

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

February 01, 1999 Hearing Room HR E

8:30 a.m. Tapes 18 - ??

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Roger Beyer, Chair

Rep. Dan Gardner, Vice-Chair

Rep. Tim Knopp, Vice-Chair

Rep. Jason Atkinson

Rep. Bill Morrisette

Rep. Terry Thompson

Rep. Jackie Winters

MEMBER EXCUSED:

STAFF PRESENT: Keith Putman, Administrator

Frances Thomas, Administrative Support

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD: HB 2238, HB 2243, HB 2244

These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words. For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.

TAPE/#	Speaker	Comments
TAPE 18, A		
<u>OPENS PUBLIC HEARING</u>		

004	Chair Beyer	Calls meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.
006		Oregon employment department overview
011	Virlena crosley	Director, Oregon Employment Department. Explains mission of OED.
025	Crosley	Reviews "A Progress Report", OED, (Exhibit A, p).
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment Services
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unemployment Insurance
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labor Market Information
063	Morrisette	Asks about publication receives.
070	Talbott	Leg Coord
073	Winters	Asks for details regarding unemployment. Include institutional population?
086	K. Putman	Based on persons seeking employment. Institutional population not actively seeking.
095	Crosley	Continues with overview. Speaks of publications available.
108	Morrisette	Interested in receiving the "Careers Tabloid."
115	Crosley	Offers to supply that publication.
121	Crosley	Continues with overview:
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Care ñ explains components of provisions provided.
143	Beyer	Asks how criminal background checks are conducted.
148	Crosley	Concludes overview of OED programs.
154	Crosley	Explains Objectives of the Unemployment Insurance Program (Exhibit A,

		<p>page):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides partial wage replacement • stabilizes the economy • preserve an employer's workforce
179	Thompson	Comments that OED creates situation to keep people from working during winter seasonal times
192	Crosley	Suggests preserving employers workforce. Crew of workers when not out available work do qualify for benefits and would not need to actively seek work.
209	Thompson	Don't know when weather will improve, workers will go on unemployment and when times improve
215	Crosely	Should not refuse benefits if you have asked them to return.
225	Thompson	Continues to comment regarding response times between workers and OED.
234	Crosley	Offers to meet Rep. Thompson later to discuss further
239	Crosley	<p>Continues with detailed program information, unemployment insurance program. (Exhibit A, page).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workers employed through no fault of their own received benefits • Benefit levels should provide reasonable purchasing power. • Maintain neutrality to labor disputes and union matters
280	Crosely	<p>Job Attachment (Exhibit A, page):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job attached workers may meet the actively seeking work requirement • Job attached worker to seek work with other employers if still unemployed after 8 weeks • about 60% of UI claimants statewide are job attached • uses pie chart for example
235	Beyer	Asks what is "spell"
236	Crosley	Answers by explaining
346	Beyer	Asks about turn around time by referring to spells
360	Crosley	Refers to chart Exhibit A, Oregon's suitability factors.
380	Crosley	

388	Putman	Asks about factors connected to labor disputes.
400	Crosley	Explains details regarding Oregon law.
414	Putman	Significant explains compliance issue
430	Crosley	Continues with detailed overview: (Exhibit A, page).
456	bEYER	How far back in does an employer go to determin elegibility of
470	Frank Richie	OED
Tape 19A 001	Richie	Continues to answer question posed.
017	Winters	Explains situation where went back to previous month.
020	Richie	Clarifies details ability to go back to last employer.
032	Winters	Comments regarding base benefit requirements. Suggest streamlining process.
045	Crosley	Explains looking at streamlining system without much success. Technology is helping us.
060	Thompson	Expresses dissatisfaction with OED and process required for benefits. The amount of time spent by small business employer is monumental. Time and money lost.
074	Crosley	Ask if on appeal.
076	Thompson	Explains situation of example discussed. Has to do with child support. Receive on regular basis. System is frustrating
086	Crosley	Do handle hearing for child support. Asking for information regarding support issue.
097	Crosley	Continues with overview (Exhibit A, page): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unemployment Benfit Financing with goals of experience rating and some costs are pooled among all employers
115	Crosley	Refers to "Requirements for Workers To Maintain Eligibility To Claim Benefits"

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able • available • active seeking
138	Crosley	Explains Unemployment Taxes & payments (Exhibit A, page).
160	Beyer	Asks question referring to chart in discussion.
173	Richie	Responds to clarify question.
129	Beyer	Speaks of total taxes.
184	Richie	Responds regarding excess.
188	Crosley	Also responds
195	Crosley	Gives examples to respond to questions.
216	Beyer	Asks how large trust fund is at this time.
218	Richie	Responds regarding payouts
229	Crosley	Payout 350 to 4 million per year. Gives reasons for amount in trust fund.
243	Beyer	Leg decision or admin decision
247	Crosley	Leg decision
251	Putman	Asks specific chapter
253	Richie	Chapter 657
287	Crosley	Actual bill testimony
291	Crosley	Jobs Plus Information (Exhibit A, page) administered at state level. At local level administer by employment division.
310	Crosley	Provides unemployment claimants and reimbursement to employers.
339	Crosley	Refers to Exhibit A, page

354	Thompson	Responds of Jobs Plus program asks percent of admin costs.
360	Crosley	Responds regard OED, not adult and family services
371	Morrisette	Comments
376	Crosley	Continues to respond regarding cost benefits.
400	Putman	Question regarding economy
405	Crosley	Responds, believes it will be less.
426	Crosley	Concludes overview.
432	Thompson	Fishermans in the woods. requests information on admin costs.
Tape 1B 001	Crosley	
Tape 2B 001		Switch to because meter and ear phone inoperable.
004	Chair Beyer	HB 2238 9:32 Pub hear open
006	Putman	Explains overview of proposed legislation in HB 2238
040	Crosley	Gives testimony
047	Atkinson	Asks about burden of proof.
051	Crosley	Explains where burden of proof is.
059	Bob Shiprack	Oregon Building Trades Council. Explains neutrality on bill.
070	Shiprack	Continues by giving examples in construction trade.
083	Shiprack	Employment Division considers that employees voluntarily quit.
091	Shiprack	Explains flip side of example. Comments employee should not lose benefits.

107	Knopp	What there a recommendation in there
110	Shiprack	Suggests an amendment of clarification.
116	Thompson	Comments, opening door for violation.
121	Shiprack	Agrees bill is more technical than appears on surface.
137	Beyer	Closes PUB at 9:44 a.m. asks for OED to discuss further. Possiblity of JUD look at issue.
150	Beyer	PUB HB 2243 and asks K. Putman for an overview explanation.
155	Putman	Explains overview of issues surrounding HB 2243
170	Virlena Crosley	Director, OED. Summarizes that bill proposes to standardize the time employers have to raise issues that allow their eunemployment insurance account to be relieved of charges to 30 days. Gives current process. Explains background. Proposes changes. Suggests recommendations.
203	Putman	Paraphrases not form issue what the employer might say. Right now there are 30 days but left out notice of offenses.
214	Talbott	explains confusion by employer. Attempts to refine and simplify forms.
223	Atkinson	Exsponse record under current law regarding felony.
232	Crosley	Responds.
	Richie	Called upon to clarify.
272	Winters	Comments regarding conviction.
275	Richie	30 days after conviction.
285	Putman	Asks for clarification
290	Richie	Responds
304	Richie	Continues to clarify response regarding convictions.

312	Winters	Asks for further clarification by giving example.
324	Richie	Responds
243	Beyer	Now have 30 days instead of 10 days to respond.
249	Morrisette	Asks for more information regard wage after convictions.
376	Atkinson	Discussion continues regarding clarification of time factor.
379	Crosley	Responds by referring to explanation of bill.
408	Putman	Uses analogy
428	Richie	Responds to question.
448	Beyer	Asks question regarding scenerio
455	Richie	Responds
Tape 20A 001	Beyer	(Tape audio very low. Increases slightly. Goes up and down. Very little registers on the meter) Closes PUB HB 2243
		Opens Worksession
030	Beyer	Opens PUB HB 2244
035	Putman	Explains overview of bill.
057	Putman	Continues with clarification
061	Crosley	Uses Exhibit A, page , for explanation of HB 2244.
072	Crosley	Summarizes the bill giving the current process, background and recommendations.
081	Shiprack	Explains give testimony as member of employment departmnet advisory council. Clarifies support of bill.

094	Shiprack	Explains based on stats use of Jobs Plus is not cost effective. Refers to Report to Legislature on the JOBS Plus Program November 1998.
131	Putman	Way OED has been administering program.
140	Morrisette	Will talk with Mr. Shiprack
144	Beyer	Expresses concerns.
151	Crosley	Believes is consistent with current law.
157	Beyer	Question
159	Crosley	Responds
162	Beyer	Asks for written decision
166	Putman	Question regarding rule
168	Crosley	Responds
171	Beyer	Suggest more background research needed.
177		Closes PUB on HB 2244 at 10:17 and Ajourns meeting at 10:17 a.m.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

FRANCES THOMAS, KEITH PUTMAN,

Administrative Support Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A -