

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

February 10, 1999 Hearing Room 350

1:00 p.m. Tapes 7 - 8

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Jerry Krummel, Chair

Rep. Ryan Deckert

Rep. Bob Montgomery

Rep. Diane Rosenbaum

STAFF PRESENT: Jason Cody, Administrator

Annetta Mullins, Administrative Support

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:

HB 2177 ñ Work Session

HB 2153 ñ 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 7, A		
004	Chair Krummel	Calls meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. and opens a work session on HB 2177.
<u>HB 2177 ñ WORK SESSION</u>		
012	Chair Krummel	Recalls that the Health Division and the paper mill representatives were going to confer on questions raised at the last meeting. Asks that the Health Division and Ms. VanNatta report on the progress made.

024	Claudia Black	Health Division. Reports that they have provided answers to Ms. VanNatta's questions so she could send them to her clients.
036	Kathryn VanNatta	Northwest Pulp and Paper Association. Reports that she did receive written comments from the Health Division by FAX last evening. Adds she has sent them by FAX to her members but has not received any comment and their association is neutral on the bill at this time.
046	Rep. Montgomery	Asks how many questions there were.
047	Claudia Black	Responds there were six questions.
058	Chair Krummel	Asks that Dr. Skeels state the questions.
058	Michael Skeels	Health Division. Reads questions posed by Ms. VanNatta at the hearing on February 5 and the Health Division's responses (EXHIBIT A).
080	Skeels	Continues reading questions and responses.
118	Rep. Montgomery	Comments that the program is voluntary and there would be no fees unless the persons chooses to pay them.
124	Skeels	Responds that Rep. Montgomery is correct. Adds that laboratories that want to participate in the State Safe Drinking Water Program, if Oregon adopts NELAP as the accreditation mechanism, will have to pay fees to participate.
130	Chair Krummel	Asks if the laboratories would be automatically accredited in other states.
136	Skeels	Responds that they would be accredited but he cannot guarantee it will be without cost. Oregon may need to charge a fee for costs to out-of-state laboratories, but they will not go through all the steps.
146	Chair Krummel	Asks if someone could get accredited in Oregon and go to Washington and not have to worry about having their Washington labs inspected.
160	Skeels	Introduces Dr. Irene Ronning, Drinking Water Laboratory Certification Program, Oregon Health Division, and ask that she respond.
167	Dr. Irene Ronning	Health Division. Explains NELAP reciprocity process among states.
190	VanNatta	Suggests adoption of the HB 2177-1 amendments. Comments the amendments do clarify and correct the drafting error, that this is a voluntary rather than a mandatory program, and makes the other changes that the sponsors noted last Friday. Adds their association is neutral on the bill with the amendments.

210	Rep. Montgomery	MOTION: Moves to ADOPT HB 2177-1 amendments dated 02/05/99.
211		VOTE: 4-0
	Chair Krummel	Hearing no objection, declares the motion CARRIED.
220	Rep. Montgomery	Asks if the Health Division supports the ñ1 amendments.
222	Skeels	Responds that the Health Division supports the HB 2177-1 amendments.
225	Rep. Montgomery	MOTION: Moves HB 2177 to the full committee with a DO PASS AS AMENDED recommendation.
231		VOTE: 4-0
	Chair Krummel	Hearing no objection, declares the motion CARRIED. REP. DECKERT will lead discussion in full committee.
234	Chair Krummel	Closes the work session on HB 2177 and opens the public hearing on HB 2153.
<u>HB 2153 ñ PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
245	Jason Cody	Administrator. Advises members that the focus on K-12 technology infrastructure will continue today. Mr. Jack Turner of CyberSchool in Eugene will make a presentation on technology applied over the internet.
261	David Rike	Director of Technology, Department of Education. Comments they are continuing the testimony with a presentation from Jack Turner, Principal, CyberSchool. Also introduces Dennis Schultz, Instructional Technologist for the Oregon Public Education Network (O.P.E.N.) project, and advises that Diane Walton of Oregon Community Colleges is here to enter into the record a memo in support of HB 2153 (EXHIBIT B) .
281	Jack Turner	Principal, CyberSchool. Submits packet of information about CyberSchool and

		explains the school is located in Eugene, Oregon, but only exists in cyber space. School was started in 1995 and ran only one experimental course with 10 students. By Fall of 1996 they were inviting students from Oregon school districts and eventually from the world. School is in the middle of the third and offers 30 on-line courses. Refers to CyberSchool TidBits (EXHIBIT C) noting the various locations of Oregon students enrolled from schools with less than 300 students.
310	Turner	Explains functions of CyberSchool. It is not a degree-granting program and does not compete for students; it only supplements or compliments the curriculum offerings in the students' home schools.
337	Turner	CyberSchool can double course offerings to small schools. Credits are given from North Eugene High School. Requires students have an e-mail account, self discipline and access to a networked computer at school and or at home. Refers to materials in the packet (EXHIBIT C).
379	Turner	Shows nine-minute videotape introduction to CyberSchool.
<u>TAPE 8, A</u>		
000	Turner	Continues showing video of CyberSchool.
105		Videotape ends.
105	Turner	Informs members that they sent copies of the videotape and an information kit to every public high school in Oregon early last fall.
117	Turner	Explains they can develop courses as needed to include one or several children from an area. In Spring 1998 they did a needs assessment of all public high schools asking them what courses they wished they could offer based on any of three criteria: Oregon standards, college entrance requirements, or parent requests. CyberSchool is trying to drive the development of new courses based on the responses. The toughest courses are the most expensive to develop, namely, advanced foreign language courses. Very few schools can afford to offer the advanced foreign languages. CyberSchool can create a cyber class of students from various locations.
155	Rep. Montgomery	Asks if this programming is available to all schools.
164	Turner	Responds that not every student in Oregon currently has access to the internet. Oregon Public Education Network (O.P.E.N.) is doing a tremendous job of getting all schools connected to the internet. Schools who did not have access a year ago are now registering students and need more information.
176	Rep. Montgomery	Asks if the \$300 cost is per student per course.

178	Turner	Responds affirmatively. Adds that they almost never have a student enrolled for more than one cyber course at a time, have never had a student enrolled for more than two and would not allow that because there is much more to high school than sitting in front of a computer monitor.
189	Rep. Deckert	Comments he is not aware of other courses where the student has to pay. Asks if Mr. Turner is aware of other courses students must pay for.
194	Turner	Responds he does not. Adds they originally assumed that most tuition payments would come from parents, and some do. The surprise is that a growing number of tuition payments come from the student's home school.
210	Rep. Deckert	Asks what happens to the student who does not have the money to pay for the course.
219	Turner	Explains the program has to generate some money. Explains that in the Eugene School District, students who are on the free and reduced lunch status are allowed to take a cyber course at no cost. Their courses are paid for by the \$300 tuition charged to other students. Adds that as CyberSchool gets larger and larger, economies of scale should make it possible to allow a wider pool of students to take CyberSchool courses at no cost.
236	Rep. Deckert	Asks how that fits with the mandate for free access to public education.
236	Turner	Responds that school districts are charged to provide the basic public education. The things CyberSchool offers can be thought of as additive or additional. Adds that CyberSchool started with no money and does not have money they can depend on to pay the teachers or to pay for course development, infrastructure, line charges, etc. The money has to be generated by student tuition.
252	Rep. Rosenbaum	Asks if CyberSchool has students from other countries.
253	Turner	Responds they have students from all over the world.
270	Chair Krummel	Asks how many schools will accept the course credits from CyberSchool for purposes of graduation.
276	Turner	Responds he does not know the number. Adds they proudly say CyberSchool offers credit because it is a division of an accredited public high school, North Eugene High School in Eugene. The question is whether the student's home school will accept the credit no matter where it is from. No school has yet turned down a CyberSchool credit offering.
288	Chair Krummel	Notes the cost is \$300 per course per student worldwide. Asks if the information about the program is available on the site listed without paying a fee.
318	Turner	Explains it is open, nothing is password protected.

345	Chair Krummel	Asks if all the teachers of the CyberSchool courses are part of the Eugene School District. Asks how the teachers are paid.
350	Turner	Responds that all the teachers are licensed in Oregon. Notes that the hometowns of the teachers are listed (EXHIBIT C) . Adds CyberSchool is developing partnerships with each of the 50 states. Teachers in normal schools are paid on an annual basis regardless of how many students they have. Teachers in CyberSchool are paid according to how many students they accept. Of the \$300 tuition paid by students, teachers received about \$150, depending on where the teacher is on the salary scale. Adds that it is the teachers' job to set the low end of the number of students and it is his job to cap the upper end on how many students a teacher can responsibly work with.
420	Chair Krummel	Comments he took a course through Oregon State University last year, a web class, on models of teaching in technology. Adds that it is interesting to take a web class. Thanks the witnesses for their presentation.
<u>TAPE 7, B</u>		
026	Jeff Watkins	Sierra Club. Testifies in opposition to the dredging portion of HB 2153 (EXHIBIT D) .
080	Watkins	Continues presentation.
118	Watkins	Submits letter from CREST to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers stating their organization's comment on the draft study on dredging (EXHIBIT E) .
129	Rep. Montgomery	Comments that it seems the Sierra Club is saying not to charge the hikers a fee. Comments that fuel taxes on diesel fuel and oil fuel from shippers pay for a large percentage of what is going on. Suggest the committee may want to hear from the Corps. of Engineers.
137	Chair Krummel	Asks if the Sierra Club knows that the Port of Portland is the largest fresh water port in North America.
146	Watkins	Responds it would not surprise him.
148	Chair Krummel	Asks if the Sierra Club is aware that the Port of Portland ships more on an annual basis than any other harbor in North America.
149	Watkins	Responds he was not aware of that.
151	Chair Krummel	Asks if the Sierra Club would be willing to develop a freeway between Portland and Astoria to handle the increased trucks.

160	Watkins	Responds he would assume that if we were going to ship from Longview or Astoria there would be some improvements between here and there, whether the improvements be rail, roads, etc. Thinks those options should be examined before committing to the dredging project.
160	Chair Krummel	Suggest the options of building roads and rails should be a part of the EIS study.
175	Rep. Montgomery	Comments we are now getting the scare tactic. Asks that 50,000 Oregonians not be put out work.
186	Chair Krummel	Closes the public hearing on HB 2153 and adjourns the meeting at 2:16 p.m.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Annetta Mullins, Jason Cody,

Administrative Support Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A ñ HB 2177, questions asked of Health Division, Kathryn VanNatta, 2 pp

B ñ HB 2153, memo from Office of Community College Services, Diane Walton, 1 p

C ñ HB 2153, CyberSchool information, Jack Turner, 18 pp

D ñ HB 2153, prepared statement, Jeff Watkins, 2 pp

E ñ HB 2153, CREST letter, Jeff Watkins, 4 pp