HOUSE COMMITTEE ON

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

March 24, 2005   Hearing Room 357

1:00 P.M. Tapes 29 – 30

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Rep. John Dallum, Chair**

Rep. Jerry Krummel, Vice-Chair

MEMBERS EXCUSED: **Rep. Chuck Burley**

Rep. Brad Witt

Rep. Kelley Wirth, Vice-Chair

STAFF PRESENT: **Dallas Weyand, Committee Administrator**

Louann Rahmig, Committee Assistant

MEASURES/ISSUES HEARD:

> **Electronic Health Records Task Force Report–Informational Meeting**

These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. <u>Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words.</u> For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.

TAPE/#	Speaker	Comments

TAPE 29, A

004	Chair Dallum	Calls the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Announces that they will serve as a subcommittee due to Rep. Witt and Rep. Burley traveling

and Rep. Wirth being "in transit." Opens the informational meeting on electronic health records task force report.

Electronic health records task force report – INFORMATIONAL MEETING

016	Gretchen Morley	Director, Health Policy Commission. Gives history of the Commission. Provides background of the Electronic Health Records Task Force.
036	Jody Pettit	Internist, Providence Medical Center. Refers to the Oregon Health Policy Commission *Electronic Health Records and Data Connectivity* report **(EXHIBIT A)**. Explains the goal of the subcommittee which is to improve the quality, safety and efficiency of health care, and the flow of patient information and medical knowledge.
070	Pettit	Describes the membership of the subcommittee and their charge, which was to make recommendations regarding the role of the state to make Oregonians' health information available anytime and anywhere.
093	Pettit	Summarizes the subcommittee's recommendations, which include the use of national standards.
120	Pettit	Believes the financing for start-up costs should come from the private sector, ultimately building a financially sustainable model for data exchange. Discusses the Public Employees Benefit Board (PEBB) work on the use of health information technology. Explains that a study has been undertaken to determine who has electronic medical records and the readiness of others to accept the technology.
152	Pettit	Believes the state should coordinate with the private sector on communication campaigns to promote public awareness of the importance of health information technology.
173	Pettit	Concludes with a recommendation that the state participate in pilot projects and that a health information technology coordinator be appointed through the Office of Health Policy and Research.
190	Chair Dallum	Comments that there was a discussion in the interim committee that there would be savings realized if the Oregon Health Plan was moved into a technological setting. Asks if there would be savings.
197	Pettit	

		Answers, yes. Explains that there is enormous redundancy with data being collected that has already been collected at some point. States that patient history should be documented only once.
216	Pettit	Continues that the savings would be in administrative time.
228	Chair Dallum	Expresses concern with the Oregon Health Plan. Asks if the subcommittee looked at possible savings.
237	Pettit	Describes a group in Boston called the Center for Information Technology Leadership that did a study which showed a $78 billion saving, and Oregon would be about one percent of that. Continues that was on the "end point."
254	Chair Dallum	Inquires if the veterans system offers a model that might work for Oregon Health Plan recipients.
261	Pettit	Replies that the Veterans Administration is a shining example of health information technology and is a good model. Advises that the software is public domain.
269	Chair Dallum	Asks for an estimate of time to put a model in place.
277	Pettit	Responds, several years up to a decade.
294	Rep. Krummel	Asks if SB 541 **(EXHIBIT B)** is along the lines of the recommendations.
302	Pettit	Answers that they didn't recommend a task force but there is overlap. Believes there would be more impact with a funded, staffed position.
320	Rep. Krummel	Refers to the Medicare electronic billing process. Asks how to provide incentive for the small clinics.
359	Pettit	Responds that Medicare is playing a role in demonstration projects trying to align financial incentives. Believes the state could do something similar through the Oregon Health Plan.

TAPE 30, A

006	Rep. Krummel	Asks about the possibility of using a "smart card" that would create a health savings account type of system within the Oregon Health Plan.
024	Pettit	Replies that there are vendors developing that technology. Continues that people forget to bring information so the record probably needs to reside somewhere, perhaps on the internet. Goes on that there is a concept for health records banks which would store data.
050	Rep. Krummel	Asks about practice management software becoming all-inclusive to allow for upgrades.
081	Pettit	Advises that there are a number of practice management vendors that have an electronic health record component but they vary in the degree of interface.
102	Chair Dallum	Asks if a pilot program will be a result of this health care committee.
113	Pettit	Responds that in other states there has been a public/private collaborative model where the state works with the private sector. Sees the pilot evolving in that way.
121	Chair Dallum	Expresses a sense of urgency to increase the number of people served or improving the quality of service.
130	Pettit	Comments that health care issues are paramount and the focus of the pilot should be on the uninsured and underinsured.
148	Chair Dallum	States that a way to pick up the pace of the project would be to put the savings back into the system at the beginning.
164	Rep. Krummel	Comments that the standards that are set need to have involvement of the state. Refers to the action plan in **EXHIBIT A**. Asks if we should encourage our insurance carriers to contract only with providers who utilize electronic medical records.
191	Morley	Advises that PEBB built into a recent request for proposal process more quality measures, looking for plans that would be vesting in activities that would improve the quality of care.
203	Pettit	Concludes with comments that health care is an issue that affects every one, and while monetary gains are there, it takes faith to streamline the system.

216	Dallas Weyand	Committee administrator. Asks if any legislation is being drafted to implement the action plan.
220	Pettit	Replies that they have been working on SB 541 and there will be modifications.
228	Chair Dallum	Closes the informational meeting on electronic health records task force report.
229	Chair Dallum	Announces a planned road trip to Fossil, Oregon, on April 7, 2005, and outlines the proposed schedule.
313	Chair Dallum	Adjourns the meeting at 1:50 p.m.

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

  A. **Oregon Health Policy Commission, Electronic Health Records & Data Connectivity, printed report, Jody Pettit, 20 pp**
  B. **SB 541, printed bill, staff, 2 pp**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

March 15, 2005 Hearing Room 357

1:00 P.M. Tapes 25 - 26

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. John Dallum, Chair

Rep. Jerry Krummel, Vice-Chair

Rep. Kelley Wirth, Vice-Chair

Rep. Chuck Burley

Rep. Brad Witt

STAFF PRESENT: **Dallas Weyand, Committee Administrator**

Louann Rahmig, Committee Assistant

MEASURES/ISSUES HEARD:

        High Performance Computing Briefing – Informational Meeting

These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. <u>**Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words.**</u> **For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.**

TAPE/#	Speaker	Comments

TAPE 25, A

003	Chair Dallum	Calls the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Introduces the high school students from Mitchell, Oregon, attending the committee meeting as guests. Opens the informational meeting on high performance computing briefing.

<u>**HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING BRIEFING – INFORMATIONAL MEETING**</u>

015	Brian Wornath	LCN Media & Consulting Group. Announces that he represents the Oregon High Performance Computing Consortium. Distributes hard copy of *General Proposal for Establishing an Oregon High Performance Computing Infrastructure* PowerPoint presentation **(EXHIBIT A)**. Begins the presentation with an overview and the goals of developing a supercomputing resource in Oregon.
055	Wornath	Provides an explanation of supercomputing and who would use it.
074	Wornath	Describes the old-style, traditional, single-purpose computer called a "monolith."
088	Wornath	

Discusses types of supercomputers. Refers to case studies in **EXHIBIT A, Page 14**.

117	Wornath	Discusses how much unused computing time is available after regular office hours, creating an affordable and powerful computing "grid."
149	Wornath	Continues with justification to develop affordable high performance computing resources within Oregon.
184	Wornath	Proposes to create a state resource that markets the unused capacity and the accompanying consulting services, offering "one-stop shopping" for high-performance computing.
216	Wornath	Outlines sources for general initial capitalization. States that earnings from operations would come from leasing affordable high-performance computing time.
237	Wornath	Shows comparison of estimated financial scenarios **(EXHIBIT A)**.
313	Wornath	Discusses the percentage of return and cost per year of operating a computer grid.
381	Wornath	Suggests implementing a pilot project to determine the best technical solution. Displays the estimated pilot profitability.

TAPE 26, A

019	Wornath	Discusses a possible organizational structure similar to an Oregon high-performance computing consortium. Continues with explanation of challenges.
069	Wornath	Has spoken with Chief Information Officers around the state, who believe the concept is good.
083	Wornath	Summarizes by stating that the technology is proven, can easily be applied to numerous applications and uses, and is easily expandable.
121	Chair Dallum	Asks about the "down side."
125	Wornath	

		Responds that information technology people will say this is a very specialized area. Believes that ideally the universities and the state would co-develop a pilot program.
148	Chair Dallum	Inquires if this concept is attractive to private enterprise.
155	Wornath	Replies, it is. Continues that there are certain niches that don't have the financial resources to take on a project such as this. Cites examples of researchers who believe they can use.
192	Chair Dallum	Asks what proposed legislation should look like.
196	Wornath	Answers that funding for a pilot project could be requested.
227	Rep. Burley	Inquires what is preventing us from using this now.
233	Wornath	Responds, nothing. Indicates from a financial standpoint, it is best to consolidate and not have many small clusters.
261	Rep. Burley	Refers to the case studies in **EXHIBIT A** that were mostly done by private corporations. Comments that if we were going to use public resources, that is a different set of circumstances particularly since we are concerned with security issues.
270	Wornath	Agrees. Offers to provide more up-to-date information. Reports on other states that are doing this for economic development.
313	Rep. Burley	States that the corporate environment is more controlled than ours as we have computers all across the state. Asks how we would insure security.
323	Wornath	Agrees that some environments are better suited than others.
329	Rep. Krummel	Asks if setting something like this up in the new data center might generate the dollars to pay for it.
338	Wornath	Replies, absolutely. Reports that high performance computing is being done on a limited basis at the Oregon State University Oceanic School.

404	Rep. Krummel	Asks if there have been discussions with the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) or other privately owned data centers to see if there is an interest.
416	Wornath	Has spoken with DAS and some small companies affiliated with academics.
439	Rep. Witt	Inquires if one has to be a participant in the network to be able to utilize supercomputing capacity.

TAPE 25, B

011	Wornath	Responds, yes, for security reasons. States that the criteria needs to be identified in the business model.
020	Rep. Witt	Asks if he is aware of any claims in other states that there is not equal access.
025	Wornath	Answers that he has not heard of any.
027	Rep. Wirth	Inquires if anyone has expressed an interest in helping finance a pilot study.
032	Wornath	Replies, absolutely.
038	Rep. Wirth	Asks how much private money might be available.
046	Wornath	Replies that there is interest, and some medical schools are trying to lure grants. Believes discussions with interested parties to determine how much money is available would be needed.
069	Rep. Wirth	Inquires if other states have included some public financing, and how far along they are in the process.
077	Wornath	Answers, it varies.
089	Wanda Brennan	High School Science Teacher, Mitchell, Oregon. Cites problems of areas with limited internet access. Asks how high-performance computing will benefit them.

| 096 | Wornath | Responds that not all rural areas will receive the same amount of benefit; however, areas with community colleges perhaps can provide access. |
| 140 | Chair Dallum | Closes the informational meeting on high performance computing and adjourns the meeting at 2:08 p.m. |

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A. **High Performance Computing Infrastructure, General Proposal for Establishing, printed copy of PowerPoint presentation, Brian Wornath, 67 pp**