

Senate Executive Departments and Administration Committee

Deb Chroniak 271-1403

SB 52, relative to a procedural manual for department of safety policies and relative to reporting requirements regarding revenue generated from safe boater education certificates.

Hearing Date: January 25, 2017

Time Opened: 9:00 a.m.

Time Closed: 9:22 a.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Carson, Reagan, Gannon and Soucy

Members of the Committee Absent : Senator Woodburn

Bill Analysis: This bill requires the commissioner of the department of safety to prepare a procedural manual of department of safety policies. The bill also requires a biennial rather than annual report on revenue generated from safe boater education certificates.

This bill is a request of the department of safety.

Sponsors:

Sen. D'Allesandro
Rep. Heath

Sen. Bradley

Rep. Goley

Who supports the bill: Senator D'Allesandro; Richard C. Bailey, Jr., Assistant Commissioner, Department of Safety,

Who opposes the bill: No one

Who is neutral on the bill: No one

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Senator D'Allesandro provided written testimony to Committee members.

Senator Sharon Carson opened the bill stating its purpose.

Richard C. Bailey, Jr., Assistant Commissioner (testimony provided)(in support):

Assistant Commissioner Bailey stated this legislation was requested by the

Department of Safety and will formulize the process for the whole department.

- Gives uniform practice and guidance for employees to follow.
- Several years ago the Department introduced legislation, which added to the duties of the Commissioner of Safety, the composing and updating of the State Police Professional Standards procedure manual. The Department of Safety and Divisions within should have requested this manual update at that time, when other Divisions within the Department requested such.
- Wants formal recognition in RSA 21-P:4 – better practice to have their procedures defined within that RSA.
- Second request is the change in reporting requirements for the boater education fund from annual to biennial, which coincides with other financial reporting requirements. This was overlooked when the Legislature changed annual reporting for other state agencies to biennial.

Senator Reagan asked, “What is the procedural manual”?

Assistant Commissioner Bailey said it would be like the Administrative Services Department who has administrative procedures. He went on to state they do have policies, but RSAs authorize state police, and this would authorize the Department of Safety.

Mr. Bruce Crawford, Auto Truck Association (Recycling) (in support)
representing the Association and its members:

- There needs to be a procedural manual.
- If members of his Association came in to testify, they believe they would have a target on their backs.
- He would like to see stakeholders involved in the process.
- He gave examples regarding inconsistency with processing salvaged vehicles.
- First you need an inspection and receive salvage title. Some people have had problems from place to place getting past the inspection of the salvaged vehicle, when they have abided by all the “to do’s”.
- There needs to be customer service and consistency throughout the state on salvaged vehicles.

Senator Reagan asked Mr. Crawford about the inspectors. Mr. Crawford said the state police are the inspectors to make sure the vehicle is repaired properly, on behalf of the Department of Motor Vehicle. Mr. Crawford believes the proposed manual would spell out how you take care of people with salvaged vehicles, and that there should be consistency. Presently all is completed under rules.

Assistant Commissioner Bailey responded to Mr. Crawford stating salvaged vehicles are total losses by insurance companies for various reasons and there is a specific process outlined in Rules, which should be uniform, and is what they want from their inspectors.

- The manual which is being focused on today is for “internal policy” only.
- Stated there are extensive rules on salvage inspection, which are available to the public.
- He is more than willing to discuss any issues with the auto dealers, towing associations and any others.

Senator Carson asked if other state agencies had these policy manuals available. Assistant Commissioner Bailey said that Administrative Services and Revenue Administration does, and assumes most agencies have policy manuals. Senator Carson then stated that the bill does not have a fiscal note attached and would there not be a cost factor attached to this. Assistant Commissioner Bailey said they would be taking documents they presently have and keeping them up-to-date. It would be a formalization of things they are presently doing.

Summary of testimony presented in opposition: No one

Hearing closed at 9:22 a.m.

Future Action: Pending

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Hearing Report Completed: January 27, 2017