

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

**April 06, 2005 Hearing Room E**

**1:00 P.M. Tapes 77 - 78**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:           Rep. Linda Flores, Chair**

**Rep. John Dallum, Vice-Chair**

**Rep. Steve March, Vice-Chair**

**Rep. Debi Farr**

**Rep. John Lim**

**Rep. Arnie Roblan**

**Rep. Chip Shields**

**STAFF PRESENT:           Jim Keller, Committee Administrator**

**Kellie Whiting, Committee Assistant**

**MEASURES/ISSUES HEARD:**

**HB 3418 – Public Hearing**

**HB 2806 – Public Hearing and Work Session**

**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.**

<b>TAPE/#</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>TAPE 77, A</b>		
002	Chair Flores	Calls the meeting to order at 1:02p.m. and opens the public hearing on HB 3418.

**HB 3418 – PUBLIC HEARING**

014	Jim Keller	Committee Administrator. Reads HB 3418.
019	Rep. Derrick Kitts	House District 30. Testifies in support of HB 3418. States the bill is drafted just as measure 30 was and is voluntary.
045	Rep. Dallum	Inquires about the money involved.
051	Rep. Kitts	Responds the department has not been able to give him information in regards to money.
066	Chair Flores	Closes the public hearing on HB 2806. Opens the public hearing on HB 2806.

**HB 2806 – PUBLIC HEARING**

076	Jim Keller	Reads HB 2806.
088	Stella Guenther	President, Benton County Republican Women. Submits and reads from prepared testimony ( <b>EXHIBIT A</b> ) in support of HB 2806. States no child should be deprived of repeating the pledge of allegiance. Explains the importance of teaching patriotism in the classroom.
241	Rep. Farr	Inquires if a child does not participate in standing, does Ms. Guenther object to sitting.
248	Guenther	Responds no.

252	Rep. Esquivel	House District 6. Testifies in support of HB 2806. Explains how the bill allows the opportunity to participate in reciting the pledge.
302	Rep. Gene Whisnant	House District 53. Testifies in support of HB 2806. Explains the importance of having patriotism and the opportunity to say the pledge. Urges the passage of HB 2806.
370	Rep. Roblan	Inquires if he would be willing to substitute the national anthem for assemblies.
380	Chair Flores	Clarifies there are -1 amendments available addressing the issue of assemblies <b>(EXHIBIT B)</b> .
387	Rep. Whisnant	Responds he would not be opposed to either.
393	Rep. Farr	Comments on the concerns of people who object to the pledge due to religious reasons.
424	Rep. Whisnant	Responds on the supreme court ruling in regards to the words “under God”.

**TAPE 78, A**

001	Rep. Lim	Inquires about the schools included in the bill.
006	Chair Flores	Responds the bill includes K-12 schools.
010	Rep. Lim	Inquires about non-citizen students in which are educated through federal law and who might be uncomfortable participating.
020	Rep. Whisnant	Responds that the bill is giving the opportunity.
027	Leo Reetz	Testifies in support of HB 2806. States he is a veteran of war. States citizens should be given the opportunity to say the pledge, and should even be mandatory.
064	Harley Ray	Veterans Organization of Oregon. Testifies in support of HB 2806. Provides his background. Comments on his duty as an American to pledge the flag. Notes he has the right to say God and the pledge in

it's entirety if he chooses to. Explains that it is teaching freedom and history.

- 097 Rep. Shields Comments on the court's decision concerning the words "under God".
- 105 Major Roscoe Lonklin Testifies in support of HB 2806. States he is a World War II Veteran. Comments the bill supports our children and is a part of this country.
- 132 Doug Mercer Submits and reads prepared testimony (**EXHIBIT C**) in support of HB 2806. States despite the mandate of having the opportunity to say the pledge on a weekly basis, his children are not given that opportunity.
- 179 Rep. March Requests the Washington law in regards to the pledge said in school.
- 182 Chair Flores Responds she will provide a copy to the members.
- 195 Mercer Continues to read prepared testimony in support of HB 2806.
- 350 Mercer Submits and reads prepared testimony on behalf of Nicholas Potter in support of HB 2806 (**EXHIBIT D**).
- 365 Rep. March Inquires about the cases Mr. Mercer has seen as a probation officer in regards to a decline in negative behavior.
- 374 Mercer Explains a comparison between schools in Vancouver and Portland.
- 408 Chair Flores Closes the public hearing on HB 2806 and opens a work session on HB 2806.

**HB 2806 – WORK SESSION**

421 Rep. Dallum **MOTION: Moves to ADOPT HB 2806 -1 amendment dated 4/4/05.**

426 **VOTE: 7-0-0**

Chair Flores **Hearing no objection, declares the motion CARRIED.**

**TAPE 77, B**

**002**      **Rep. Dallum**      **MOTION: Moves HB 2806 to the floor with a DO PASS AS AMENDED recommendation.**

015      Rep. Shields      Expresses reasons why he will be voting in opposition of the bill.

031      Rep. Lim      Expresses why he will be supporting the bill.

056      Rep. Farr      Expresses her support for the bill and states students who do not want to say the pledge do not have to.

069      Rep. Roblan      Explains his support of the bill.

092      Rep. Dallum      Explains why he will vote in support of the bill.

108      Rep. March      Explains why he will be respectfully voting against the bill.

123      Chair Flores      Expresses her support of HB 2806.

**130**           **VOTE: 5-2-0**

**AYE:            5 - Dallum, Farr, Lim, Roblan, Flores**

**NAY:            2 - March, Shields**

**Chair Flores**      **The motion CARRIES.**

**REP. FLORES will lead discussion on the floor.**

140      Chair Flores      Closes the work session on HB 2806 and adjourns the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

**EXHIBIT SUMMARY**

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- A. **HB 2806, prepared testimony, Stella Guenther, 4 pp**
- B. **HB 2806, -1 amendment, staff, 1 p**
- C. **HB 2806, prepared testimony, Doug Mercer, 6 pp**
- D. **HB 2806, prepared testimony of Nicholas Potter, 1 p**