

FRANKLIN D. COOKE, JR.
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
16th District



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE OF DELAWARE
411 LEGISLATIVE AVENUE
DOVER, DELAWARE 19901

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House Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee Meeting Minutes

5.21.24

House Committee Recording

Chair Cooke called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

Members present:

Rep. Cooke, Chair

Rep. Osienski, Vice Chair

Rep. Bush

Rep. Collins

Rep. Morris

Rep. Romer

Rep. Vanderwende

Chair Cooke stated that **HB 407, AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 21 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO LICENSED TRANSPORTERS**, will not be heard at this meeting.

Time Stamp: 11:03 a.m.

Chair Cooke introduced **SB 257, AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 21 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO RENTAL CAR INSURANCE COVERAGE**. *Time Stamp: 11:03 a.m.*

SB 257, sponsored by Sen. Pardee and read by Rep. Bush, would update the minimum coverage requirement for rental vehicle liability insurance to align with coverage for all other vehicles.

No members of the committee had questions or comments regarding SB 257.

Chair Cooke opened the floor for public comment.

Robert Overmiller voiced support for the bill.

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A motion was made by Rep. Morris and seconded by Rep. Collins to release SB 257 from committee, motion carried. Yes = 7 (Bush, Collins, Cooke, Morris, Osienski, Romer, Vanderwende); No = 0; Absent = 1 (Johnson). The bill was released from committee with a F=2, M=5, U=0 vote.

Chair Cooke introduced **SB 236, AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 21 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO LICENSE PLATES AND PARKING PERMITS.** *Time Stamp: 11:07 a.m.*

SB 236, sponsored by Sen. Hansen and Rep. Heffernan, would expand issuances of ADA placards by extending the expiration date from three to eight years for permanent disabilities and five weeks to 180 days for temporary disabilities, lowering the minimum age from 85 to 80, and adding medical professionals who can certify a disability application.

No members of the committee had questions or comments regarding SB 236.

Chair Cooke opened the floor for public comment.

Robert Overmiller voiced support for the bill.

A motion was made by Rep. Collins and seconded by Rep. Bush to release SB 236 from committee, motion carried. Yes = 7 (Bush, Collins, Cooke, Morris, Osienski, Romer, Vanderwende); No = 0; Absent = 1 (Johnson). The bill was released from committee with a F=1, M=6, U=0 vote.

Chair Cooke adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Emma Crowell

Attendance List:

- Robert Overmiller

TRINIDAD NAVARRO
COMMISSIONER



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

May 20, 2024

House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

RE: SB 257

Chair Cooke and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on SB 257 on behalf of Insurance Commissioner Trinidad Navarro and the Delaware Department of Insurance. We **support** this legislation and appreciate the sponsor and stakeholders engaging the Department in review of the bill before bringing it forward.

This legislation aligns the requirements of public liability policies for rental vehicles with motor vehicle liability insurance requirements. We appreciate that SB 257 would not change that the owner of a rental vehicle is jointly and severally liable for negligence caused by the renter if the owner fails to maintain the liability insurance minimum as required in the financial responsibility law.

Additionally, as part of our review of this proposal and conversations with the Delaware Trial Lawyers, we have confirmed that these coverage requirements would not be out of line with neighboring states.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Chris Haas

Senior Policy Advisor to Insurance Commissioner Trinidad Navarro
Delaware Department of Insurance

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