February 22, 1991 Hearing Room E 8:30 a.m. Tapes 45 - 46 MEMBERS PRESENT:Rep. Bill Markham, Chair Rep. Larry Sowa, Vice-Chair Rep. Marie Bell Rep. Mary Alice Ford Rep. Tom Novick Rep. Carolyn Oakley Rep. Lonnie Roberts MEMBER EXCUSED: None VISITING MEMBER: Rep. Tom Mason, District 11 Rep. Randy Miller, District 24 STAFF PRESENT: Randall Jones, Committee Administrator Carolyn Cobb, Committee Assistant

- MEASURES CONSIDERED: HB 2625 - Requires Candidates and Political Committees to file Two Additional Statements, PH, WS HJR 12 - Requires Majority of Electors in Majority of Congressional Districts to Approve Amendment to State Constitution, PH, WS SB 187 - Revises Election Laws, PH, WS SB 283 - Reduces Number of Election Dates, PH, WS

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TAPE 45, SIDE A

003 CHAIR MARKHAM: Calls the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m.

SB 187 - REVISES ELECTION LAWS - PUBLIC HEARING Witness: Sue Proffitt, Elections Division 010 SUE PROFFITT, ELECTIONS DIVISION: Asks for a one week postponement of the hearing on SB 187 in consideration of the Oregon Association of County Clerks wanting to add some amendments. House Co linee on State and Federal Affair~ February 22, 1991 - Page 2

014 CHAIR MARKHAM: Hearing no objections, the hearing on SB 187 is postponed.

SB 283 - REDUCES NUMBER OF ELECTION DATES - PUBLIC HEARING Witnesses: Walter Crews, Oregon State Deputy Legislative Affairs Representative, Non-Commissioned Officers Association John Marshall, Oregon School Boards Association Al Davidson, Oregon Association of County Clerks

024 RANDALL JONES, COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATOR: Reviews the provisions of the bill. 030 WALTER CREWS, OREGON STATE DEPUTY LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS REPRESENTATIVE, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION: Submits and summarizes written testimony (EXHIBIT A). 076 REP. ROBERTS: Haven't the number of days been changed in the past? 081CREWS: There was a house bill in the last session which had some of these changes. In this session there is also SB 349 which addresses some of these changes, but it has been tabled in committee because it is similar to SB 283. Resumes written testimony. 220 REP. ROBERTS: What do you mean by electronic transmission of absentee ballots? . 228 REP. FORD: Did we hear a bill that changes procedures to allow fax applications for absentee ballots? CREWS: We are referring to using modern day technology. -Resumes summary of written testimony. -Submits a hand-engrossed copy of SB 349 A-Engrossed and Addendum (EXHIBIT B) which the NCOA would like substituted for SB 283. 325 JOHN MARSHALL, OREGON SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION: We have traditionally opposed the reduction of election dates because of the way schools have been funded. Discusses how Ballot Measure 5 may change school funding in Oregon. -Reviews amendments in the Senate eliminating the August election and retaining the June

election. -Reviews election notice requirements. -Final effect on schools of Ballot Measure 5 is not yet known. I urge your support of SB 283 as amended. 404 REP. ROBERTS: What was your reference to the presidential primary?

TAPE 46, SIDE A

004 MARSHALL: If the other states in the region go along, starting in 1992 the presidential primary will be held in March.

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023 AL DAVIDSON, OREGON ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY CLERKS: I will be meeting with Mr. Crews in the near future to address some of the concerns of the Noncommissioned Officers Association.

REP. ROBERTS: Cannot the law be changed so if you are overseas more time is available to vote by absentee ballot? 036 DAVIDSON: We have been working on this over the last several sessions. We have done away with the "not earlier than" requirement for applications for absentee ballots. Under SB 283 we will be down to a twenty eight day transit time on one election and forty days for all others. We may be able to eliminate the June election. 054CHAIR MARKHAM: Is the June election the twenty eight day one? 056 DAVIDSON: Yes, and we concurred in the Senate to leave that one in because it gives us forty days on all other elections. 059REP. ROBERTS: The June election is not used on even years? 063 DAVIDSON: The June election is available every year and is quite popular with school districts because it is the last election before a new fiscal year. -We think this is as far as we can go toward meeting the NCOA goals this session. 071 REP. FORD: Why can't you make some kind of allowance for the APO or FPO postmarks to be able to count those ballots as long as they are received within the timeframe for certification? 075DAVIDSON: That issue has been discussed many sessions here and I believe we get into a problem of equal rights for all citizens. 078 REP. FORD: But if they are postmarked, say seventy two hours prior to the election, why can't they be counted? 082 DAVIDSON: The problem we have is that many absentee ballots bear no postmark or postmarks that are not readable. The real way to handle it is to provide suffficient transit time. In cooperation with the Defense Department, we not only accepted faxed absentee ballot applications, we faxed the ballots to Saudi Arabia. 099 REP. NOVICK: A bill in this session for a five day cutoff might help solve that problem. 103 DAVIDSON: The legislature has provided that persons who move within forty days of an election may re-register even within the twenty day cutoff. 110 REP. BELL: Could we consider absentee ballots that arrive before the final count is made? 117 DAVIDSON: That issue has been discussed many times. You cannot restrict that to

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only a certain class of people without violating some equal protection clauses.

- 131 REP. ROBERTS: Can someone register by mail if they are anticipating a return to Oregon?
- 138 DAVIDSON: Yes, that can be done.
- 141 JONES: The Navy takes a very serious look at voting problems. Explains their procedures to get ballots in on time to meet requirements.
- 166 CHAIR MARKHAM: Please go over the six suggestions of the Non-commissioned Officers Association.
- 169 DAVIDSON: Gives responses to the six points contained in Mr. Crews' testimony.
- 236 CHAIR MARKHAM: What did the Secretary of State do to enable the special handling of absentee ballots of military people in the Persian Gulf?
- 239 DAVIDSON: The Secretary of State received the communication from the Department of Defense and administratively allowed those procedures to be followed.
- 250 CHAIR MARKHAM: Shall we move forward with the bill as written and then consider a separate bill that addresses the outstanding issues?
- 254 REP. SOWA: I would prefer to try to solve some of the problems with this bill, this session. 264 REP. ROBERTS: Does Mr. Crew have any problem in moving ahead with this bill and working on these problems after the effect of Ballot Measure 5 is known?
- 272 CREWS: I have not had time to assimilate all the election laws, I am willing to work with all of you. I realize there have to be some compromises.
- 297 CHAIR MARKHAM: Would you feel comfortable if we move the bill as written?
- 301 CREWS: There are some things on the Addendum pages that I would like to see considered. SB 349 was more comprehensive than this bill is and I would also like to see its provisions considered.
- 309 CHAIR MARKHAM: We will give you an opportunity to work with Mr. Davidson on some amendments.
- HJR 12 REQUIRES MAJORITY OF ELECTORS IN MAJORITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS TO APPROVE AMENDMENT TO STATE CONSTITUTION PUBLIC HEARING Witnesses: Tom Mason, State Representative, District 11

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323 TOM MASON, STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 11: Submits and reviews proposed LC dash one amendments dated 2/14/91 (EXHIBIT C). My original intent was to change the constitutional amendment process so that the

- people in some of the rural areas would not feel overwhelmed by the metropolitan areas. 347 CHAIR MARKHAM: Have you discussed the resolution by Rep. Whitty that requires in obtaining signatures, it must be done in each congressional district? 353 REP. MASON: I have not, but it is not a bad idea. -Reviews some of the early history of the initiative petition in Oregon.
- 402 JONES: In the LC dash one amendments dated 2/14/91 (EXHIBIT C) there is a typographical error on line 7 the words "page 2" should be "page 3". Submits hand engrossed HJR 12 (EXHIBIT D).
- HJR 12 REQUIRES MAJORITY OF ELECTORS IN MAJORITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS TO APPROVE AMENDMENT TO STATE CONSTITUTION - WORK SESSION 415 MOTION: REP. ROBERTS moved to adopt the dash one LC amendments dated 2/14/91 to HJR 12 dated (EXHIBIT C), and to amend page 1, line 7, changing the words "page 2" to "page 3." TAPE 45, SIDE B 025 CHAIR MARKHAM: Hearing no objections, they are so adopted. 026 MOTION: REP. ROBERTS moved HJR 12 as amended to the floor with a "do pass" recommendation. 029 REP. NOVICK: Has Rep. Mason seen the fiscal impact statement? 033 REP. MASON: It is a small expense for good government. 039 REP. BELL: I am going to support taking this bill to the floor, but I am going to reserve 'the right to change my vote once it hits the floor. 042 REP. FORD: I totally support this, but without it going to the Ways and Means Committee, I have to oppose it. 047 REP. MASON: All we are really talking about is four additional pages in the voters pamphlet. 053 REP. ROBERTS: If every bill has to go to Ways and Means, nothing else is going to get done and we are not going to help the other issues. 056 REP. FORD: I think if it went to Ways and Means, they might be able to find that \$30,000 within some other area of the budget rather than out of the general fund. Howe Committee on State and Federal Affairs February 22, 1991 - Page 6
- 063 REP. MASON: Even though they have costed it out, any time a citizens group puts something in the voters pamphlet, that cost is automatically absorbed.
- 072 REP. BELL: If we went with the ballot measure that says two-thirds majority to amend the constitution, would there be the same kind of fiscal impact as doing it by congressional district?
- 076 REP. MASON: Yes it would be the same four pages in the voters pamphlet.
- 079 JONES: Looking at the fiscal impact statement and other bills that have come before the committee, it appears the cost generally runs about \$30,000.
- 082 VOTE: In a roll call vote, the motion carried, with Rep. Bell, Rep. Ford, Rep. Novick, Rep. Roberts, Rep. Sowa, and Chair Markham voting AYE. Rep. Oakley is excused.
- 092 CHAIR MARKHAM: recesses the meeting at 9:49 a.m.
- -Resumes the meeting at 9:55 a.m.
- HB 2625 REQUIRES CANDIDATES AND POLITICAL COMMITTEES TO FILE TWO ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS PUBLIC HEARING Witnesses: Randy Miller, State Representative, District 24 David Biedermann, Financial Operations Director, City of Eugene

- 097 RANDY MILLER, STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 24: Reviews provisions of HB 2625.
- 115 REP. SOWA: With the advent of fax and computers, there is more ability as we go along to submit that information in a timely manner.
- 119 REP. MILLER: As a matter of current law, if an interested party wants to inquire about the state of a candidate's finances, they can do so prior to a required reporting period. 128 CHAIR MARKHAM: It is a form of campaign finance reform and we are going to have to do something in that area.
- 135 REP. NOVICK: In looking at the timeframe, this would require an additional, but later report.
- REP. MILLER: Yes, it changes the reporting period between the 39th and 29th day before the election, substituting between the 59th and 57th day. 152 CHAIR MARKHAM: Which bill do you prefer? 156 REP. MILLER: My preference is an enhanced disclosure and I would feel comfortable with an additional reporting period. I would like the public to more fully understand the House (~nmmi~P~ on SB te and Federal Affairs February 22, 1991 Page 7

sources of campaign financing.

- 173 REP. BELL: Given all the campaign reform measures we are looking at, where is this bill in your list of priorities?
- 180 REP. MILLER: Term limitation is one of the leading priorities I have. Pass-through would be slightly above an additional time for disclosure.
- 205 REP. SOWA: Do you think that an amendment that required every Friday during the campaign, filing a copy of your ledger would be an adequate alternative to more reporting periods?
- 215 REP. MILLER: Do mean the individual entries or the cover sheet?
- 219 REP. SOWA: The cover sheet rather than a sheet that causes the treasurer to do extra work.
- 226 REP. MILLER: Certainly that would meet the desire for enhanced disclosure. Under the current law, you are supposed to be current within seven days of a receipt or expenditure. It would be a matter of sending in the reports you have currently on file.
- DAVID BIEDERMANN, FINANCIAL OPERATIONS DIRECTOR, CITY OF EUGENE: Maintaining the system is labor intensive and time consuming. -Election officers must constantly audit the reports for accuracy. -The addition of two more filings will increase the administration of political contribution and expenditure statements by 40%. -Additional work loads will be difficult to meet. -The intent can be met without requiring an additional filing. 297 REP. MILLER: The suggestions are certainly worth the committee's consideration. I appreciate the concerns about the cost of administration, but I would still ask the committee to consider an additional reporting period.
- HJR 12 REQUIRES MAJORITY OF ELECTORS IN MAJORITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS TO APPROVE AMENDMENT TO STATE CONSTITUTION WORK SESSION

- 316 REP. OAKLEY: I request unanimous consent that the rules be suspended to allow me to be recorded as voting AYE on the motion to move HJR 12 as amended to the floor.
- 320 CHAIR MARKHAM: Hearing no objection, it is so ordered. Submitted by:

  Reviewed by: Carolyn Cobb

Randall Jones Assistant

Administrator

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## EXHIBIT LOG:

A - Testimony on SB 283 - Walter Crews - 8 pages B - Hand-engrossed SB 283 - Walter Crews - 8 pages C - Amendments to HJR 12 - Randall Jones - 1 page D - Hand-engrossed HJR 12 - Randall Jones - 3 pages

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