

(Continued)

Oklahoma City. This amendment relates to the powers of the Oklahoma State Board Association.

As author of the measure, Rep. Smith said, "I think I have a good bill, but other factors are making us waste unnecessary time. We're tied up with amendments, which direct us from what we're doing. I have presented a budget that will save time and money for the school districts, and give Oklahomans a full budget. Now, we have an amendment which takes one group out."

As questions arose regarding the possible relationship between the OSBA and their stand against SQ669, and their exclusion from the measure, Rep. Don McCorkell, D-Tulsa responded, "This is not a debate of 669, or the school board's stand on it. That is simply not the issue."

Rep. James Hager, D-Pawhuska, voiced his opposition to the amendment by saying, "The OSBA has been doing a service to the state and we have continuity with them. I have never had a request saying to change this. The system is not broke, there hasn't been a problem outlined to me, and no concern has been brought to me...except about this issue."

In defense of his own amendment Webb said, "I agree with Rep. Hager; it's not broke, it's just illegal. The way it's stated in the statutes is illegal. Whether it's for profit or not, we're specifying one entity; that's illegal. It's just that simple."

Despite debate, the amendment passed with a vote of 60-35.

In an effort to continue efforts to perfect the measure, Smith made the motion to strike the title of the bill. However, his motion failed with a vote of 53-43.

The bill passed with a vote of 98-0.

PARENTAL CONSENT FOR DRIVER'S LICENSES APPROVED

By Shawn Ashley
Staff Writer

■(GIT) Parents of teens would have the final say in whether their child could apply for a driver's license under the terms of a bill approved Tuesday by the Senate.

SB1115, authored by Brad Henry, D-Shawnee, would require a parent or guardian's consent before a child under the age of 18 could apply for and receive a driver's license. The bill would also allow the parent to withdraw that consent after the license is issued, resulting in the suspension of the driver's license.

Henry said he authored the bill in response to concerns expressed by two of his constituents, who he said were single mothers with incorrigible 16-year-old sons.

"The last thing they wanted was for their boys to go out with a friend and get their drivers' licenses," Henry said.

Henry said he did not see the measure as a solution to the juvenile crime problem, but called the measure "an additional tool for parents to deal with incorrigible children."

Senator Frank Shurden, D-Henryetta, expressed concern that the measure might be abused by parents.

"If they're all good parents, this would be great," Shurden said.

Shurden said some parents might withhold their consent unless the child agreed to use the license for illegal activity, such as buying and selling drugs.

By unanimous consent, the bill's title was stricken, and it received a passing vote of 31-6
