

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 20, 2001 Hearing Room B  
3:00 p.m. Tapes 26 - 27

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Sen. Charles Starr, Chair  
Sen. Susan Castillo, Vice-Chair  
Sen. Ryan Deckert  
Sen. Ted Ferrioli  
Sen. Bill Fisher  
Sen. Avel Gordly

**MEMBER EXCUSED:** Sen. Tom Hartung

**STAFF PRESENT:** Jan McComb, Committee Administrator  
Jennifer Simmons, Committee Assistant

**MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:** Informational Meeting – Education Leadership Team Report  
Public Hearing – SB 221  
Public Hearing – SB 195

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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.

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<b>TAPE/#</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>TAPE 26, A</b>		
004	Chair Starr	Opens meeting at 3:10 p.m. Opens public hearing on SB 221.
<b><u>PUBLIC HEARING – SB 221</u></b>		
017	Rep. Hopson	Submits ( <b>EXHIBIT A</b> ) written material. Testifies in favor of the bill.
072	Sen. Gordly	Asks if the application of the bill is to rural schools only.
080	Rep. Hopson	Answers no, the bill applies to economically depressed areas.
083	Sen. Gordly	Says that she appreciates this response. States that economically depressed areas are both rural and urban.
101	Sen. Deckert	Says that he used a lot of Sen. Gordly and Sen. Ferrioli's previous work in drafting this bill. Agrees with Sen. Gordly.
113	Sen. Gordly	Asks if this bill would include federally recognized enterprise zones.
121	Sen. Deckert	Answers that he has an amendment that might take care of that.
136	Sen. Fisher	Asks if the number on the top of the page is the average for Oregon.
140	Rep. Hopson	Answers yes.
153	Sen. Fisher	Asks how this number compares with other starting salaries in the state.
161	Rep. Hopson	Answers that she does not have that information but she knows that it is available.
168	Sen. Fisher	Says that his daughter just received a double Bachelor's degree and he is curious if her starting salary is comparable to other salaries.
174	Rep. Hopson	Explains that some places already provide signing bonuses, there is a problem with poorer districts being able to compete with

192 Paul Evans those districts.  
 235 Sen. Fisher Mayor: Monmouth, Oregon. Testifies in favor of the bill.  
 Says that he would like to see more information on starting salaries.  
 238 Chair Starr Closes public hearing on SB 221 and opens informational meeting.

**INFORMATIONAL MEETING – EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORT**

254 Kate Dickson Department of Education. Reads from **(EXHIBIT B)** written material.

**TAPE 27, A**

076 Sen. Gordly Asks if the Leadership team still exists.  
 082 Dickson Answers that they exist until June 30, 2001.  
 092 Sen. Gordly Asks who is responsible for following up on the recommendations made by the team.  
 097 Dickson Answers that the responsibility lies with all of us.  
 109 Sen. Gordly Asks who is responsible for the coordination of following up on the recommendations.  
 111 Dickson Answers Stan Bunn and the Department of Education will probably follow up on most of the recommendations.  
 114 Sen. Gordly Asks if they probably will or definitely will.  
 126 Dickson Says that these are recommendations and the legislature can follow through on some of them and the Department of Education will try to follow through on most of them.  
 145 Sen. Gordly Asks if the legislators that were on the team made a commitment to follow through on these recommendations.  
 153 Dickson Answers that this group was put together for the purposes of identifying the problems and providing recommendations.  
 192 Sen. Gordly Says that what is missing in the report is timelines for accomplishing these recommendations.  
 222 Dickson Explains to the committee who else this presentation has been made to.  
 269 Sen. Fisher Asks if kids are less intelligent than they used to be.  
 274 Dickson Answers no they are not.  
 276 Sen. Fisher Asks if they are less capable of learning to read.  
 279 Dickson Answers no.  
 281 Sen. Fisher Says that we need to go back to how students were taught years ago. Asks about the use of phonics.  
 295 Dickson Answers that phonics is an excellent way to teach reading.  
 314 Chair Starr Closes informational meeting and opens public hearing on SB 195.

**PUBLIC HEARING – SB 195**

336 Sen. R. Beyer Testifies in favor of the bill. Says that currently voters can choose to merge districts but there is no way to split into smaller districts. Explains that one district has done this and there needs to be a statewide process for achieving this in any district. Urges committee to support local control of our school districts.  
 419 John Marshall Oregon School Boards Association. Testifies in opposition to the bill. Says that school districts originally merged to comply with a mandate that all districts must be K-12, and this bill is taking schools in the wrong direction. Says that if school districts wish to divide it should be dealt with on a case by case level.

**TAPE 26, B**

071 Sen. Fisher Asks if the Napa district did divide.  
 072 Marshall Answers yes.

074	Sen. Fisher	Asks if the division was successful.
075	Marshall	Answers that they are doing well, but probably facing problems with funding.
085	Chair Starr	Asks if there is evidence of saving costs by dividing.
093	Marshall	Answers that there has been no evidence of this.
113	Chuck Bennett	Confederation of Oregon School Administrators. Testifies in opposition of the bill.
134	Sen. Fisher	Says that it does not save costs.
143	Sen. Deckert	Says that they must have lost administrators and that would have saved costs.
146	Bennett	Says that this is true.
150	Sen. Deckert	Asks how many administrators were lost when the mandated unification happened.
153	Bennett	Answers that he is unsure but could find out.
157	Chair Starr	Closes public hearing on SB 195 and reopens public hearing on SB 221.

**PUBLIC HEARING – SB 221**

162	Sen. Deckert	Gives his support to SB 221.
184	Tricia Bosak	Oregon Education Association. Reads from written testimony <b>(EXHIBIT C)</b> .
255	Sen. Fisher	Says that we are having problems with other positions in economically depressed areas. Suggests an incentive to pay off some student loans after a teacher has spent a certain amount of time in a district.
278	Chair Starr	Says that he would like to look into this further before opening a work session. States that he believes it to be a good idea.
299	Sen. Gordly	Says that she supports the concept and would like to explore it further on the policy board.
322	Sen. Deckert	Says that he agrees with Sen. Fisher regarding student loans.
332	Sen. Fisher	Asks if these figures include benefits provided to teachers.
339	Jan McComb	Administrators. Answers that she does not believe that it does include benefits.
356	Sen. Fisher	Says that he would really like to see more information on average starting salaries for all college graduates.
376	Chair Starr	Adjourns meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Submitted By,

Reviewed By,

Jennifer Simmons,  
Committee Assistant

Jan McComb,  
Committee Administrator

**EXHIBIT SUMMARY**

**A – written material, SB 221, Rep. Elaine Hopson, 1 pp**

**B – written material, Education Leadership Team, Kate Dickson, OS**

**C – written testimony, SB 221, Tricia Bosak, 1 pp**