

SENATE COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

April 04, 2003
10:00 a.m.

Hearing Room B
Tapes 60 - 61

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Sen. Frank Shields, Chair**
 Sen. Roger Beyer, Vice-Chair
 Sen. Tony Corcoran
 Sen. Bill Fisher

STAFF PRESENT: **Judith Callens, Committee Administrator**
 Megan Jensen, Committee Assistant

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD: **SB 672 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 60, A		
003	Chair Shields	Calls meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. and opens public hearing on SB 672.
<u>SB 672 - PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
010	Judith Callens	Committee Administrator. Provides overview of SB 672.
040	Rep. Floyd Prozanski	District 8 State Representative. Provides testimony in support of SB 672. Discusses the background of SB 672 and asserts that Oregon farmers should be allowed to produce industrial hemp.
140	Rep. Prozanski	Continues testimony in support of SB 672 and discusses the benefits of hemp.
195	Rep. Bob Ackerman	District 13 State Representative. Provides testimony in support of SB 672. Demonstrates a jacket made of a hemp-cotton blend, which was made in China. Asserts that hemp can produce valuable products.
218	Chair Shields	Asks about the texture of the jacket material.
220	Rep. Ackerman	Responds that it is durable material.
227	Chair Shields	Asks if clothing in China is made with hemp.
232	Rep. Ackerman	Responds that he is unsure.
240	Chair Shields	Asks if the woolen mill in Pendleton could be retooled to use hemp.
244	Rep. Ackerman	Responds that it is possible but that the hemp would still have to be imported.
254	Chair Shields	Asks for clarification about competition against hemp.
258	Rep. Prozanski	Responds that producers of other types of materials are threatened by hemp's versatility.
301	Chair Shields	Inquires about the ability to grow marijuana in a field with industrial hemp.
315	Rep. Prozanski	Discusses issues of cross-pollination of hemp with marijuana.
356	Jeremy Arling	Lane County. Provides testimony in support of SB 672. Explains that he doesn't support the use of hemp for drug use but for environmentally sound products.
375	Rep. Prozanski	Refers to the use of hemp during World War II (EXHIBIT A).
TAPE 61, A		

010	Carolyn Moran	Living Tree Paper Company. Provides testimony in support of SB 672 (EXHIBIT B). Discusses the uses of hemp for paper products. Explains that she could save money and support local farmers by not having to import the hemp for paper production.
056	Sen. Corcoran	Asks for comments on the claim that hemp producers would like to grow marijuana.
060	Moran	States it is a ludicrous claim and explains that many other countries use hemp to produce environmental products, not for drug use.
078	Candi Penn	Hemp Industries Association. Provides testimony in support of SB 672 (EXHIBIT C). Discusses the many uses for hemp fibers.
097	Sen. Corcoran	Asks for comments on the claim that hemp producers would like to grow marijuana.
100	Penn	Responds that industrial varieties of hemp have a lower drug content and are different plants from marijuana plants.
105	Sen. Corcoran	Inquires if the production of industrial hemp would be profitable for local farmers.
111	Penn	Believes that the current market is good and is continually expanding.
114	Sen. Corcoran	Asks about the total market value of United States hemp imports.
116	Penn	Talks about value added to hemp products. Mentions that some automobile manufacturers use hemp in the production of car parts.
130	Chair Shields	Inquires why automobile manufacturers do not advertise the use of hemp materials.
132	Penn	Replies that some people still think of hemp as a drug because of its relationship to marijuana
142	Moran	Comments on the industrial issues surrounding hemp use.
155	Sen. Corcoran	Talks about the uses of hemp.
176	Moran	Reiterates the great potential of hemp production.
179	Sen. Corcoran	Believes hemp could be used in an economic development.
186	Monte Mathews	University Lip Balm Company. Provides testimony in support of SB 672 (EXHIBIT D). Comments that people seem to prefer hemp lip balms over other types of lip balms.
196	Chair Shields	Asks how long his company has been in existence.
200	Mathews	Explains that he has been in business for one year and that sales are constantly increasing.
213	Chair Shields	Clarifies that he must import hemp for lip balm production.
217	Mathews	Confirms he imports hemp from Canada.
220	Moran	Comments on using the hemp seed for oil and the rest of the hemp plant for paper and building materials.
228	Rep. Prozanski	Talks about interest in hemp production by wheat farmers looking for a rotation crop.
260	Sen. Beyer	States that in Oregon the government requires that farmers grow a commercial product that is profitable to qualify for a home on that property.
270	Rep. Prozanski	Replies that hemp could be one of the commodities the farmers grow for profit.
282	Sen. Corcoran	Talks about the potential subsidization of hemp producers.
304	Penn	Discusses using hemp as a rotation crop for the detoxification of soils.
322	Mathews	Comments that he would open a hemp seed oil production company in Oregon if hemp could be grown locally.
347	Moran	Talks about attitudes towards hemp.

351	Chair Shields	Comments on the prejudicial attitude towards hemp as a drug.
366	Rep. Prozanski	Talks about the history of the campaign against industrial hemp.
TAPE 60, B		
025	Craig Durbin	Oregon State Police, Oregon Chiefs of Police Association. Provides testimony against SB 672 (EXHIBIT E). Expresses concerns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drug Enforcement Administration policies prohibit the use of any product containing any amount of THC • The legalization of hemp is one step towards legalizing marijuana • Economic gain to Oregon farmers is questionable
136	Durbin	Discusses potential consequences of legalizing hemp: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creates a law that is in direct conflict with federal law • Creates a significant obstacle for law enforcement to investigate and obtain probable cause for search warrant in the manufacturing of illegal marijuana • Legalizes the production of a product that has not been proven to be safe for human use • Creates a very complex and costly program that will require close monitoring
165	Chair Shields	Wonders about the success of hiding a marijuana plant in an industrial hemp field.
182	Durbin	Explains that marijuana would not grow well within a field of industrial hemp and discusses the issue of probable cause to search an industrial hemp field.
220	Rep. Prozanski	Believes most farmers will not attempt to grow marijuana in hemp fields because of severe consequences.
268	Chair Shields	Asks how many states have gone on record for hemp production.
270	Rep. Prozanski	Explains which states have voted for the production of hemp and elaborates.
335	Sen. Beyer	Asks for information on feasibility studies done by universities.
345	Rep. Prozanski	Offers to provide that information.
368	Chair Shields	Asks about hemp bio-fuel production.
376	Rep. Prozanski	Responds that there are two companies in Oregon using hemp bio-fuel.
401	Durbin	Talks about DEA regulations on hemp production in Hawaii. Addresses the issue of probable cause for searching an industrial hemp field.
TAPE 61, B		
004	Chair Shields	Asks about the visual differences between hemp and marijuana.
011	Durbin	Talks about identifying a plant as a controlled substance.
032	Chair Shields	Raises the issue of states' rights conflicting with trade restraint issues.
052	Rep. Prozanski	Comments on hemp trade issues.
064	Chair Shields	Comments on restraint of trade issues.
068	Rep. Prozanski	Talks about global issues surrounding hemp production.
105	Moran	States support for the production of bio-fuels from hemp.
110	Chair Shields	Comments on other states encouraging legalization of industrial hemp production and discusses issues of legality.
130	Durbin	Responds that the law enforcement agencies are required to support drug enforcement policies. Comments that if the drug THC could be removed from the plant it would be possible to

175	Chair Shields	support the production of hemp and states that otherwise hemp and marijuana are viewed by youth as one and the same.
178	Durbin	Inquires if it is a societal prejudice.
190	Chair Shields	Discusses the youth drug culture and comments on marijuana and hemp websites.
195	Rep. Prozanski	Comments that the people who maintain the drug websites do a disservice to the hemp issue. Asks about the 1999 House bill in the House dealing with a similar hemp issue.
263	Chair Shields	Explains why the bill did not pass during the 1999 legislative session.
272	Rep. Prozanski	Asks about different THC levels in hemp plants.
310	Angling	Explains that trace amounts can be difficult to define and therefore difficult to obtain.
350	Chair Shields	Discusses issues surround the level of THC in hemp and the ability to detect pot aerially. Explains why smoking hemp will not induce a high.
		Closes public hearing on SB 672 and adjourns meeting at 12:00 p.m.

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

- A – SB 672, written testimony, Rep. Prozanski, 13 pp.**
- B – SB 672, written testimony, Carolyn Moran, 4 pp.**
- C – SB 672, written testimony, Candi Penn, 57 pp.**
- D – SB 672, written testimony, Mark Mathews, 1 pp.**
- E – SB 672, written testimony, Craig Durbin, 34 pp.**