

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND ENVIRONMENT

February 09, 2001
8:30 AM

Hearing Room E
Tapes 19 - 21

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Rep. Betsy Close, Chair**
 Rep. Laurie Monnes-Anderson, Vice-Chair
 Rep. Susan Morgan, Vice-Chair
 Rep. Mark Hass
 Rep. Bob Jenson
 Rep. Deborah Kafoury
 Rep. Al King
 Rep. Jeff Kruse
 Rep. Jan Lee

STAFF PRESENT: **Megan Palau, Committee Administrator**
 Shannon Relaford, Committee Assistant

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD: **HB 2601 Public Hearing and Work Session**
 HB 2285 Public Hearing and Work Session
 HB 2180 Public Hearing
 HB 2539 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 19, A		
001	Chair Close	Convenes meeting at 8:35 a.m. Opens a public hearing on HB 2601.
<u>HB 2601 PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
005	Megan Palau	Committee Administrator. Presents explanation of HB 2601.
012	Phil Donovan	NW Sports Fishing Industry Association. Presents testimony in support of the bill (EXHIBIT A).
050	Rep. Jenson	Questions designation of funds and whether they would agree to an amendment that would specify the money for projects within the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Suggests the CHIP program.
058	Donovan	Responds the revenue is modest.
080	Rep. Jenson	Requests comments on increasing fee or putting it on a sliding scale.
096	Donovan	Responds the intent of the legislation was to expand fishing opportunity and reduce the surplus salmon, keeping the tag affordable.
110	Rep. Monnes-Anderson	Questions the existing fees.

123	Donovan	Replies and explains combination tags.
128	Rep. Lee	Questions appropriateness of dedicating the funds to the R and D group.
130	Donovan	Replies he doesn't want earmarking of fees at this time. Continues with overview.
149	Rep. King	Questions quantity of fish that can be caught.
157	Donovan	Clarifies amount of catch.
166	Rep. King	Asks about the prices of tags.
175	Liz Hamilton	Executive Director, NW Sports Fishing Industry Association. Expresses her support of the bill.
196	Rep. Monnes-Anderson	Questions if this bill could hurt the wild salmon recovery.
201	Hamilton	Responds it may in a slight measure increase funds, allowing them to do their jobs better.
224	Janice Green	Oregonians for Fish and Fishing. Submits written testimony (EXHIBIT B) and states her concern about language in the bill. Urges care in issuing of the tags.
320	Jim Myron	Oregon Trout. Submits written testimony (EXHIBIT C) and states support of the concept. Urges direction by ODFW to mark all the fish they produce.
361	Rep. Jenson	Concurs with the fish friendly release and suggests they be incorporated in the general rules of ODFW.
367	Myron	Agrees and remarks they would not oppose earmarking revenues except if it were for more hatchery production.
371	Carmen McDonald	Association of Northwest Steelheaders. Expresses concerns of conflicts within existing structures. Addresses costs of fishing.
455	Stephan Kafoury	American Fisheries Society. Submits written material (EXHIBIT D) and states that his organization is not in favor or opposed to bill. Wants to emphasize the difference in wild and hatchery fish.
TAPE 20, A		
010	Roy Elicker	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). Presents testimony in support of the bill (EXHIBIT E) .
030	Chair Close	Questions if there could be a year when ODFW would issue no tags.
032	Elicker	Imagines rules could be adopted to not issue tags.
035	Chair Close	Closes the public hearing and opens a work session on HB 2601.
<u>HB 2601 WORK SESSION</u>		
040	Rep. Jenson	MOTION: Moves HB 2601 to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation.
043	Rep. Kruse	Mentions the price of the tags and notes that the cost may not be relative.
056	Rep. King	States his support of the bill. VOTE: 8-0 AYE: In a roll call vote, all members present vote Aye. EXCUSED: 1 - Rep. Morgan The motion CARRIES. REP. JENSON will lead discussion on the floor.
085	Chair Close	
095	Chair Close	Closes the work session on HB 2601 and opens a public hearing on HB 2285.
<u>HB 2285 PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
100	Palau	Gives explanation of HB 2285, which pertains to bass fishing tournaments.
110	Chuck Lang	Conservation Director, Oregon Federation of Bass. Presents his

		testimony supporting HB 2285 (EXHIBIT F). States that current law requires all tournaments to be permitted, making tournament entries to be outside the law. Notes that the bill will correct the problem and protect the fish.
200	Rep. Kurt Schrader	House District 23. Gives overview and explanation of bill. States present law is antiquated and the bill will update and make legal what was assumed to be legal in the past.
266	Rep. Monnes-Anderson	Mentions a possible problem on the dollar amounts won in the contests.
275	Rep. Schrader	Responds and defers to ODFW.
286	Robert Morton	Expresses support of the bill.
290	Rocky Ward	Mount Hood Bass Masters. States his support of the bill.
321	Stan Eldrige	Past President, Mount Hood Bass. States his support of the bill.
351	Weslie Loman	President, Oregon Hog Netters Bass Fishing Club. States his support for the bill.
361	Curtis Cooper	Columbia River Bass Masters. States his support of the bill.
386	Chair Close	Questions if bass are food fish or catch and release.
390	Cooper	Responds that all fish are released in tournaments.
409	Bill Osborne	Columbia River Bass Masters. States his support of the bill.
435	Chair Close	Questions why Oregon is becoming such a hot spot for bass fishing.
438	Osborne	Explains that the upper portion of the Columbia River supports larger small mouth bass and a lot of them.
455	Mark Hamlett	States his support of the bill.
TAPE 19, B		
050	Lance Chart	Tournament Director, Central Valley Bass Club. States his support of the bill. Mentions the bass clubs are a management tool for ODFW. Tells of CAST for Kids.
086	Chair Close	Reads note from Jim Myron, Oregon Trout, stating support for the bill.
098	Elicker	Presents testimony in support of the bill (EXHIBIT G).
117	Rep. Jenson	Questions if small mouth bass are in any danger in terms of stocking.
120	Elicker	Replies they are in no danger.
135	Rep. Jenson	Asks if they eat smolt.
137	Elicker	Concurs that in some situations they are predatory.
141	Chair Close	Closes public hearing and opens a work session on HB 2285.
HB 2285 WORK SESSION		
143	Rep. Jenson	MOTION: Moves to ADOPT HB 2285-1 amendments dated 1/26/01.
153	Palau	Gives explanation of the amendment, specifying bait used for tournaments.
156	Rep. Kruse	States he will accept the amendment, but not vote to move the bill.
175	Rep. King	Requests the bill be moved forward.
185	Rep. Kafoury	States she wants to see all amendments before voting.
		VOTE: 8-0
		EXCUSED: 1 - Rep. Morgan
095	Chair Close	Hearing no objection, declares the motion CARRIED.
204	Rep. Close	Closes work session on HB 2285 and opens a public hearing on HB 2180.
HB 2180 PUBLIC HEARING		
219	Palau	Gives explanation of the bill, dealing with predatory animal, rabbit and rodent control fund.

238	Elicker	Submits written testimony (EXHIBIT H) and states the department's support of the bill.
281	Rep. Jenson	Questions what the federal match is on the \$40,000.
283	Elicker	Responds that he doesn't have the figures.
285	Rep. Jenson	Asks if the fund is adequate to handle predatory animals like the coyote.
290	Elicker	Responds that whatever the match is, it is not enough.
292	Rep. Jenson	Requests more information on the costs when he returns..
295	Rep. Monnes-Anderson	Questions if bear or cougar are considered predatory and whether they are included for this fund.
298	Elicker	Replies no.
315	Katie Cate	Oregon Cattlemen's Association. Presents testimony supporting the bill (EXHIBIT I). States concerns regarding the language about spending levels.
430	Chair Close	Comments that it's a good program, but a bad mechanism.
441	Cate	Concurs.
455	Roger Huffman	Oregon Department of Agriculture. Presents testimony in support of the bill.
TAPE 20, A		
051	Rep. Hass	Wonders if the committee is going to refer the bill to the Ways and Means Committee.
060	Rep. Morgan	Comments that the Ways and Means Committee considers what the policy committee recommends to be done with a bill so it's important for this discussion to take place.
066	Richard Kosesan	Oregon Sheep Growers Association. States opposition to the bill because it would cap the dollar amount.
093	Rep. Morgan	Questions what an acceptable cap would be.
096	Kosesan	Replies increasing to \$250,000.
114	Rep. Koufury	Clarifies the bill will change where the money comes from, not the amount.
123	Rep. Kruse	Suggests this might be a vehicle to remove the cap.
126	Rep. Jenson	Questions concerning predatory animals, what is covered and what is excluded.
132	Kosesan	Concurs that there are restrictions. Speaks of cooperative programs between ODFW and Wildlife Services for management of bear and cougar.
137	Rep. King	Remarks about the 13,000 animals killed and asks if they were killed only by predators, or by other sources.
142	Kosesan	Replies the figure is of livestock losses due to predation.
143	Rep. King	Comments on wildlife predation and the loss of livestock due to pet dogs.
161	Kosesan	Quotes research and surveys that indicate dogs cause 10-15 % of total losses.
169	Dave Williams	Wildlife Services Program, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Gives overview of the program.
204	Chair Close	Requests total budget for the program.
208	Williams	Replies \$2.2 million.
210	Rep. Morgan	Asks if this represents one year of funding.
211	Williams	Concurs, but not just predatory issues.
213	Rep. Morgan	Asks if it is a stable figure.
215	Williams	Replies the costs of doing business goes up and they have passed that cost down to the local levels.
233	Rep. Morgan	Questions the stability of ODFW's contributions.
244	Williams	Clarifies there is an agreement with ODFW for \$40,000 a year

250	Rep. Morgan	and another agreement for \$45,000 per year. Questions if this bill represents a decrease in the amount of state support.
253	Williams	States he is unsure what will happen if they do not receive the current fund.
271	Jim Welch	Oregon Farm Association. States the association's support for the bill, but would like to see it increased.
291	Rep. Lee	Asks if the association knows the source of the other \$45,000.
294	Welch	Replies he does not.
295	Chair Close	Closes the public hearing on HB 2180 and opens a public hearing on HB 2539.

HB 2539 PUBLIC HEARING

305	Doug Myers	WaterWatch. Presents testimony in support of the bill (EXHIBIT J).
375	Kosesan	Water for Life. States his opposition to bill.
029	Rep. Lee	Queries if it isn't more beneficial for senior users outside a water district to have a transfer take place from a person rather than a cancellation.
042	Cate	States her organization's support for the bill.
060	Kristina McNitt	Oregon Water Resources Congress. States her support for the bill. Speaks about the amendments that will be forth coming.
087	Rep. Kruse	Wonders if it would be worth considering how junior water rights holders outside the district would stand, and if they should play into the discussion.
094	McNitt	Responds that the current law allows for transferring water rights out of the district.
096	Rep. Kruse	Follows up with remarks concerning conservation efforts.
113	Pete Test	Associate Director for Governmental Affairs, Oregon Farm Bureau. Voices concerns regarding the bill. States it needs a little more work.
122	Chair Close	Closes public hearing on HB 2539 and adjourns the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Submitted By,

Reviewed By,

Shannon Relaford,
Committee Assistant

Megan Palau,
Committee Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

- A – HB 2601, written testimony, Phil Donovan, 1p.**
- B – HB 2601, written testimony, Janice Green 1p.**
- C – HB 2601, written testimony, Jim Myron, 1p.**
- D – HB 2601, written materials, Stephan Kafoury, 4pp.**
- E – HB 2601, written testimony, Roy Elicker, 1p.**

- F – HB 2285, written testimony, Chuck Lang, 9 pp.**
- G – HB 2285, written testimony, Roy Elicker, 2pp.**
- H – HB 2180, written testimony, Roy Elicker, 1p.**
- I – HB 2180, written testimony, Katie Cate, 3pp.**
- J – HB 2539, written testimony, Karen Russell, 4pp.**