



Policy Subcommittee Minutes

Monday, November 4, 2024
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Zoom

Members Present: Tanya Hughes, Werner Oyanadel, Tamara Lanier, Michael Gailor

Staff: Ken Barone, Erica Escobar

I. Welcome & Introductions

The meeting convened at 10:09 a.m.

II. Approval of the September 23, 2024, meeting minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the September 23, 2024, meeting minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Old Business

a. 2025 Legislative Priorities and Past Legislation

An update on H.B. 5055—An Act Strengthening Police Data Reporting Requirements—indicated that the bill is expected to be raised again. If it remains the same as last year’s version, the Advisory Board will likely support it and submit testimony. If not, there will be time to intervene and ask the Judiciary chairs to consider it.

To be proactive, the Advisory Board could send a brief note to the Judiciary Committee clerk expressing support for the bill being raised. Two options were discussed: wait for the bill to be raised or formally request that it be raised. The preferred approach was to send a formal request to raise the bill. It was agreed that a simple three-sentence statement would be crafted for the Advisory Board to consider, requesting that the Judiciary Committee raise the amended version of the bill from last year.

The Policy subcommittee members decided that, between now and the next meeting, they would work on specific language for the request, review it in

December, and vote on it to present to the full Advisory Board. The goal is to finalize the request before the session begins.

An update on H.B. 5324 - An Act Establishing Secondary Traffic Violations was provided, noting that the bill had been raised in the previous two sessions, passed out of committee, and made it to the Senate in year one but stalled in the House in year two. A similar version of the bill is expected to be raised again this year. Previous discussions within the Advisory Board indicated a lack of consensus, and the Board had generally remained silent on the bill in the past.

The House considered a bill version without a primary-secondary distinction in the previous session. It focused on reforming specific motor vehicle statutes rather than creating a primary-secondary system. Some moderate members of the legislature favored this approach, leading to the narrowing of the bill's scope.

The subcommittee now faces a decision: whether to engage in a detailed review of the proposed changes and possibly recommend a position or remain neutral. It was suggested that the subcommittee review the narrowed-down version of the bill being considered at the end of the last session, identifying where there is consensus on the proposed reforms. Key issues include lighting statutes, the use of license plates, and windshield visibility regulations.

The importance of including input from law enforcement experts, such as Chief Dryfe, was emphasized to ensure a thorough discussion on public safety implications. The subcommittee will continue refining the language and work towards reaching a consensus on which bill provisions could reduce disparities without compromising public safety.

The subcommittee plans to meet again to review the bill and discuss the remaining provisions. A reduced version of the bill will be provided for review prior to the next meeting to allow members time to consider the proposed changes. The goal is to identify areas of consensus and determine whether any changes to the bill should be recommended.

IV. General Discussion

Ken proposed the creation of formal bylaws for the Advisory Board, highlighting the need for structured governance after 12 years of operation. He suggested using the State Sentencing Commission's consensus-based model as a guide, focusing on organizing and operating subcommittees. Ken emphasized the importance of sustaining the board's operations beyond current members and proposed that the bylaws drafting be a priority for the subcommittee in 2025. Erica was tasked with researching bylaws from similar state groups to assist in drafting the proposal. The subcommittee will begin

working on this in the new year and aims to present a finalized set of bylaws to the full board in 2025. The full board will be informed of this plan at the December meeting. No vote was required for approval.

There was no further discussion, and the meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.