Staff to Representative Jay Ramras, explained that HB 268 adds tow truck drivers and animal control vehicles to the list of vehicles for which motorists must move into another lane when the stopped vehicle's caution lights are flashing. This is the same requirement that is applied to ambulance, police, and fire vehicles. He reiterated that this only applies when the vehicle is not moving.

CHAIR HUGGINS asked if the flashing lights were the key.

MR. POUND said that is correct.

CHAIR HUGGINS asked if any emergency personnel expressed opposition during the House hearings.

MR. POUND replied there was no opposition expressed.

CHAIR HUGGINS said his only concern is that people are creatures of habit. He referenced himself and acknowledged that although

he might slow down, he might neglect to move over into the other lane.

MR. POUND responded he's sure the police have discretion.

SENATOR GENE THERRIAULT asked what the fine would be if a driver were stopped for not moving into the next lane.

MR. POUND replied if there is no injury it's a traffic violation. If there is injury, then the infraction is elevated to a misdemeanor.

CHAIR HUGGINS noted the zero fiscal note and asked for the will of the committee.

SENATOR JOHN COWDERY motioned to report CSHB 268(JUD) and attached fiscal notes from committee with individual recommendations. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

CHAIR HUGGINS adjourned the meeting at 1:46:59 PM.