

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

February 18, 2005 Hearing Room D

8:30 A.M. Tapes 31 - 32

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Rep. Billy Dalto, Chair**

Rep. Tom Butler, Vice-Chair

Rep. Carolyn Tomei, Vice-Chair

Rep. Gordon Anderson

Rep. Deborah Boone

Rep. Kevin Cameron

Rep. Mitch Greenlick

STAFF PRESENT: **Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Committee Administrator**

Pamella Andersen, Committee Assistant

MEASURES/ISSUES HEARD:

Alzheimer's Disease in Oregon - Informational Meeting

HB 2254 – Work Session

HB 2251 – Work Session

Introduction of Committee Measures – 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 31, A

004 Vice Chair Tomei Calls the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Shares personal experience with Alzheimer's Disease. Opens an informational meeting on Alzheimer's Disease in Oregon (**exhibit a**).

Alzheimer's Disease in Oregon - Informational Meeting

021 Joseph Quinn, MD Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU). Defines Alzheimer's disease and the physician's role in treating it. Differentiates between dementia, senility, and this disease. Describes the clinical evaluation given for diagnosis. Reviews treatments available, their efficacy and cost.

088 Vice Chair Tomei Asks if disease incidence is expected to increase significantly in the coming years.

Quinn Replies yes, due to its correlation with age and the percentages of the aging population.

098 Georgene Siemseng Nurse Practitioner, OHSU. Relates her professional experience with the disease. Elaborates on the process/procedure of her role with a family from the beginning, noting the individuality of the disease process. Mentions the possibility of the presence of other diseases, complicating solutions, and the necessity of supporting the caregiver, as well as the person with the disease.

252 Judy McKeller Executive Director, Oregon Alzheimer's Association. Notes family members she has lost to this disease. Relates the services provided by the organization:

- 24-hour helpline for caregivers, etc.;
- Informational program for those recently diagnosed;
- Safe-return program registry;
- Support groups in the Clark County area;
- Family education programs; and
- Physician outreach.

Reviews Oregon's statistics.

344 Rep. Butler Asks if Alzheimer's kills people.

350	Quinn	Reports deaths have been attributed to Alzheimer's when caused by infections or secondary actions influenced by the disease.
363	Rep. Butler	Requests percentages by cause of death.
366	Quinn	Reports majority will die of infection.
370	Rep. Butler	Asks if there are medication adjustments during the course of illness to reduce unnecessary costs.
375	Quinn	Reports average duration of the disease is eight to ten years, with recommendations that medications be withdrawn at later stages of disease when they are no longer effective.
392	Rep. Butler	Asks if the disease is hereditary.
394	Quinn	States the gene is rare, but other genes have been implicated as risk factors. Discusses percentages of genes in the general population and within the Alzheimer's group.
419	Rep. Butler	Questions symptom management.
424	Quinn	Lists symptoms and treatment methods.
437	Rep. Butler	Inquires about the national monitoring system and whether electronic monitors can be used.
465	Rep. Boone	Asks about the confirmation of the disease after an autopsy, and the disease's relationship to dementia.
470	Quinn	States dementia is the broader term.

TAPE 32, A

010	Rep. Boone	Asks how treatment is determined.
012	Quinn	Explains the physical and mental processes monitored for evidence of the disease.

024	Rep. Greenlick	Asks whether caregivers in the support groups need more aggressive services to support their own health and care giving abilities than is available in existing systems.
050	McKeller	Reports the stress is high for caregivers and that their health often suffers as a result.
068	Rep. Greenlick	States a skilled nursing service can teach a caregiver what to do to make the care giving less stressful. Notes presently the state can't pay for services to the caregiver. Suggests the legislature investigate how health insurance can be responsive to this need.
080	McKeller	Comments 70 percent of care giving is done by family and friends.
092	Rep. Anderson	Questions present medications and those under development.
095	Quinn	Listed recently approved medications, some in clinical trials, and some being researched.
111	Holli Crown	Respite Coordinator, Salem Senior Center and Alzheimer's Network of Oregon. Reports the network helps families that care for the patients. States early education is important for the patient and the family. Mentions 2002 legislation passed for the family caregivers.
131	Cathie Olcott	Caregiver. Submits and reviews written testimony (Exhibit b) explaining her experiences caring for her husband. Notes most caregivers are too old to be caregivers, as physical strength is required and some caregivers have to deal with the violence of patients.
227	Vice Chair Tomei	Asks the ages of Olcott and her husband.
228	Olcott	States her husband is 89 and she is 79, and that she has been caring for him for at least 8 years. Comments on how the disease isolates them from the community.
246	Rep. Anderson	Relates his personal experience watching his mother struggle for ten years with Alzheimer's. Asks how much time Olcott has help at home with the care giving.
255	Olcott	Replies a person she contacted through the Senior Services Division comes each night at 11:00 p.m. and leaves at 7:00 a.m., which costs \$45 per night. Notes she has a friend who comes in 2 hours a week so

she can run errands, and there are two other caregivers who come in when she wants to attend an event.

- 295 Rep. Anderson Asks if Olcott has personal health insurance coverage.
- 300 Olcott States she has long term care for herself, as well as basic medical coverage through Kaiser Permanente.
- 308 Rep. Greenlick Mentions the value of seeing first-hand the people who will be impacted by budget cuts, and how they will be affected.
- 341 Quinn Introduces his patient, Dr. Don Brey.
- 354 Don Brey, MD Former Director, Oregon Department of Mental Health; Alzheimer's patient. Reports disease causes him to go very slowly and to forget things. Notes what is most bothersome is he feels like he is going to be invisible to people, forgotten or ignored.

TAPE 31, B

- 003 Brey Continues sharing personal experiences.
- 044 Vice Chair Tomei Asks about the worst part of having Alzheimer's.
- 045 Brey States at this point, not being able to remember is difficult, as well as being unable to move or speak fast enough to interact with others.
- 060 Vice Chair Tomei Asks what percentages of patients and caregivers are women.
- 064 Quinn Replies there are a disproportionate number of women with the disease and who are caregivers.
- 072 Rep. Boone Comments on her father's dementia, and requests an explanation of the patient experience.
- 083 Brey Provides example of hearing conversation, and by the time he formulates a response, everyone else has moved on.
- 107 Rep. Butler Asks how long Brey has been using medications to arrest the process.

- 110 Quinn Replies two years.
- 111 Rep. Butler Comments on the value of educating the public on the issue and how to associate with those experiencing Alzheimer's.
- 143 Kate Walker Caregiver. Relates her recent shopping trip was the first time she had been out without her husband in a year. Mentions average costs of care which come from personal funds. Reports her husband is the inspiration behind her passion to benefit Alzheimer's patients.
- 170 Chair Dalto Closes the informational meeting on Alzheimer's Disease. Welcomes new committee member, Rep. Kevin Cameron. Opens a work session on HB 2254.

hb 2254 – WORK SESSION

- 194 Sandy Thiele-Cirka Administrator. Reviews the history and intent of the bill related to liability insurance coverage. Mentions proposed amendment will be addressed in a new bill (**exhibit c**).
- 222 Chair Dalto Confirms LC 3083 was drafted as a separate piece of legislation from Bruce Bishop.
- 224 Rep. Butler **MOTION: Moves HB 2254 to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation.**
- VOTE: 7-0-0**
- Chair Dalto **Hearing no objection, declares the motion CARRIED.**
- 239 Rep. Butler **MOTION: Moves HB 2254 be placed on the CONSENT CALENDAR.**
- VOTE: 7-0-0**
- 242 Chair Dalto **Hearing no objection, declares the motion CARRIED.**
- 245 Chair Dalto Closes the work session on HB 2254. Opens a work session on HB 2251.

hb 2251 – WORK SESSION

- 246 Sandy Thiele-Cirka Administrator. Reviews the history and intent of the bill relating to the definition of severely disabled persons. States the measure is a housekeeping request from Legislative Counsel. Introduces written testimony in opposition to HB 2251 submitted by the Oregon Disabilities Commission (**exhibit d**).
- 268 Rep. Butler Asks why the commission is concerned about removing this definition, and if they understand what they are in opposition to.
- 293 Thiele Cirka Responds a clear answer has not been received from the commission.
- 295 Rep. Butler States the letter doesn't address meaningful issues.
- 312 Chair Dalto Replies the Commission's concern the bill is a sign of abandonment is not accurate.
- 330 Rep. Butler MOTION: Moves HB 2251 to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation.**
- 335 Rep. Tomei Asks if there is anyone in the audience to speak to the concerns of the commission.
- 339 Chair Dalto Acknowledges no one has appeared to speak to the bill, and the disabilities community as a whole doesn't oppose the bill.
- 346 Rep. Tomei States her intent to vote no until she can speak with someone from the commission.
- 358 Rep. Butler VOTE: 6-1-0**
AYE: 6 - Anderson, Boone, Butler, Cameron, Greenlick, Dalto
NAY: 1 - Tomei
- 366 Chair Dalto The motion CARRIES.**
REP. DALTO will lead discussion on the floor.
- 369 Chair Dalto Closes the work session on HB 2251. Opens a work session on introduction of committee measures.

introduction of committee measures – work session

- 373 Chair Dalto Notes LC 3083 from Bruce Bishop (**exhibit c**).
- 378 Rep. Butler **MOTION: Moves LC 3083 BE INTRODUCED as a committee bill.**
- VOTE: 7-0-0**
- 395 Chair Dalto **Hearing no objection, declares the motion CARRIED.**
- 399 Chair Dalto Closes the work session on introduction of committee measures. Adjourns the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

- A. Alzheimer's Disease, packet of information, Kate Walker, 82 pp
- B. Alzheimer's Disease, written testimony, Cathie Olcott, 2 pp
- C. Introductions, LC 3083, staff, 2 pp
- D. HB 2251, written testimony in opposition, Oregon Disabilities Commission, 9 pp