

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RULES, REDISTRICTING, AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

April 04, 2001
1:30 PM

Hearing Room D
Tapes 60 - 62

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Carl Wilson, Chair
Rep. Richard Devlin, Vice-Chair
Rep. Dan Doyle, Vice-Chair
Rep. Dan Gardner
Rep. Bill Garrard
Rep. Steve March
Rep. Joanne Verger
Rep. Cheryl Walker

MEMBER EXCUSED: Rep. Bruce Starr

STAFF PRESENT: Cara Filsinger, Committee Administrator
Jennifer Goodman, Committee Assistant

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD: REDISTRICTING – PUBLIC HEARING
HB 2802 – WORK SESSION
HJR 16 – PUBLIC HEARING
HB 3709 – PUBLIC HEARING
HB 3707 – 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.

<u>TAPE/#</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Comments</u>
TAPE 54, A		
004	Chair Wilson	Calls the meeting to order at 1: 34 p.m. Opens a public hearing on redistricting.
<u>REDISTRICTING – PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
011	Chair Wilson	Closes the public hearing on redistricting and opens a work session on HB 2802.
<u>HB 2802 – WORK SESSION</u>		
014		Staff submits –2 amendments (EXHIBIT A).
015	Rep. Doyle	MOTION: Moves to ADOPT HB 2802-2 amendments dated 02/21/01.
016		VOTE: 5-0
		EXCUSED: 4 - Devlin, Gardner, Starr, C. Walker
	Chair Wilson	Hearing no objection, declares the motion CARRIED.
019	Rep. Doyle	MOTION: Moves HB 2802 to the floor with a DO PASS AS AMENDED recommendation and BE REFERRED to the committee on Ways and Means.
022		VOTE: 6-0
		EXCUSED: 3 - Gardner, Starr, Walker
	Chair Wilson	Hearing no objection, declares the motion CARRIED.
030	Chair Wilson	Closes the work session on HB 2802. Pulls HB 2002 from the agenda and opens a public hearing on HJR 16.
<u>HJR 16 – PUBLIC HEARING</u>		

035	Bill Bradbury	Secretary of State. Submits and testifies directly from (EXHIBIT B) .
168	Representative Kelley Wirth	House District 35. Testifies in support of HJR 16. States that more young people should be involved in the legislature. Believes that this is a step into the process for young people. Adds that we need new perspectives in the legislature because it has become homogeneous.
233	Jake Oken-Berg	Student at Pomona College. Submits and testifies from (EXHIBIT C) . States that in his election as a young candidate the 18-34 year old voter numbers doubled. Believes that the young can bring a new perspective to the table. Asks that the voters have the right to elect whomever they choose.
309	Jesse Laslovich	Montana House of Representatives. Testifies in support of the bill. Recounts his race at the age of nineteen. States that many young people are apathetic toward politics but when he ran many more did vote. Recounts an issue that came to a vote on the Montana floor. Explains that government students visit the capitol and he sparks their interest because of his young age.
417	Jason Barney	Vermont House of Representatives. Explains that he first ran at the age of 20. Discusses some personal history regarding political involvement. Realizes there are issues of life experience and seriousness. Believes that a positive result of his election is that the legislature now pays closer attention to higher education issues.
TAPE 61, A		
001	Barney	Continues his testimony.
060	Chair Wilson	Asks how big a consideration should be given to life experience. Asks if there is a difference in serving on the city council as opposed to the legislature.
071	Barney	Responds that life experience is a small consideration. Adds that it is up to the voter to decide who they want to elect.
080	Chair Wilson	Asks about the public's fear of the young in such a position.
084	Barney	Responds that if people are afraid of the issues the young may address that is their own personal issue.
093	Rep. Walker	Explains that wisdom is not just measured in years.
104	Rep. Devlin	Explains that his city council elected an 18-year-old and describes his accomplishments. Believes that age is not a determinant of accomplishment.
135	John McArdle	Mayor of Independence. Submits (EXHIBIT D) and testifies in support of this bill. Believes that rights and responsibilities are linked. Gives examples of young people elected at local level. Believes that experience is not dependent on age. Points out that as the nation has matured we have included more and more sections of society. Believes that we should extend the right to run for office to those who are of an age to vote.
199	Richard Burke	Legislative Assistant to Senator Gram George. Expresses concern with the lack of experience that young people have. Explains however, that it should be up to the voters to decide the question of how important life experience is.
250	Laura Bridges	X-PAC. Testifies in support of this bill. Explains that her organization is dedicated to activating and educating the younger generation. Believes that it is inconsistent that one can vote but cannot run for office. Adds that by lowering the age, young people will join the political process.

293	Rep. Gardner	Asks if she believes voting will increase with the passage of this resolution.
295	Bridges	Responds in the affirmative. Believes that the young need to feel they are a part of the process.
302	Rep. Gardner	Asks if she has any statistics on this.
306	Bridges	Responds in the negative. States that others have said that voting rose when they ran for office.
318	Lance Erz	X –PAC. States that he does not believe there will be a run on 18 year olds campaigning for office. Believes that this bill will show that we value young people and their involvement. Adds that this will also bring in a different perspective regarding political issues. Believes that it is wrong to eliminate someone from the system based on age.
355	Justin Gottlib	Reviews the history of Oregon’s young leadership. Believes that age should not be an issue when running for office.
405	Jeff Brewer	Intern with the Secretary of State. States that in the 1996 Presidential election the voting participation in states that have the 21 year plus limit was 31%. Adds that states that allow 18-year-olds to run for office were at 36%. States that the average age for Senators in the Oregon Legislature is 58.5. Adds that the percentage in the house is 51.5. Believes that the young are not being represented.
442	Nicole Lefore	Submits and testifies from (EXHIBIT E) in support of HJR 16. Submits (EXHIBIT O) on behalf of Howard Grooters.
484	Casey Cleary	Submits and testifies from (EXHIBIT F) in support of HJR 16.
TAPE 60, B		
030	Cleary	Continues her testimony.
053	Rep. Verger	Asks how eighteen-year-olds would stimulate more excitement than 21-year-olds.
061	Lefore	Believes that this opens the door to run in the political process.
068	Rep. Verger	Asks if the others have any insight into this question.
069	Brewer	Believes that 18 year olds are disassociated from 21 year olds and the political process.
079	Cleary	Believes that if young adults see other young people can make a difference in serving, they themselves would want to make a difference.
083	Rep. Garrard	Believes that by lowering the age to 18, the person’s political career could be forced to end at age 24.
087	Lafore	Believes that there are many options when it comes to holding office.
091	Rep. Garrard	States that he is referring only to the legislature.
095	Brewer	Believes that the young person and the voters should be given the choice.
114	Nick Huggler	Submits and testifies in support of HJR 16 from (EXHIBIT G) . Believes that 18 - 21 year olds can offer insights regarding the state education system. Adds that they know more about driving privileges and drug abuse.
166	Cassandra Miller	Submits and testifies from (EXHIBIT H) in support of the bill.
187	Kate Grosswiler	Submits and testifies from (EXHIBIT I) in support of the bill.
210	Rep. Gardner	Asks if she would consider running for office.
212	Grosswiler	Responds in the negative.
221	Rep. Devlin	Asks who her mother is.
223	Grosswiler	Replies that she is state Senator Burdick.
244	Joe Keizur	Hillsboro City Councilor. States that he ran for office at the age

		of 24 for city councilor. Adds that many of his allies were much older and that they appreciated his differing views. Asks that this go to the voters because it is a good simple bill. Believes this bill will prompt younger people to vote.
292	Paul Evans	Mayor of Monmouth. Submits (EXHIBIT J) and testifies in support of HJR 16.
378	John Pugsley	Submits and testifies from (EXHIBIT I) in support of HJR 16.
421	Rep. Verger	Comments that Mayor Evans is very well respected.
437	Ed Dennis	Secretary of State's Office. Thanks the committee for hearing this bill.

TAPE 61, B

018	Chair Wilson	Describes his thoughts as an eighteen-year-old regarding the fact that he could serve in the military but could not vote.
025	Rep. March	Recalls also that they could serve in the military and not vote.
038	Chair Wilson	Explains that they will not vote the bill out today. Adds that they will discuss this and most likely bring this back to committee. Closes the public hearing on HJR 16. Recesses the meeting.
094	Chair Wilson	Calls committee back to order. Opens a public hearing on HB 3709.

HB 3709 – PUBLIC HEARING

100	Rep. Merkley	Explains the bill.
107	Mark Landauer	City of Portland's Office of Government Relations. Explains that annually the office receives 50 requests for employee's social security numbers. Expresses concern over identity theft. Explains that this bill states social security numbers should not be released.
132	Frank Hudson	Deputy City Attorney for Portland. Submits and testifies from (EXHIBIT K). Explains that social security numbers are used in identity theft. Believes that this information should be confidential especially with the advent of the internet. Reviews the law regarding employee social security numbers under Oregon Public Records Law. Believes this bill would clarify the question of releasing public employee's social security numbers.
193	Rep. Doyle	Asks if the AFSCME case states these numbers were not exempt from disclosure.
196	Hudson	Responds in the affirmative.
197	Rep. Doyle	Asks if this does not apply because of the personal privacy case.
201	Hudson	States that most people would not release social security numbers. Asks for some help in clarifying the law regarding disclosure of these social security numbers.
215	Rep. March	States that currently addresses are exempt from the public record. Asks if social security numbers are not.
219	Hudson	Responds in the affirmative.
221	Rep. March	States that they are asking that these numbers not be disclosed.
223	Hudson	Suggests that social security numbers are more important than addresses. Adds that public employee birthdays are exempt from disclosure.
229	Chair Wilson	Closes the public hearing on HB 3709. Opens a public hearing on HB 3707.

HB 3707 – PUBLIC HEARING

245	Cara Filsinger	Introduces (EXHIBIT M).
226	Rep. Merkley	Submits and testifies in support of the bill from (EXHIBIT L).
324	Rep. Starr	States that his grocery card records his purchases.

338	Rep. Merkley	Responds that Representative Starr's concern is addressed in HB 3708. Describes HB 3708.
348	Rep. March	States that this bill needs work. Asks about a transition period from using social security as identification.
361	Rep. Merkley	Responds that a transition time is a necessary component. Uses hunting licenses as an example. States that the government is now in the process of converting their database into another identifier.
375	Rep. Garrard	Explains that he refuses to give his social security number and has never been refused service.
386	Rep. Merkley	Suggests that he may be unaware that his social security number is being used. Discusses an example of gym membership.
420	Rep. Devlin	Refers to the exemptions for financial institutions and credit history. Asks if he has discussed how to report information without the number.
436	Rep. Merkley	Responds that he has discussed this challenge. Adds that he believes this can be worked out.
450	Rep. March	States that this bill does not deal with the selling of personal information.
TAPE 62, A		
011	Rep. Merkley	Intends to go after this problem. Explains that he and the Speaker of the House have another bill that addresses this issue.
017	Rep. C. Walker	Asks if there would be a problem with interstate business transactions.
024	Rep. Merkley	States that he has a belief that things that correlate between the customer, finance, and business are essential. Adds however, when they are used unnecessarily in databases the line should be drawn.
042	Rep. Walker	Suggests we may have to implement a dual systems of billing. Adds concern if businesses pull out of Oregon.
047	Rep. Merkley	Responds that the use of social security numbers would still be acceptable for certain reasons. Adds that perhaps the rest of the country will follow Oregon in not allowing disclosure when unnecessary.
053	Chair Wilson	States that he will add this to the Friday agenda. Adjourns the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

Submitted By,

Reviewed By,

Jennifer Goodman,
Administrative Support

Cara Filsinger,
Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

- A – HB 2802, -2 amendments, Staff, 2 pp.**
- B – HJR 16, written testimony, Bill Bradbury, 3 pp.**
- C – HJR 16, written testimony, Jake Oken-Berg, 1 p.**
- D – HJR 16, written testimony, John McArdle, 1p.**
- E – HJR 16, written testimony, Nicole Lefore, 2 pp.**
- F – HJR 16, written testimony, Casey Cleary, 2 pp.**

G – HJR 16, written testimony, Nick Huggler, 1 p.
H – HJR 16, written testimony, Cassandra Miller, 1p.
I – HJR 16, written testimony, Kate Grosswiler, 1 p.
J – HJR 16, written testimony, Paul Evans, 3pp.
K – HJR 16, written testimony, Jon Pugsley, 1 p.
L – HB 3709, written testimony, Frank Hudson, 2 pp.
M – HB 3707, written testimony, Staff, 2 pp.
N – HB 3707, written testimony, Rep. Merkley, 2 pp.
O – HJR 16, written testimony, Howard Grooters, 1 p.