

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT

March 15, 2005 Hearing Room D

1:00 P.M. Tape 21

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Gordon Anderson, Chair

Rep. Bob Jenson, Vice-Chair

Rep. Mary Nolan, Vice-Chair

Rep. Phil Barnhart

Rep. Bill Garrard

Rep. John Lim

Rep. Diane Rosenbaum

STAFF PRESENT: John Houser, Committee Administrator

Mike Reiley, Committee Assistant

MEASURES/ISSUES HEARD:

HJR 3 – 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.

TAPE/#	Speaker	Comments
---------------	----------------	-----------------

TAPE 21, A

003	Chair Anderson	Calls the meeting to order at 1:13 p.m. Opens a public hearing on
-----	----------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------

HJR 3.

HJR 3 – PUBLIC HEARING

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 012 | Rep. Alan Brown | House District 10. Testifies in support of HJR 3. Offers a brief history of the <i>Metasequoia</i> . Submits the written testimony of State Geologist Vicki S. McConnell in support of HJR 3 (EXHIBIT A). |
| 027 | Guy DiTorrice | Lincoln City. Submits and summarizes prepared testimony in support of HJR 3 and sample of a <i>Metasequoia</i> fossil (EXHIBIT B). Explains that this is the third session he has attempted to get the <i>Metasequoia</i> designated as the state fossil. Offers a history of the <i>Metasequoia</i> and explains its history in Oregon. |
| 093 | MacKenzie Smith | Fifth grade student, Tigard. Testifies in support of HJR 3. Describes his interest in fossils. Notes that Oregon is the only western state without a state fossil. |
| 124 | DiTorrice | Notes the interest of people from around the country. |
| 140 | Rep. Garrard | Asks why previous attempts at legislation failed. |
| 142 | DiTorrice | Answers that the sponsor forgot to introduce it in 2001 and sponsors felt that there were more pressing issues in 2003. |
| 165 | Rep. Garrard | Commends MacKenzie Smith for his testimony. |
| 168 | DiTorrice | Explains his work collecting and donating fossils to schools. |
| 180 | Chair Anderson | Asks how long fossils take to form. |
| 209 | DiTorrice | Explains that the fossils he has were formed in the John Day basin up to 5 million years ago. Explains that a specimen must be 10,000 years old to be considered a fossil. Notes the symmetry of the <i>Metasequoia</i> . |
| 209 | Chair Anderson | Asks about Mr. DiTorrice's interest in fossils. |
| 211 | DiTorrice | Explains that he is self-taught and has been studying since he was a child. |

224	Chair Anderson	Asks if it is unique for a state fossil to have both live and fossilized specimens.
227	DiTorrice	Explains the history of the <i>Metasequoia</i> , points out that there are specimens on most of the college campuses in Oregon and its versatility regarding cleaning “bad air”.
249	Chair Anderson	Notes that some state fossils are dinosaurs and some are woolly mammoths.
253	DiTorrice	Explains the availability of <i>Metasequoia</i> fossils in Oregon.
273	Chair Anderson	Comments on the fossil exhibits in Condon and Fossil.
278	Rep. Barnhart	Asks about the lifecycle of the <i>Metasequoia</i> in Oregon.
285	DiTorrice	Describes the size and symmetry of the <i>Metasequoia</i> . Explains that its reproduction is similar to an alder. Notes that it is half the size of a sequoia. Explains that it is easy to maintain and can survive in adverse conditions.
326	John Houser	Committee Administrator. Notes the presence of a <i>Metasequoia</i> on the campus of Willamette University.
333	Chair Anderson	Asks if any other states claim the <i>Metasequoia</i> as the state fossil.
335	DiTorrice	Answers no.
377	Chair Anderson	Closes the public hearing on HJR 3 and opens a work session on HJR 3.

HJR 3 – WORK SESSION

385 Rep. Jenson MOTION: Moves HJR 3 be sent to the floor with a BE ADOPTED recommendation.

VOTE: 6-0-1

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

EXCUSED: 1 - Lim

Chair Anderson **The motion CARRIES.**

REP. BROWN will lead discussion on the floor.

395 **Rep. Garrard** **MOTION: Moves HJR 3 be placed on the CONSENT CALENDAR.**

400 Rep. Brown Indicates he would like to carry the bill.

402 Rep. Garrard Withdraws his motion.

413 Chair Anderson Closes the work session on HJR 3. Adjourns the meeting at 1:41 p.m.

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

- A. HJR 3, prepared testimony of Vicki S. McConnell, Rep. Alan Brown, 1 p
- B. HJR 3, prepared information and *Metasequoia* sample, Guy DiTorrice, 9 pp