

SENATE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT

January 25, 2005
4:00 P.M.

Hearing Room B
Tapes 3 - 4

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Sen. Frank Shields, Chair**
 Sen. Gary George, Vice-Chair
 Sen. Bruce Starr
 Sen. Joanne Verger
 Sen. Vicki Walker

STAFF PRESENT: **Judith Callens, Committee Administrator**
 Gary Roulier, Committee Assistant

MEASURES HEARD & WITNESSES:

SB 157 – Public Hearing
 Cathy Pollino, State Auditor’s Division
SB 90 – Public Hearing
 Bill Foster, Department of Administrative Services
 Mitch Rohse, City of Salem
SB 80 – Public Hearing
 Eileen Webb, Board of Geologist Examiners
 Susanna Knight, Board of Geologist Examiners

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 3, A		
005	Chair Shields	Opens the meeting at 4:13 p.m., and opens a public hearing on SB 157.
<u>SB 157 – PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
009	Judith Callens	Committee Administrator. Explains the provisions of SB 157.
025	Cathy Pollino	State Auditor, Secretary of State Audit’s Division. Presents (EXHIBIT A) and testifies in support of SB 157.
051	Pollino	Explains provisions of SB 157, to include the fact that it more clearly defines who the statute applies to and establishes a dollar threshold.
071	Chair Shields	Ask if there will be times when the cost of the investigation would exceed the dollar value of the infraction.
075	Pollino	Responds that there may be cases where the investigation exceeds the loss, but that the message is important as it acts as a deterrent.
102	Chair Shields	Asks if the division is adequately staffed to handle the additional workload.
105	Pollino	Answers that they are doing the best they can with what they have.
121	Sen. Verger	Asks if, during the audit, they also provide technical assistance on reducing or preventing losses.
133	Pollino	Responds that their role is to determine what breakdowns occurred, and to ensure fiscal accountability, which includes

		tightening controls and training.
150	Sen. Verger	Comments that the identified patterns need to be broken.
156	Sen. Walker	Notes that the audit reports are interesting reading, and helpful in familiarizing oneself with the budgets. Points out that the 30-day requirement for completion of the investigations is “open ended.”
174	Pollino	Answers that the investigations often get “out of their hands,” i.e., they get into the legal system.
186	Sen. Walker	States that there are some current investigations which illustrate this point.
194	Chair Shields	Closes the public hearing on SB 157, and opens a public hearing on SB 90.

SB 90 – PUBLIC HEARING

202	Callens	Explains the provisions of SB 90.
222	Bill Foster	Acting Administrator, Facilities Division, Department of Administrative Services (DAS). Presents (EXHIBIT B) and testifies in support of SB 90.
256	Foster	Explains the provisions of the bill, which permanently abolishes the Capitol Planning Commission.
272	Mitch Rohse	Interim Urban Planning Administrator, City of Salem. Presents (EXHIBIT C) and testifies that the City of Salem is neutral on SB 90.
314	Rohse	Notes that the City wants to keep their ability to “remain in the loop,” and to ensure that the land use development done by the state in the City is consistent with their planning and zoning.
329	Chair Shields	Wants to know what there is in the bill that will ensure that the City remains involved.
341	Foster	States that DAS has addressed this issue in administrative rules.
355	Chair Shields	Comments that we may want to put the administrative rules into statute.
360	Sen. Walker	Notes she does not support the bill as we should not do away with the Capitol Planning Commission.
382	Chair Shields	Expresses that he would like to see some vehicle to keep the City involved.
400	Rohse	Responds that there is an advisory committee to DAS and that the committee does include the City’s Community Development Director.
412	Sen. Verger	Asks how involved the City has been in Capitol projects.
TAPE 4, A		
012	Foster	Reviews the history of the Capitol Planning Commission. Adds that most of the outstanding issues with the City are resolved or close to resolution.
031	Foster	Comments that there is less of a need for the commission.
047	Rohse	Agrees that there has been a good working relationship with DAS. Notes, however, that there may be future land use issues that arise, hence their desire for inclusion in the process.
053	Chair Shields	Relates the need for cooperation between the City and the state.
067	Sen. George	Comments on other examples of the need for partnership between the City and the state.
081	Sen. Verger	Asks about the transfer of funds in the bill.
092	Foster	Answers with an explanation of the transfer. Adds that the funds in question were small residual operating funds, and that the language used within the bill is standard with Legislative Counsel when abolishing an agency.
104	Sen. Verger	Wants clarification that there will be no continuation of funds

111	Foster	going into the account after the commission is abolished.
117	Sen. Verger	Answers that there will be no future funds for that account. Asks if the language referring to executive residence account is new.
121	Foster	Responds that it is not.
127	Chair Shields	Asks the witnesses to work on language that would ensure the City continues as a participant.
135	Chair Shields	Closes the public hearing and opens a public hearing on SB 80.
<u>SB 80 – PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
147	Eileen Webb	Registered Geologist and Vice Chair, Board of Geologist Examiners. Presents (EXHIBIT D) and testifies in support of SB 80. Explains the provisions of the bill.
181	Sen. Verger	Asks whether the bill makes the requirements easier and broader, rather than raising the standards.
183	Webb	Responds that the intent is to make sure that the course work is sufficient.
188	Sen. Verger	Notes that the bill removes the requirement that the applicant have a degree in order to register as a Geologist-in-Training (GIT).
203	Webb	Answers that there are a number of people qualified to do the work based on their coursework, even though they don't have a degree.
204	Susanna Knight	Administrator, State Board of Geologist Examiners. Further explains the provision of the bill regarding the education requirements.
217	Sen. Verger	Notes the additional interest in this field since the tsunami.
221	Knight	Comments that on a national level, the numbers of those in geological coursework is dropping.
237	Sen. Verger	Reemphasizes the importance of the profession.
241	Chair Shields	Closes the public hearing and adjourns the meeting at 5:01 p.m.

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

- A. **SB 157, written testimony, Cathy Pollino, 1 pp**
- B. **SB 90, written testimony, Bill Foster, 2 pp**
- C. **SB 90, written testimony, Mitch Rohse, 1 pp**
- D. **SB 80, letter, Eileen Webb, 2 pp**