

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
AUDIT & HUMAN SERVICES BUDGET REFORM COMMITTEE

February 05, 2003 Hearing Room 50
3:00 PM Tapes 18 - 19

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Ben Westlund, Chair
 Rep. Steve March, Vice-Chair
 Rep. Susan Morgan
 Rep. Jeff Merkley
 Rep. Jeff Kruse
 Rep. Alan Bates

MEMBER EXCUSED: Rep. Randy Miller

GUEST MEMBERS: Rep. Gordon Anderson
 Rep. Carolyn Tomei
 Rep. Billy Dalto
 Rep. Laurie Monnes Anderson

STAFF PRESENT: Rick Berkobien, Committee Administrator
 Kelly Fuller, Committee Assistant

ISSUES HEARD: Discussion on Committee Presentations

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 18, A		
005	Chair Westlund	Calls meeting to order at 3:20 pm begins committee presentation and opens the informational meeting.
<u>INFORMATIONAL MEETING</u>		
060	Chair Westlund	Meeting in Recess due to audience interruption.
064	Chair Westlund	Meeting called to order again after interruption asks that the audience cooperate though the meeting and then he will deviate from the agenda and have some witness testimony.
072	Rep. Morgan	Makes comments about what she has learned though this process, comments that their would be great value in trying to do what we can to group like services and like funding streams together in a more comprehensive way and try to deal with the holes, gaps and overlaps.
087	Chair Westlund	Responds to Rep. Morgan and the other members about our charge of the committee.
100	Rep. Kruse	Comments that he appreciates the work Chair Westlund is doing on this committee. Comments that he wished the entire body of the legislature could have the depth of knowledge that this committee is going to get into on this issue and elaborates.
170	Rep. Merkley	Comments that we have had an excellent overview, but he does

		not really understand from the point of view from the advocates and would like to know if there is someone who serves in that role for low income health care clients that can help us see what it looks like when you are applying and elaborates the need he sees.
200	Chair Westlund	Comments that the purpose of this meeting is to just take a breath and recap what we have learned to date and get feedback from all of the members.
220	Rep. March	Comments that he thinks there might be some savings in referral fees, or some savings in the insurance system, if the high risk pool was treated accurately.
238	Chair Westlund	Makes comments about that it is not only savings, but maximizing Federal dollars where those are slipping though the cracks.
240	Rep. Bates	Makes comments about the Oregon Health Plan and the process that we are beginning.
289	Chair Westlund	Comments that those were excellent remarks, and continues with his comments about the direction we are taking.
320	Rep. Dalto	Makes comments on the voucher system and tells the chair and committee that he looks forward to learning more and continuing to serve on this committee.
345	Chair Westlund	Agrees with the comments from Rep. Dalto and continues.
380	Rep. March	Comments that going back to Medicaid would be a total failure and any retreat from serving as many people would be a mistake and comments that the net effect would not be positive.
401	Chair Westlund	Wants to know where the committee wants to go next week. Asks for input.
TAPE 19, A		
008	Rep. Anderson	Would like to hear from local IPA's (Independent Physicians Association) on what answers they may have for part of the plan.
015	Chair Westlund	Comments that we are already looking into those providers already.
020	Rep. Anderson	Asks what consumer groups would we normally be asking to come in.
125	Chair Westlund	Comments that we will have invited testimony and public testimony.
033	Rep. Monnes Anderson	Would like to quiz the public agencies about why they bill for some things and not other things. Would like to know why school nurses are not billing for the CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Program) money.
055	Chair Westlund	Comments on what he has heard.
075	Rep. Kruse	Would like to hear from Safety Net Clinics, providers in the plans, not just the plans, however, would like to hear from Kaiser Permanente, Regence Blue Cross Blue Shield the Insurance side of things. Asks if we want to get into their concerns before we get into the mental health system.
091	Rep. Tomei	Would like to hear from all consumer advocates like NAMI. (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill)
096	Rep. Anderson	Comments of preventative care and training people on that to prevent the sever problems before it is too late.
100	Chair Westlund	Calls the meeting to recess because of interruptions from the public.
116	Chair Westlund	Calls the meeting back to order and makes comments about where we left off before the interruption.

118 Rep. Morgan Talks with the audience and asks for suggestions about how to make this situation better.

150 Rep. Bates Agrees with Rep. Morgan and asks the audience to work with us because he understands the issue is sensitive. Would like to hear from Hospital Associations and Safety Net Clinics.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

160 Public Testimony Hope Whitehead speaks about a solution to the current problem. Talks about raising the price of alcohol and we would not run into so many problems.

211 Rep. Morgan Thanks the guest for her testimony.

215 Chair Westlund Comments that we all get nervous when we testify in front of one another.

217 Rep. Tomei Asks if Ruth wanted to testify and appreciates her being here.

219 Gweneth van Frank Gives testimony about her feelings and concerns about the current situation. She acknowledges the members for their efforts.

286 Rep. Morgan Talks to Gweneth about her comments being heartfelt and tells her that we recognize the human aspect of the problem and encourages her to continue coming and participating in the way she has.

303 Frank Carlson Continues to testify.

362 Rep. Merkley Thank you for reminding us that behind every number is a face. Assures her that we will be turning to the experts on the state level and the consumer level about what works and what doesn't.

TAPE 18, B

001 Frank Carlson Thanks the committee for giving them time to speak and states that they want them to pass Speaker of the House Karen Minnis's proposal and then some.

005 Chair Westlund Thanks her for coming to speak and invites her to be here everyday if she would like, comment that we will respect their rights and their needs if they respect the right to the legislative process.

010 Frank Carlson Comments that she is willing to respect the legislative process as long as we deal with the top priorities and the critical issues of people dying.

012 Chair Westlund Gives advise about how we can all work together.

015 Amy Sackett Consumer Empowerment Team. Has been diagnosed with Mental illness and would like to see us talk to folks in the domestic violence arena.

020 Ken Rivernider of Eugene. Gives 2 potential solutions to save money. Number one solutions would be to not throw the many consumers into the emergency medical system and second he feels that we should increase the taxes on tobacco and it will reduce the impact on the poor and children.

098 Steve Weiss Board President of the Mental Health Association and Vice Chair of the Multnomah County Disabilities Advisory Council. We need to decide whether health care is to be a human right or something to be earned.

166 Garth Putnam Owner and operator of Most Cost Effective Way, testifies about his life in his generation and states concern about the priorities. His solution was to educate his children at home.

182 Rep. Bates Comments to a question from the witness about financial aid for home school parents.

188	Putnam	Continues and asks that we give a safety net to consumers.
227	Laura Woodruff	Portland. Testifies about music being a universal language. Asks the members how many of them are disabled. Asked her peers to come up with a list of advocacy groups that could speak before this committee.
279	Mike Levine	Makes his comments about people dying and comments that he understands the job that the legislators have before them.
285	Lynn McKinney	Her concern is the people that are being cut are being devalued, cast off or incapable. Comments about how she does not want to go back in the past, she herself was in an institution and asks what are we going to say to our children as they step over bodies in the street because this is what is going to happen. Please don't let Oregon be known for throwing away people with disabilities.
352	Chair Westlund	Thanks them all for their testimony. Closes the informational meeting with public testimony and adjourns 5:15pm.

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A - NONE