

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

March 30, 2005 Hearing Room C

9:00 A.M. Tapes 37 - 38

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Patti Smith, Chair

Rep. Brian Boquist, Vice-Chair

Rep. Arnie Roblan, Vice-Chair

Rep. Terry Beyer

Rep. Chuck Burley

Rep. Mark Hass

Rep. Mac Sumner

STAFF PRESENT: Patrick Brennan, Committee Administrator

Jania Zeeb, Committee Assistant

MEASURES/ISSUES HEARD:

HCR 10 – Public Hearing and Work Session

HB 2909 – Public Hearing

HB 2926 – Public Hearing and Work Session

HB 2927 – Public Hearing

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
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TAPE 37, A

003 Chair Smith Calls the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and opens a public hearing on HCR 10

HCR 10 – PUBLIC HEARING

010 Patrick Brennan Committee Administrator. Summarizes HCR 10.

016 Rep. Bruce Hanna House District 7. Submits and presents prepared testimony in support of HCR 10 (**EXHIBIT A**), which memorializes former State Representative L.L. “Stub” Stewart.

040 Dave Frohnmayer President, University of Oregon. Talks about different accomplishments of Mr. Stewart.

080 Tom Hoyt Friend of Mr. Stewart. Testifies in support of HCR 10. Discusses the accomplishments of Mr. Stewart.

100 Ward Armstrong Submits and presents prepared testimony in support of HCR 10 (**EXHIBIT B**). Discusses Mr. Stewart’s involvement in politics.

132 George Brown Oregon State University. Testifies in support of HCR 10. Talks about different accomplishments of Mr. Stewart in regard to agricultural research and the college of forestry.

181 Michel Theloe Publisher, Jet City. Discusses his time with Mr. Stewart, and what he learned from him. Comments on the mark Mr. Stewart left on Oregon geography.

270 Brian Booth Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. Testifies in support of HCR 10. Comments on his experiences with Mr. Stewart. Submits and presents prepared testimony in support of HCR 10 (**EXHIBIT C**).

375 Chair P. Smith Closes the public hearing on HCR 10 and opens a work session on HCR 10.

HCR 10 – WORK SESSION

380 Rep. Roblan **MOTION: Moves HCR 10 be sent to the floor with a BE ADOPTED recommendation.**

392 **VOTE: 6-0-1**

AYE: In a roll call vote, all members present vote Aye.

EXCUSED: 1 - Hass

Chair P. Smith The motion CARRIES.

REP. HANNAH will lead discussion on the floor.

403 Chair P. Smith Closes the Work Session on HCR 10 and opens a public hearing on HB 2909.

HB 2909 – PUBLIC HEARING

416 Rep. Barnhart House District 11. Summarizes HB 2909 and talks about the problems HB 2909 would solve.

TAPE 38, A

030 Rep. Barnhart Discusses the purpose of HB 2909. Comments that the change would allow special districts to put levies on the ballot.

045 Rep. Barnhart Clarifies that in section 7 sub section 4 the word district is used in the context of the chapter as defined. Discusses the -1 amendments **(EXHIBIT D)**. Talks about the proposed amendments that are currently with Legislative Council.

082 Rep. Boquist Inquires how tax compression impacts HB 2909.

087 Rep. Barnhart Responds that he has not thought of that. Gives examples of how tax compression could apply and how it could not apply.

105 Rep. P. Smith Asks when the amendments will be ready.

106 Rep. Barnhart Answers that they have asked for them to be returned from Legislative Counsel as soon as possible.

120	Paul Reed	East Lane Confederation Soil and Water District. Submits an informational pamphlet (EXHIBIT E) and prepared testimony (EXHIBIT F) and testifies in support of HB 2909.
177	Reed	Discusses the choices the state has to make in order to protect the environment. Comments that his district would prefer that special districts would not have to pay for election costs.
233	Rep. Boquist	Asks how many of the soil conservation districts have taxing authority.
239	Reed	Responds that there are five, and lists examples.
245	Rep. Boquist	Presumes that there are forty soil and water conservation districts that lack taxing authority.
247	Reed	Replies affirmatively.
249	John McDonald	Oregon Association of Conservation Districts. Submits prepared testimony in support of HB 2909 (EXHIBIT G) .
349	McDonald	Comments on the benefit of not opening positions to the ballot that do not have people running.
395	McDonald	Comments on the benefits of HB 2909.
412	Eann Rains	District Administrator, East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District. Submits prepared testimony in support of HB 2909 (EXHIBIT H) .

TAPE 37, B

029	Rains	Comments on the benefits of HB 2909, such as the ability to add staff and bring staff to full time.
061	Rains	Comments on what could happen as a result of HB 2909.
066	Paul Snider	Association of Oregon Counties (AOC). Testifies to a position of neutrality on HB 2909. Comments that the fiscal impact for counties would not be big as is being estimated as a result of HB 2909.

		Comments on how he thinks HB 2090 would affect people. States that he has not seen the amendments that are being drafted by Legislative Counsel.
103	Chair P. Smith	Asks if he will be able to come back when the next amendments are ready.
104	Snider	Answers that he will. Continues discussing his concerns with the bill. States that the fiscal issue is the primary concern.
129	Jan Coleman	Yamhill County Clerk. Discusses the benefits of the ballot portion of HB 2909. Comments on the cost of researching the write-in votes.
156	Coleman	Discusses her concerns with HB 2909. States that the Oregon Association of County Clerks has not taken a position on the bill.
165	Rep. Boquist	Inquires how to notify people that a position is open if the position is not listed on the ballot. Asks what is the thought in regard to keeping from needlessly putting it on the ballot.
186	Coleman	Responds by explaining how statute addresses the issue.
193	Rep. Boquist	Comments that the committee is going to vote on whether the statute should be changed.
197	Rep. Sumner	Suggests that water and soil conservation districts look into recruiting qualified applicants for open positions.
211	Rep. Beyer	Presumes that the districts are doing everything they can to recruit qualified people.
230	Larry Ojua	Program Manager, Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA). Comments that the department supports the concepts in HB 2909. Discusses the department's views of HB 2909. Expresses a desire to see the other amendments prior to making a decision on the measure.
274	Allison Hensey	Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB). Submits prepared testimony regarding HB 2909 (EXHIBIT I).
300	Chair P. Smith	Closes the public hearing on HB 2909 and opens a public hearing on HB 2926.

HB 2926 – PUBLIC HEARING

306	Patrick Brennan	Committee Administrator. Summarizes HB 2926.
357	John McDonald	Executive Director, Oregon Association of Conservation Districts. Submits prepared testimony in support of HB 2926 (EXHIBIT J).
385	Chair P. Smith	Asks if the measure would still have option of petition by ten percent of district landowners.
387	McDonald	Answers affirmatively.
396	Rep. Beyer	Inquires how many members soil and water districts have.
404	McDonald	Gives estimated numbers of membership.

TAPE 38, B

014	Larry Ojua	Program Manager, Oregon Department of Agriculture. Testifies in support of HB 2926.
024	Rep. Roblan	Asks if the ten percent in HB 2926 means ten percent or more.
025	Ojua	Concurs.
030	Chair P. Smith	Closes the public hearing on HB 2926 and opens a work session on HB 2926.

HB 2926 – WORK SESSION

031	Rep. Boquist	MOTION: Moves HB 2926 to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation and be placed on the CONSENT CALENDAR.
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040		VOTE: 6-0-1
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AYE: In a roll call vote, all members present vote Aye.

EXCUSED: 1 - Hass

Chair P. Smith The motion CARRIES.

041 Chair P. Smith Closes the work session on HB 2926 and opens a public hearing on HB 2927.

HB 2927 – PUBLIC HEARING

048 Patrick Brennan Committee Administrator. Summarizes HB 2927.

059 John McDonald Executive director, Oregon Association of Conservation Districts. Submits prepared testimony in support of HB 2927 (**EXHIBIT K**) and a suggested amendment (**EXHIBIT L**). Comments on the need for HB 2927 and the advantages of the bill.

138 Tim Stieber District Manager, Yamhill Soil and Water Conservation District. Testifies in support of HB 2927. Comments on the benefits of HB 2927.

166 Larry Ojua Program Manager, Oregon Department of Agriculture. Comments on the options counties have in order to construct a building. Testifies in support of the amendments to HB 2927.

184 Rep. Sumner Inquires if a general obligation bond issued by a district would come under the double majority rule.

190 Chair P. Smith Responds that it would.

196 Chair P. Smith Closes the public hearing on HB 2927 and adjourns the meeting at 10:43 a.m.

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

- A. HCR 10, prepared testimony, Rep. Bruce Hanna, 1 p
- B. HCR 10, prepared testimony, Ward Armstrong, 1 p
- C. HCR 10, prepared testimony, Brian Booth, 2 pp
- D. HB 2909, -1 amendments, staff, 1 p
- E. HB 2909, informational pamphlet, Paul Reed, 2 pp
- F. HB 2909, prepared testimony, Paul Reed, 5 pp
- G. HB 2909, prepared testimony, John McDonald, 3 pp
- H. HB 2909, prepared testimony, Eann Rains, 1 p
- I. HB 2909, prepared testimony, Allison Hensey, 1 p

- J. HB 2926, prepared testimony, John McDonald, 1 p
- K. HB 2927, prepared testimony, John McDonald, 1 p
- L. HB 2927, suggested amendments, John McDonald, 1 p
- M. HB 2927, prepared testimony, Gus Meyer, 1 p
- N. HB 2909, prepared testimony, Gus Meyer, 1 p
- O. HB 2909, prepared testimony, Craig Burnham, 1 p
- P. HB 2909, prepared testimony, Patricia Farrell, 1 p