

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

April 10, 2001 Hearing Room B  
3:00 p.m. Tapes 74 - 77

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

**MEMBER EXCUSED:**

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

**MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:**        **SB 748 – Public Hearing**  
                                  **SB 950 – Public Hearing**  
                                  **SB 732 – Public Hearing**  
                                  **SB 100 – Public Hearing**  
                                  **SB 596 – Work Session**

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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 74, A</b>		
003	Chair Starr	Opens meeting at 3:07 p.m. Opens public hearing on SB 100.
<b><u>PUBLIC HEARING - SB 100</u></b>		
015	Jan McComb	Explains the bill.
029	Jim Johnson	Intel. Testifies in support of the bill. States the importance of a highly educated workforce. Relates his experience. Says that students need help to attend higher education institutes if they work hard.
064	Sen. Deckert	Reads from written testimony ( <b>EXHIBIT A</b> ).
138	Sen. Hartung	Testifies in favor of the bill. Explains how he became interested in the HOPE grant. Stresses the need for our educated students to stay in Oregon.
175	Sen. Gordly	Speaks about the Financial Aid Commission's previous testimony before the committee. Asks if this bill will enable them to achieve their goals.
220	Sen. Hartung	Answers that the bill does not currently provide for these goals but he believes that it can.
264	Johnson	Says that he is not familiar with their report. Says that this is a different approach to reach the same goals.
275	Sen. Deckert	Says that he believes that the end product will be able to encourage these same principles.
317	Sen. Ferrioli	Commends the sponsors for bringing forth this idea. Says that he is worried that this is a great idea that cannot be funded.
393	Sen. Hartung	Responds that he believes that of all issues in the legislature,

education is the most important. Says that we need to find a way to work with the bill.  
439 Sen. Deckert Says that it is an appropriate request of them to find the funding on their own.

**TAPE 75, A**

005 Sen. Ferrioli Says that there are a lot of other programs that other funding could help.  
025 Sen. Castillo Asks why we can create a new program needing funding before funneling more dollars to the people already waiting for funding.  
039 Sen. Deckert Answers that it is important that we address the 11,000 students not fully funded in the Oregon Opportunity Grant. Says that this bill can help those students also.  
055 Sen. Gordly Speaks about the written testimony from Rep. Leonard **(EXHIBIT B)**.  
069 Sen. Deckert Responds that by means testing you can ensure that the funds go to the students that really need it.  
078 Sen. Hartung Says that this is a merit scholarship to some extent, but it is to be made the most available to those students who need the funds.  
102 John Wykoff Oregon Student's Association. Reads from written testimony **(EXHIBIT C)**. Also submits written testimony from Rem Nivens **(EXHIBIT D)**.  
257 Sen. Deckert Says that this will not dip into the state's funds.  
282 Wykoff Responds the first priority should be funding the currently under funded financial aid in the state.  
308 Falisa Higgin Testifies in opposition to the bill. Says that it is unfair to provide these funds when the current financial aid system is already under funded.  
367 Sen. Castillo Commends the witness' hard work and accomplishments.  
385 Tom Turner Oregon Student Assistance Program. Testifies in opposition to the bill. Says that the other states that have adopted programs like this received the funding from their current financial aid programs.

**TAPE 74, B**

038 Sen. Deckert Says that they would be working on funding both grants.  
047 Turner Says that he does not see how that will be possible.  
074 Sen. Deckert Responds that their goal is definitely to preserve the needs based grant.  
092 Grattan Kerans Oregon University System. Says that this bill is a work in progress and will have to go through some major work to be able to be implemented.  
178 David McDonald Oregon University System. Says that he admires the sponsors of the bill for bringing this forward.  
213 Gary Andeen Oregon Independent College Association. Submits written material **(EXHIBIT E)**.  
262 Becky Pearcey Legislative Aide. Speaks on behalf of Sen. Carter. Reads from written testimony **(EXHIBIT F)**.  
316 Chair Starr Closes public hearing on SB 100 and opens public hearing on SB 748.

**PUBLIC HEARING – SB 748**

320 Jan McComb Explains the bill.  
358 Dan Barker Superintendent, Crow School District. Reads from written testimony **(EXHIBIT G)**.

**TAPE 75, B**

020 Sen. Gordly Asks how many students are currently waiting to transfer out of

		his district.
023	Barker	Answers ten to fifteen.
025	Sen. Gordly	Asks if we can find out how many are waiting statewide.
029	Barker	Answers that he does not believe this data is available.
042	Ozzie Rose	Confederation of Oregon School Administrators. Testifies in opposition of the bill. Says that currently there does not have to be a trade, the district losing a student just must agree.
071	John Marshall	Oregon School Boards Association. States his opposition to the bill. Says that there is already a decline in enrollment in many districts. Says that a receiving school can reject a student for many reasons but the sending district just must suffer the loss of enrollment.
115	Sen. Deckert	Says that he likes the idea of open enrollment.
126	Rose	Responds that due to funding this would be hard to do.
152	Marshall	Says that schools are funded on the number of students enrolled. Says that this will cause districts to lose dollars with passage of this bill.
164	Sen. Gordly	Asks where the exemption is located in the bill.
170	Marshall	Answers by pointing out the section in the bill.
179	Sen. Gordly	Asks Barker to comment on this particular section of the bill.
184	Barker	Answers that these are all good reasons to reject an incoming student.
204	Sen. Gordly	Asks what options the students that have been suspended for ten days have in his district.
210	Barker	Answers that he has not been there when a student was either suspended for more than ten days or expelled.
216	Chair Starr	Closes public hearing on SB 748 and opens public hearing on SB 732.

**PUBLIC HEARING – SB 732**

254	Rep. Alan Brown	Testifies in favor of the bill. Speaks about the Newport community's experience of these programs being discontinued without their knowledge.
294	Deb Elkins	Says that if they had been warned about the discontinuation of the program, they could have raised funds to keep the programs afloat.
325	Malcolm Rose	Auto Technician. Speaks about the Crescent Valley area losing their vocational programs as well. Says that if we could keep two inmates out of prison a year, we could fund one program.
430	Sen. George	Testifies in favor of the bill. Stresses the need to provide other opportunities to students besides sports. Says that this bill is very simple.

**TAPE 76, A**

050	Pat O' Sullivan	Portland Public Schools. Speaks in opposition to the bill.
077	Chuck Bennett	Confederation of Oregon School Administrators. Speaks about the difficulties there would be in implementing the bill.
114	Ron Dexter	Department of Education. Expresses his high regards for professional-technical programs. Says that he still has concerns about the ninety day notice.
215	Chair Starr	Closes public hearing on SB 732 and opens public hearing on SB 950.

**PUBLIC HEARING – SB 950**

245	Charles Williamson	Association for Children with Learning Disabilities. Reads from written testimony ( <b>EXHIBIT H</b> ).
310	Wilma Wells	Confederation of Oregon School Administrators. Submits

423	Sen. Gordly	written testimony ( <b>EXHIBIT I</b> ). Says that this appears to be a harmless bill. Points out her concerns with the bill.
427	Williamson	Answers that they are in favor of the bill.
442	Sen. Gordly	Asks about the study attached to his testimony.
<b>TAPE 77, A</b>		
005	Williamson	Answers that they would have better data if they had received a response from everyone.
020	Sen. Gordly	Asks for clarification why people who oppose the bill do not wish to have this information.
025	Williamson	Answers that he does not understand why anyone opposes this bill.
031	Sen. Fisher	Asks why we do not simply ask the schools for this information.
033	Williamson	Answers that only 34 percent of schools responded when asked. Says that it would be helpful to find out how other districts are handling this issue.
062	Sen. Castillo	Asks if Steve Johnson is for or against this bill.
069	Steve Johnson	Department of Education. Submits written testimony ( <b>EXHIBIT J</b> ). States that they have no official stand on this bill.
093	Sen. Gordly	Asks if the Department has a position on the House Bill similar to this bill.
098	Johnson	Answers that they do support that bill.
103	Sen. Fisher	Comments that the right questions are not being asked in the survey.
130	Chair Starr	Closes public hearing on SB 950 and opens work session on SB 596.

**WORK SESSION – SB 596**

157	Rob Kramer	Oregon Education Coalition. Speaks about the effects of the -1 amendments.
280	Chair Starr	Asks why we do not include private alternative schools.
295	Krahmer	Answers that there would not be a private alternative school that is solely based on tuition. Continues to go over the amendments.
355	Sen. Castillo	Says that she sees no problem in conducting credit checks on people using public money.
381	Krahmer	Says that there are many people contracting with public funds in the state that are not subject to credit checks.
415	Sen. Fisher	Agrees that many people have control over public funds that do not require credit checks.
440	Krahmer	Continues speaking about the amendments to the bill.
<b>TAPE 76, B</b>		
136	Sally Bigongiari	Executive Director, Village School. Speaks about their charter school program.
220	Sen. Castillo	Says that the insurance companies were requiring the credit checks to insure the school.
223	Bigongiari	Says that she has never heard that reason. Speaks about the insurance restrictions.
331	Sen. Castillo	Asks how many students are in their school.
332	Bigongiari	Answers that they have thirty seven students.
348	Sen. Hartung	Asks how many teachers and aides they have.
349	Bigongiari	Answers two teachers and two aides for K-2.
368	Jim Green	Expresses his concerns with these amendments. Says that he would be happy to work with other parties on amendments that work for all.

410	Laurie Wimmer-Whelan	Reads from written testimony ( <b>EXHIBIT K</b> ).
<b>TAPE 77, B</b>		
020	David Williams	Oregon School Employees Association. Submits written material ( <b>EXHIBIT L</b> ).
030	Chair Starr	Says that we will set up a work group on this issue. Closes work session on SB 596 and adjourns the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Submitted By,

Reviewed By,

Jennifer Simmons,  
Committee Assistant

Jan McComb,  
Committee Administrator

**EXHIBIT SUMMARY**

- A – written testimony, SB 100, Sen. Deckert, 2 pp**
- B – written testimony, SB 100, Rep. Leonard, 1 pp**
- C – written testimony, SB 100, John Wykoff, 5 pp**
- D – written testimony, SB 100, Rem Nivens, 1 pp**
- E – written material, SB 100, Gary Andeen, 1 pp**
- F – written testimony, SB 100, Becky Pearcey, 3 pp**
- G – written testimony, SB 748, Dan Barker, 2 pp**
- H – written testimony, SB 950, Charles Williamson, 49 pp**
- I – written testimony, SB 950, Wilma Wells, 2 pp**
- J – written testimony, SB 950, Steve Johnson, 2 pp**
- K – written testimony, SB 596, Laurie Wimmer Whelan, 2 pp**
- L – written testimony, SB 596, Tricia Smith, 3 pp**