

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE

February 14, 2005
3:00 P.M.

Hearing Room D
Tapes 22-23

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sen. Vicki Walker, Chair
Sen. Charles Starr, Vice-Chair
Sen. Ryan Deckert
Sen. Jeff Kruse
Sen. Bill Morrisette

STAFF PRESENT: Marjorie Taylor, Committee Administrator
Dawn Tusio, Committee Assistant

MEASURES/ISSUES HEARD:
Introduction of Committee Measures – Work Session
Head Start Presentation – Informational Meeting
SB 414 – 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
TAPE 22, A		
005	Chair Walker	Calls meeting to order at 3:08 p.m.
015	Chair Walker	Announces that today is the last day to introduce bills. Appoints a work group for the ESD consolidation, SB 415. States that the work group is to report back to the committee on March 28 th , 2005. Asks Sen. Kruse to serve on the committee. States that Sen. Ringo will also be on the work group as well as a number of different parties. Says that it will be an open meeting so everyone is welcome to attend. Reports that Rep. Flores has been asked to appoint a member to serve on the work group as well. Wants a discussion about the 95/5 split and the governance process. Reports that Marjorie Taylor will serve as the administrator for the work group.
035	Chair Walker	Opens work session on LC 846, LC 1944, LC 2116, LC 2024, LC 2025, LC 2784, LC 2449, and LC 2762.
<u>INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEASURES - WORK SESSION</u>		
037	Marjorie Taylor	Committee Administrator. Gives overview of LC 846 (EXHIBIT A) , LC 1944 (EXHIBIT B) , LC 2116 (EXHIBIT C) , LC 2024 (EXHIBIT D) , LC 2025 (EXHIBIT E) , LC 2784 (EXHIBIT F) , and LC 2449 (EXHIBIT G) . States that Sen. Morrisette just presented LC 2762 to committee for introduction (EXHIBIT H) .
053	Sen. C. Starr	MOTION: Moves LC's: 846, 1944, 2116, 2024, 2025, 2784, 2449, 2762 BE INTRODUCED as committee bills.
065	Sen. Morrisette	Mentions that LC 2762 is from the Governor's office and the Superintendent of Public Education's office.
068	Chair Walker	States that LC 2116 is a bill she is offering forward on child abuse reporting within school districts.
075		VOTE: 4-0-1

Chair Walker **EXCUSED: 1 - Sen. Deckert**
Hearing no objection, declares the motion CARRIED.
NOTE:

LC 846 printed as SB 769

LC 1944 printed as SB 768

LC 2024 printed as SB 767

LC 2025 printed as SB 766

LC 2116 printed as SB 749

LC 2449 printed as SB 748

LC 2784 printed as SB 747

LC 2762 printed as SB 765

080 Chair Walker Closes work session and opens informational meeting on Head Start.

HEAD START – INFORMATIONAL MEETING

086 Susan Castillo Oregon Superintendent of Public Instruction. Expresses enthusiastic support of Head Start programs. Talks about the importance of Head Start.

150 Annie Soto Executive Director, Lane County Head Start and President, Oregon Head Start Association. Submits brochure on Oregon Head Start (**EXHIBIT I**). Shares outcome information about Oregon children, three to five years of age, from the last program year. Reports at the beginning of the program year, 15% of children could understand words in children's books, read on their own, use a variety of writing tools, and use simple sentences to communicate. Reports at the end of the year, over 60% of the children had mastered those skills. Discusses math abilities of the children. Talks about social and emotional abilities of children. States that there is an 18% funding cut in Oregon right now.

190 Soto Talks about the parent or caregivers' involvement in a child's education. States that both the parents and children are enthusiastic.

210 Donna Schnitker Director, Harney Head Start. Offers background information about Head Start. Talks about benefits of Head Start. Discusses the monitoring process of the program. Talks about accountability.

250 Chair Walker Asks Castillo if she has 1,797 performance standards that she has to review.

252 Castillo Responds that she is unsure of the exact count but that they do have a large number of performance standards. States that the No Child Left Behind Act has influenced the number of performance standards.

270 Chair Walker Asks how federal dollars are leveraged and what contribution is required of the state.

273 Soto Replies that there is no formal contribution level. Discusses funding avenues.

287 Chair Walker Asks what percentage of children are being served now compared to the number that would be served after the Governor's proposed 18% budget cut.

292 Soto Replies about 950 less students statewide.

300 Sen. Morrisette Asks if a case can be made for not making budget cuts this biennium.

312	Schnitker	Responds.
320	Sen. Morrisette	Discusses the current budget crunch and philosophy of immediate return.
327	Soto	Stresses that Head Start effectively prevents crisis within families.
352	Castillo	Comments that “the children only have this time right now that they are preschool age, so we effect them right now in their lives and we can set them on a course for success or not. That is the policy decision we are faced with in this legislative session.”
365	Chair Walker	Comments on Head Start being an asset. Asks if it is true that Head Start prepares children for school.
375	Schnitker	Replies yes. Talks about preparing children for kindergarten.
405	Gary Withers	President, Children’s Institute. Submits written testimony (EXHIBIT J) . Introduces the institute and discusses research done on children being ready for school and discusses link to poverty.
 TAPE 23, A		
005	Withers	States that third grade is a huge benchmark. Talks about the development of the brain.
030	Withers	Discusses safety and quality in childcare.
060	Withers	Talks about economists and their findings. Discusses investing in early childhood. Talks about the Perry Preschool study.
070	Withers	Discusses consequences if there is not an investment in early childhood education.
085	Chair Walker	Expresses interest in the studies. Asks if the information is available online.
090	Swati Adarkar	Replies yes.
095	Withers	States that the chair of the board of the High Scope Education Research Foundation is Matt Hennessey, who is also the CEO of QuickTrack in Portland as well as a member of a group called Ready For School.
105	Adarkar	Comments on how to adequately fund k-12. Reports that research shows that starting in kindergarten is too late.
111	Chair Walker	Comments on research study reporting that the issue of childhood obesity starts at pre-k.
115	Adarkar	Comments that the results of prevention programs are not seen until many years after they have taken place. Points out that the corrections budget is growing.
125	Sen. Morrisette	Asks for clarification regarding Dr. Perry.
127	Adarkar	States that one is the Perry Pre-School and that the other is Dr. Bruce Perry, who has done research on how abuse effects the brain.
129	Sen. Morrisette	Asks for further clarification regarding Dr. Perry.
131	Adarkar	Replies.
133	Sen. Morrisette	States that the research Dr. Perry presents focuses on how the brain is effected by the simple neglect of a child.
145	Chair Walker	Asks for comment on how other states fund their pre-k programs.
146	Adarkar	Responds that there are a variety of strategies. Discusses a few initiatives.
155	Withers	Reports that creative revenue strategies are being developed.
160	Sen. Deckert	Comments on the fiscal structure and federal government. Recognizes increasing reliance on the federal government.
190	Withers	States that Minnesota is pursuing an endowment idea that may be beneficial to look at.

195	Sen. Deckert	Remarks on creative ways of raising funds separate from the state general fund.
200	Withers	Comments on future research outlining the true economic impact as a result of failing to invest in early childhood.
210	Nancy Latini	Assistant Superintendent, Office of Student Learning and Partnerships, Department of Education (DOE). Submits written testimony (EXHIBIT K). Talks about student outcomes.
230	Latini	Discusses survey results.
250	Latini	Talks about content standards.
260	Chair Walker	Asks when the report is coming out.
262	Latini	Replies in two weeks.
270	Chair Walker	Closes informational meeting and opens public hearing on SB 414. SB 414 is submitted by staff for the record (EXHIBIT L).

SB 414 – PUBLIC HEARING

283	Rep. Mark Hass	Represents House District 27. Submits informational packet including written testimony and research and benefits of extended day kindergarten (EXHIBIT M). Testifies in support of SB 414.
342	Sen. Ringo	Represents Senate District 17. Testifies in support of SB 414.
365	Sen. Ringo	Talks about changing the funding formula.
382	Sen. Ringo	States that 30 states have full day kindergarten.
390	Chair Walker	Asks where the money is going to come from if SB 415 does not go through and funds are not freed up.
392	Sen. Ringo	Replies that if the funding formula is changed, money would be pulled from the funding of other grades.
408	Rep. Mark Hass	Believes that there will be ESD consolidation savings. States that SB 414 is optional for school districts.

TAPE 22, B

001	Sen. Kruse	Expresses concerns regarding funding issue and school space availability for extended kindergarten. States that he would like to know the cost of SB 414.
010	Rep. Mark Hass	States that the cost will be about \$40 million if all school districts sign up for extended day kindergarten.
015	Sen. Morrisette	Asks how many children he would project to attend the full day kindergarten.
023	Rep. Mark Hass	Responds.
040	Sue Robertson	Executive Administrator, Beaverton School District. Testifies in support of SB 414. Discusses why the Beaverton School District supports SB 414. Talks about proficiency and the connection between quality and quantity of instruction. States that standards and expectations today are much higher than they have been in the past. Talks about vocabulary size in kindergarten effecting reading comprehension in later elementary years. Mentions the achievement gap. Gives analogy of students with ladders. States that the more time a student spends in kindergarten, the better the student performs in first grade.
095	Robertson	Talks about Beaverton's Title 1 schools. States that spending resources now will save us later. Mentions Beaverton's aggressive goal that every student will increase academic achievement over the next five years. Talks about closing the achievement gap. Discusses working parents preferring full day kindergarten. Talks about capacity and the struggle to find space. Believes that it is cost effective. Asks that kindergarten not be thought of as a luxury.

178	Sen. Deckert	Reports that Mrs. Robertson's husband, Reed Robertson, was his eighth grade Science teacher.
188	Sen. C. Starr	Asks if phonemic awareness and phonics are being taught explicitly by direct instruction.
192	Robertson	States that phonemic awareness, fluency, comprehension, vocabulary, and phonics are taught.
195	Sen. C. Starr	Asks if they are taught under the whole language approach.
197	Robertson	Replies that they are taught by direct instruction and whole language instruction.
205	Arlene L. Roblan	Principal, Madison Elementary School. Testifies in support of SB 414. Submits and reads written testimony (EXHIBIT N) .
255	Chair Walker	Comments that both of the Roblan's have been principals.
260	Rep. Arnie Roblan	Represents House District 9. Reports that it has been a wonderful calling for both of them.
270	Arlene Roblan	Comments that it is not too late to reach children by the time they get to kindergarten. Stresses that Title 1 funding is needed for many programs, not just extended day kindergarten.
300	Chair Walker	States that some Beaverton Title 1 schools are providing extended day Kindergarten. Asks if that is a choice that Coos Bay has made.
305	Arlene Roblan	Replies that Coos Bay schools have not decided to use Title 1 money to provide extended day kindergarten yet.
310	Chair Walker	Thinks it would be great if some of their Title 1 funding could be used to offer extended day kindergarten.
311	Arlene Roblan	States that she will look into it.
313	Chair Walker	Expresses surprise by the number of homeless families at Madison Elementary School. Asks how many children attend the school.
317	Arlene Roblan	Replies 380 students and that there are 60 homeless families.
325	Chair Walker	Asks if there has been an increase in homeless families since the economy has been pretty bad.
323	Arlene Roblan	Replies yes, especially on the south coast.
330	Sen. Morrisette	Asks how many children on the south coast choose not to attend kindergarten because it is not mandatory.
340	Arlene Roblan	Estimates that everyone who knows about kindergarten attends.
345	Sen. Morrisette	States that there has been concern that children are not taking advantage of the availability of kindergarten. Says that every superintendent he has spoken with has confirmed that they would be able to handle the student increase without much problem.
353	Arlene Roblan	Agrees that the increase could be accommodated.
355	Sen. Deckert	Asks if she would be comfortable with using more money from the current budget on kindergarten if additional money is not produced for the program.
365	Arlene Roblan	Replies that it would be difficult because they have already been cutting funding for many years.
373	Rep. Arnie Roblan	States that when you are in a district with declining enrollment and it is coupled with declining resources from the state, it is difficult to make those kinds of decisions.
410	Jada Pearson	Beaverton Education Association. Expresses support for SB 414. Submits written testimony (EXHIBIT O) .
415	Susan Lewis	Beaverton Education Association. Expresses support for SB 414. Submits written testimony (EXHIBIT P) .
TAPE 23, B		
015	Pearson	Testifies in support of SB 414. Expresses support for extending

		the kindergarten instruction time beyond 2.5 hours per day. Discusses reasons why it would be beneficial. Stresses importance of extending the length of instruction time but that full day kindergarten would be too much for students and teachers.
060	Lewis	Testifies in support of SB 414. Mentions Topeka Public Schools full day kindergarten impact study done.
100	Sen. Kruse	Requests information on the comparison of curriculum between half day and full day kindergarten.
105	Pearson	Discusses what the Beaverton School District has done with their Title 1 funding for extended day kindergarten.
112	Sen. Morrisette	Stresses that fun has to be built into kindergarten.
115	Pearson	States that some of the students were overwhelmed but that teachers tried to make the material fun.
127	Lewis	Comments that there are social and emotional goals for children in addition to academic expectations.
145	Marcia Kelley	American Association of University Women of Oregon (AAUW). Testifies on SB 414. Talks about funding options for extended day kindergarten. States that AAUW is one of the associations that has been advocating for kindergarten the longest in the state of Oregon.
180	Chair Walker	Shares appreciation for the tenacity of AAUW.
185	Kelley	Reports that it is the 100 th year anniversary of AAUW in Oregon.
193	Chair Walker	Asks if SB 414 has a subsequent referral to Revenue.
195	Marjorie Taylor	Committee Administrator. Replies yes.
198	Chair Walker	States that there is not a work session scheduled for SB 414. Asks Sen. Deckert if he is getting funding formula bills.
200	Sen. Deckert	Replies yes.
203	Chair Walker	States that SB 414 will be on the agenda for a work session next week and that she hopes to move it to Revenue.
211	Sen. C. Starr	Mentions that he and Sen. Deckert are both on the Revenue committee.
213	Sen. Kruse	States that it would probably be okay in their hands.
214	Chair Walker	Comments that SB 415 will probably go to Revenue as well.
216	Sen. Kruse	States that SB 415 will not be sent to Revenue next week.
218	Chair Walker	Responds that the work group has until March 28 th to report back to the committee on SB 415.
220	Chair Walker	Closes public hearing and adjourns meeting at 4:51 p.m.

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

- A. **Introductions, LC 846, Staff, 2 pp**
- B. **Introductions, LC 1944, Staff, 1 p**
- C. **Introductions, LC 2116, Staff, 6 pp**
- D. **Introductions, LC 2024, Staff, 1 p**
- E. **Introductions, LC 2025, Staff, 1 p**
- F. **Introductions, LC 2784, Staff, 2 pp**
- G. **Introductions, LC 2449, Staff, 2 pp**
- H. **Introductions, LC 2762, Staff, 21 pp**
- I. **Head Start, brochure, Annie Soto, 2 pp**
- J. **Head Start, written testimony, Gary Withers, 3 pp**
- K. **Head Start, written testimony, Nancy Latini, 4 pp**

- L. **SB 414, Staff, 5 pp**
- M. **SB 414, written testimony, Rep. Mark Hass, 4 pp**
- N. **SB 414, written testimony, Arlene Roblan, 1 p**
- O. **SB 414, written testimony, Jada Pearson, 1 p**
- P. **SB 414, written testimony, Susan Lewis, 2 pp**