

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

3.5.24

House Committee Recording

Chair Cooke called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

Members present:

Rep. Cooke, Chair

Rep. Osienski, Vice Chair

Rep. Bush

Rep. Johnson

Rep. Romer

Rep. Morris

Chair Cooke introduced **HB 295, AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 21 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO DEALER PROCESSING FEES**. *Time Stamp: 11:07*

HB 295, sponsored by Rep. Baumbach would limit car dealership processing fees to a maximum of \$475, which is the average fee in the state.

Rep. Baumbach shared that one of his constituents was charged a \$600 dealer processing fee, which prompted the creation of this bill. He noted that the average dealer processing fee in Washington, D.C. is \$300 and in Maryland is \$499. By limiting fees to the Delaware average of \$475, Rep. Baumbach hopes this bill will provide “more certainty” for consumers in the state.

Chair Cooke asked about how this bill relates to the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and Rep. Baumbach answered that they have worked with the DMV to develop the bill and address any concerns.

Chair Cooke opened the floor for public comment.

One member of the public, Robert Overmiller, voiced support for the bill. No members of the public voiced opposition to the bill.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Osienski and seconded by Rep. Johnson to release HB 295 from committee, motion carried. Yes = 6 (Bush, Cooke, Johnson, Morris, Osienski, Romer); No = 0; Absent = 2 (Collins, Vanderwende). The bill was released from committee with a F=1, M=5, U=0 vote.

Chair Cooke introduced **HB 19, AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 21 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES.** *Time Stamp: 11:12*

HB 19, sponsored by Rep. Morrison would create a special LGBTQ+ Pride license plate, benefitting the United Way of Delaware Pride Council.

Rep. Morrison stated that the bill will help create visibility for the LGBTQ+ community and shared that many LGBTQ+ individuals and organizations are excited about the license plate. He emphasized a need for visibility and support as legislation and hate crimes against the LGBTQ+ community – specifically against Black and transgender individuals – are both increasingly prevalent. Rep. Morrison noted that a portion of the license plate sales would fund the United Way of Delaware.

Dan Cruce, Chief Operating Officer of the United Way of Delaware, stated that the LGBTQ+ Pride license plates would allow Delawareans of all ages, as well as those considering living and working in Delaware, to feel represented in the state. Mr. Cruce also spoke about the work of the United Way Pride Council, including networking with LGBTQ+ workers to help them realize their value in the workforce and facilitating a Pride Summit to help LGBTQ+ high schoolers feel supported.

Rep. Romer voiced support for the bill as a way to spread positivity and support the LGBTQ+ community.

Chair Cooke opened the floor for public comment.

No members of the public voiced support or opposition for this bill.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Osienski and seconded by Rep. Johnson to release HB 19 from committee, motion carried. Yes = 5 (Bush, Cooke, Johnson, Osienski, Romer); No = 0; Absent = 3 (Collins, Morris, Vanderwende). The bill was released from committee with a F=2, M=3 U=0 vote.

Chair Cooke adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Emma Crowell

Attendance List

- Robert Overmiller
- Dan Cruce, Chief Operating Officer of the United Way of Delaware