

**THE MINUTES OF THE HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
COMMERCE**

Wednesday, October 1, 2014

10:30 a.m.

Room 519 House Office Building

The House Standing Committee on Commerce was called to order by **Representative Frank Foster**, Chair.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Foster, Zorn, Haines, Schmidt, Farrington, Glardon, Johnson, Nesbitt, Somerville, Outman, Kelly, Leonard, Barnett, Townsend, Santana, Oakes, Driskell and Yanez.

MEMBERS ABSENT/EXCUSED: Representative Switalski.

Representative Farrington moved to adopt the minutes from the **September 24, 2014**, meeting. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

Representative Leonard moved to excuse Representative Switalski from the committee. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

Chair Foster laid **HB 5856** before the committee:

HB 5856 (Kowall) Economic development; other; downtown development authorities reporting and oversight; modify.

TESTIMONY

Representative Kowall, sponsor of HB 5856, explained her bill to the committee.

Questions and discussion followed.

Representative Schmidt moved to adopt the substitute (**H-1**) to **HB 5856**.

The motion prevailed by a vote of **15-0-2**.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Representatives Foster, Haines, Schmidt, Farrington, Glardon, Johnson, Nesbitt, Somerville, Outman, Kelly, Leonard, Barnett, Townsend, Santana, Driskell,

Nays: None,

Pass: Representatives Zorn and Yanez.

Kristopher Larson, Executive Director for the City of Grand Rapids Downtown Development Authority (DDA), testified indicating neutrality on the bill.

Jerry Dettloff, representing the Michigan Downtown Association, testified indicating neutrality on the bill.

Joel Freeman and **James McBryde**, representing the Michigan Economic Development Authority (MEDC), testified indicating neutrality on the bill.

Deena Bosworth, representing the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC), testified in opposition to the bill.

Matt Modrack, representing the City of Brighton (DDA) and **Pam McConeghy**, representing the Brighton Chamber of Commerce, testified in opposition to the bill.

Michael Cain, City Manager of Boyne City, testified in opposition to the bill.

Chris Miller, (DDA) Director, representing the City of Adrian, testified in support of the bill.

Thomas Dempsey, representing Kent County, testified in opposition to the bill.

David Bieri, Assistant Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Michigan, testified indicating neutrality on the bill.

Cristina Sheppard-Decius, representing the City of Ferndale (DDA), testified in opposition to the bill.

Due to time restraints the following people submitted a card and/or written testimony but did not speak:

Shea Charles, representing the City of Howell, opposes the bill.

Molly Lalone, representing the Ortonville (DDA), opposes the bill.

John Lauve, representing himself, opposes the bill.

Bob Donohue, representing the Michigan Downtown Association, did not indicate a position on the bill.

The following people submitted a card and/or written testimony but did not wish to speak:

Cathleen Edgerly, representing the Howell Main Street (DDA), opposes the bill.

Steve Deisler, representing the Kalamazoo (DDA), indicated neutrality on the bill.

Ron Grunch, Mayor of Boyne City, opposes the bill.

Susan Ireland, representing the Van Buren Township (DDA), opposes the bill.

Patricia Rayl, representing the Blissfield (DDA)/Main Street, did not indicate a position on the bill.

Art Papapanos, representing the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation, supports the bill.

Andrew Linko, representing the Charter Township of Brownstown, supports the bill.

Daniel Gilmartin, representing the Michigan Municipal League, opposes the bill.

Robert Niemi, Mayor of the City of Marquette, opposes the bill.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Representative Frank Foster, Chair
House Standing Committee on Commerce

Malika Abdul-Basir

Committee Clerk

517-373-7256

1 Hour and 30 Minutes