

MINUTES
SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, March 29, 2017
TIME: 10:15 A.M.
PLACE: Room WW53
MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Brackett, Vice Chairman Nonini, Senators Keough, Winder, Hagedorn, Den Hartog, Lodge, Harris, and Rohn(Buckner-Webb)
ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the Committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Chairman Brackett** convened the meeting of the Senate Transportation Committee (Committee) at 10:19 a.m.

H 334 **This legislation adds a category relating to children pedestrian safety on the State and local system regarding proposed projects funded through the Strategic Initiatives Program. Chairman Brackett** invited Representative Trujillo to present **H 334**.

Representative Trujillo, District 33, shared a personal story. Two years ago she received a phone call from her frantic daughter. Her grandson had ridden his bicycle to school and in the crosswalk a truck turned the corner and hit him. Thankfully, her grandson had not been severely injured. However, these stories are far too common in Idaho as it is a State experiencing significant growth. The transition from rural to urban areas are developing quickly. Idaho needs to look at its infrastructure and the development of its cities. Included in the discussion of infrastructure needs is the safety of its citizens who have alternative means of travel. Sidewalks and bike paths should be considered in infrastructure construction discussions and planning.

When H 312aa (2015) was negotiated, a section was inserted addressing Safe Routes to Schools, but there was no funding attached to it. **H 334**, page 1, line 24, adds section (f): "children pedestrian safety on the state and local system", for consideration when the Idaho Transportation Board (ITB) prioritizes highway projects. **H 334** doesn't designate funds for their consideration, it just allows ITB to contemplate this factor and its funding when determining project priorities.

Representative Trujillo concluded by asking the Committee to send **H 334** to the floor with a do pass.

Senator Hagedorn said that line 24 allows ITB to include this as a factor when prioritizing projects, but line 12 states that local jurisdictions should take this under consideration. **Representative Trujillo** agreed but the funding path moves through ITB.

Vice Chairman Nonini asked about **S 1121** which was a Safe Routes to School bill the Committee passed earlier in the session with no issues on the Senate side; it has been held in the House Transportation and Defense Committee without a hearing. **Representative Trujillo** was unaware of that bill.

Senator Winder clarified that **S 1121** provided a bucket but no funding. **H 334** is a way for the Committee to address their support for Safe Routes to School with funding possibilities as determined of ITB.

Senator Den Hartog stated **S 1121** went through LHTAC whose purpose is to work with local jurisdictions, **H 334** goes through the statewide focus of ITB. **Representative Trujillo** said the bucket was already created in H 312aa (2015). **H 334** provides a process where funds can be placed in that bucket. Not only does this bill allow projects to be looked at, but it also allows projects to be discussed from a non-motorized safety perspective. As a professional appraiser, she added that these additions to developing communities should be encouraged because of the economic benefit to that community and the State.

MOTION:

Senator Hagedorn moved to send **H 334** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Winder** seconded the motion.

Senator Winder said that the contents of this bill was meant to be an amendment to **S 1206**, but there was concern that if it were amended in the House of Representatives, there could be votes lost if the Senate had to reconsider the bill. He said **H 334** was good legislation that had been part of **S 1121**, but no funding accompanied that bill. **H 334** offers funding; he urged support to pass this bill.

VOTE ON MOTION:

The motion to send **H 334** to the floor with a do pass recommendation passed by **voice vote**.

ADJOURNED:

With no further business before the Committee, **Chairman Brackett** adjourned the meeting at 10:31 a.m.

Senator Brackett
Chair

Gaye Bennett
Secretary