

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY**

**April 22, 1999 Hearing Room D**

**8:30 a.m. Tapes 50 - 51**

**MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Larry Wells, Chair**

**Rep. Terry Thompson, Vice-Chair**

**Rep. Jeff Kropf, Vice-Chair**

**Rep. Roger Beyer**

**Rep. Ryan Deckert**

**Rep. Jim Hill**

**Rep. Elaine Hopson**

**Rep. Jerry Krummel**

**Rep. Judy Uherbelau**

**MEMBER EXCUSED:**

**STAFF PRESENT: B. Harrison Conley, Administrator**

**Samantha Demchak, Administrative Support**

**MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD: HB 3227 Public Hearing**

**HJR 39 Public Hearing HB 2933 Public Hearing**

**HB 3294 Public Hearing and Work Session**

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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TAPE/#	Speaker	Comments
<b>TAPE 50, A</b>		
003	Chair Wells	Calls meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Opens public hearing on HB 3227.
<b><u>HB 3227 PUBLIC HEARING</u></b>		
007	Harrison Conley	Committee Administrator. Discusses provisions of HB 3227.
020	Chair Wells	Closes public hearing on HB 3227. Opens public hearing on HJR 39.
<b><u>HJR 39 PUBLIC HEARING</u></b>		
034	Conley	Discusses provisions of HJR 39.
045	Michelle Blake	Testifies in opposition to HJR 39. States HJR 39 would not provide any additional protection or rights to hunters <b>(EXHIBIT A)</b> .
052	Chair Wells	Closes public hearing on HJR 39. Opens public hearing on HB 2933.
<b><u>HB 2933 PUBLIC HEARING</u></b>		
062	Conley	Discusses provisions of HB 2933.
		Staff distributes material received prior to hearing <b>(EXHIBIT B)</b> .
084	Rep. Floyd Prozanski	District 40. Testifies in support of HB 2933. Indicates a bill was brought to the legislature two years ago regarding the same issue. Indicates it was legal to grow industrial hemp in the United States until the 1970s.
118	Rep. Prozanski	Asks committee to put aside myths about hemp. Notes Oregon's grass seed technology could grow top grade hemp seed.
160	Rep. Prozanski	Adds it is important to know that in 1942, the government encouraged hemp cultivation to produce was needed rope and canvas for the war effort.
209	Chair Wells	Asks if it is the federal or local government that makes the decisions regarding the growing of hemp.
211	Rep. Prozanski	Answers it is the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Indicates the DEA is

		rethinking their its position on hemp. Stresses the farmers in the country should not be forced to import hemp.
228	Chair Wells	Asks if Oregon passes this law, where does the federal government stand on the issue of growing industrial hemp.
232	Rep. Prozanski	Responds it will force the DEA to rethink the issue.
237	Rep. Uherbelau	Asks if the federal government has an opinion on the legalization of growing industrial hemp in North Dakota.
246	Rep. Prozanski	Indicates the law is too new for an official opinion to be filed.
271	Caroline Moran	Living Tree Paper Company. Notes her company has to support a foreign country to obtain raw materials for support their business. Adds hemp paper is used in cigarette papers and in some currency. Notes hemp is high quality paper because of the long strands. Notes 30 million tons of paper is used each year. Indicates paper consumption is growing rapidly ( <b>EXHIBIT C</b> ).
320	Moran	Notes the demand for a non-wood fiber has grown.
330	Rep. Thompson	Asks about the world paper market. Asks if the hemp market is different.
342	Moran	Responds it is a niche market. Indicates hemp produces 3 to 8 tons of dry fiber per acre.
367	Rep. Kropf	Asks how is it imported.
370	Moran	Responds she only receives it in dry pulp form.
375	Rep. Kropf	Asks Moran how much she pays for the pulp.
379	Moran	Answers \$2,500.00 per ton.
401	Joe Hickey	Kentucky Hemp Growers Association. Indicates North Dakota passed a hemp bill in April. Testifies in support of HB 2933. Indicates there are differences in pot and hemp.
<b><u>TAPE 51, A</u></b>		
045	Rep. Hopson	Asks what countries forbid the growing of hemp.

053	Hickey	Answers countries in South America.
061	Rep. Hopson	Asks if that is because there are laws against hemp growing.
069	Hickey	Responds affirmatively.
072	Chair Wells	Asks what Hickey does in Kentucky.
079	Hickey	Answers heavy construction.
081	Chair Wells	Asks how Hickey is involved with hemp.
084	Hickey	Responds he imports hemp from Canada. Adds he was involved with a study at North Carolina State University (NCSU). Indicates feeding beef the hemp seeds reduces the need for antibiotics and steroids.
097	Hickey	Indicates a study done at NCSU shows allowing farmers to grow hemp in addition to tobacco would help the farmers economically.
112	Rep. Hill	Asks if Oregon's climate is suitable to grow hemp.
124	Hickey	Notes hemp will grow almost anywhere. Indicates that soybeans were that last industrial crop introduced in the United States.
130	Rep. Kropf	Asks about hemp ultimately leading to the legalization of marijuana. Would Hickey support the government selling hemp seed.
173	Hickey	Notes hemp can be considered anti-marijuana. Notes there was a woman in Vermont who opposed the legalization of hemp, because the cross-pollination would cut down on the potency of her marijuana.
194	Rep. Kropf	Asks if the potency of hemp is increased through cross-pollination with marijuana.
202	Hickey	Answers hemp has to be harvested as soon as it pollinates. Indicates as soon as it pollinates, the fiber quality goes down.
226	Hickey	Notes the U.S. <a href="#">ILaw eEnforcement Agency</a> is the only agency to make money off industrial hemp. <b>I donit think there is anagency with that name. Was this a generic reference to law enforcement agencies?</b>
231	Rep. Uherbelau	Requests a copy of a study done at Indiana State University.

259	Rep. Prozanski	Indicates a permit will be required to grow industrial hemp. Notes there are safeguards in the bill.
309	Larry Welty	Oregon State Police, Assistant Commander, Drug Enforcement. Testifies in opposition to HB 2933. Indicates hemp grown in Europe is heavily subsidized. Notes it has not been established what percent of THC results in impairment <b>(EXHIBIT D)</b> .
329	Rep. Uherbelau	Asks about distinguishing hemp and marijuana.
342	Welty	Notes the plants look similar in shape and color
<b><u>TAPE 50, B</u></b>		
022	Rep. Uherbelau	Asks if Welty could learn to tell the difference.
027	Rep. Hill	Indicates that since the plants are licensed, law enforcement would know the location of hemp fields.
031	Welty	Responds the issue is from the air, law enforcement cannot tell the THC level.
042	Rep. Hill	Reiterates about the license for hemp growers.
048	Rep. Deckert	Asks about the permit process.
067	Darryl Ehrensing	Oregon State University (OSU). Notes hemp is adapted to the mid-west. Notes industrial hemp is a strictly irrigated crop. Adds hemp is grown in high rainfall areas.
071	Chair Wells	Asks if under current law hemp is grown at OSU for research.
082	Ehrensing	Answers no. Adds the information comes from Europe.
		Staff distributes testimony received prior to hearing <b>(EXHIBIT E)</b> .
093	Chair Wells	Closes public hearing on HB 2933. Opens public hearing on HB 3294.
<b><u>HB 3294 PUBLIC HEARING</u></b>		
186	Conley	Discusses provisions of HB 3294

200	Ernie CoonzKunze	Testifies in support of HB 3294.
265	Gary Linn	Estaicada, Testifies in support of HB 3294. Notes skydivers came into the area. Notes it makes the community a proud place to live <b>(EXHIBIT F)</b> .
292	Rep. Thompson	Asks if there has been a decrease of the incidents with skydivers in the past twenty years.
299	Linn	Answers yes. Adds the decrease is due to lawsuits.
308	Jerry Purvis	Testifies in support of HB 3294. States this bill would work for a more modern jump center. Indicates there is no law that states a jump center cannot be started.
356	Rep. Juley Gianella	District 38. Testifies in support of HB 3294. Notes skydivers have landed in her field. Adds it ruined the fields. Continues the skydivers came on the property uninvited <b>(EXHIBIT G)</b> .
417	Rep. Thompson	Asks if there have been any problems in the past two years.
420	Rep. Gianella	Answers, no it was years ago.
<b>TAPE 50, B</b>		
002	Rep. Krummel	Asks what stopped the jumpers.
006	Rep. Gianella	Notes someone went to jail.
009	Dale Blalnton	Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD). Notes the controversy over skydiving has been going on for years. Notes there is a ten acre minimum drop zone in administrative rules. Notes DLCD has no official position on HB 3294.
039	Ann Crook	Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). Notes ODOT has concerns about the insurance requirements in the bill . Adds ODOT is not able to regulate this type of activity <b>(EXHIBIT H)</b> .
056	Rep. Uherbelau	Asks who will regulate if a jump is outside the drop zone.
062	Crook	States that is one of ODOT's concerns.
073	Rep. Krummel	Asks how many airports there are in Oregon at which that jumps can be made from.

089	Crook	Answers that jumps can be made from any airport. Notes any airport that receives public funding is required to allow public use of its facilities.
093	Joe Weber	Owner, Skydive Oregon Airport. Testifies in opposition to HB 3294.
109	Larry Bagley	Executive Director, United States Parachute Association (USPA). Testifies in opposition to HB 3294. Notes there are over 1000 skydivers in Oregon. States USPA has a manual that gives information on the proper way to skydive <b>(EXHIBIT I)</b> .
122	Chair Wells	Asks if the manual addresses the issue of accidental field landings.
137	Bagley	Replies it does. Notes USPA paid over \$348,000 dollars in claims in 1998.
142	Rep. Kropf	Ask if any claims were paid in Oregon.
145	Bagley	Indicates he is unsure.
149	Rep. Uherbelau	Asks if the \$300,000 dollars was nationwide.
156	Bagley	Notes there are 33,000 members nationwide. States each membership includes \$50,000 of liability insurance for public property damage, liability insurance.
161	Mark Luedtke	Testifies in opposition to HB 3294. Indicates there is problem with the language in the bill. Notes there are no problems with noise at Kunze property.
172	Rep. Thompson	Asks how often someone comes out of the drop zone.
180	Weber	States 30 - 40 people have landed outside the jump center last year.
218	Rep. Thompson	Asks if there is any equipment on a jumper that could fall off a jumper and land in a field.
228	Weber	Indicates there is. Notes he has compensated farmers for the crop damage.
237	Luedtke	Notes the cut away parachute floats to the ground and there is no control over it.
249	Jessey Farrington	Drop zone owner. Testifies in opposition to HB 3294. Notes it is impractical to have people land outside of the drop zone. States money is lost when people miss the drop zone.
293	Orban Moore	Eugene Skydivers. Testifies in support of HB 3294. Notes skydiving is a

		business that loses money if the jump zone is missed. Indicates it takes more time and money to get the plane back up in the air.
		Staff distributes testimony presented prior to hearing <b>(EXHIBIT J &amp; K)</b> .
310	Chair Wells	Closes hearing on HB 3294. Adjourns meeting.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Samantha Demchak, B. Harrison Conley,  
Administrative Support Administrator

#### **EXHIBIT SUMMARY**

- A - HJR 39, written testimony, Michelle Blake, 2 pp.**
- B - HB 2933, written testimony, Thomas Constantine, 2 pp.**
- C - HB 2933, hemp paper sample, Caroline Moran, 1 p.**
- D - HB 2933, written testimony, Larry Welty, 2 pp.**
- E - HB 2933, written information, staff, 4 pp.**
- F - HB 3294, written testimony, Gary Linn, 1 p.**
- G - HB 3294, written testimony, Rep. Gianella, 4 pp.**
- H - HB 3294, written testimony, Ann Crook, 2 pp.**
- I - HB 3294, written testimony, Larry Bagley, 4 pp.**
- J - HB 3294, written testimony, Don Schellenberg, 1 p.**
- K - HB 3294, fiscal analysis, staff, 1 p.**