

## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

January 15, 1999 Hearing Room E

1:00 PM Tapes 1 - 3

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Rep. Ron Sunseri, Chair

Rep. William Morrisette, Vice-Chair

Rep. Betsy Close

Rep. Elaine Hopson

Rep. Tim Knopp

Rep. Lynn Lundquist

Rep. Carl Wilson

Rep. Jackie Winters

**MEMBER EXCUSED:** Rep. Chris Beck

Rep. Bob Jenson

**STAFF PRESENT:** Norm Fox, Administrator

Joan Diaz, Administrative Support

**MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:** Organizational Meeting

**HB 2384** ñ Public Hearing

**Informational Meeting** ñ Education Issues

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 1, A		
003	Chair Sunseri	Chair calls meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. States committee's first order of business will be to consider rules of committee. Opens Organizational Meeting.

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

016		Staff presents House Committee Rules <b>(EXHIBIT A)</b> .
	<b>Rep. Morrisette</b>	<b>MOTION: Moves to ADOPT the proposed Committee Rules dated 01/15/99.</b>
	<b>Chair Sunseri</b>	<b>Hearing no objection, declares the motion CARRIED.</b>
020	Chair Sunseri	Introduces committee members individually and staff. Asks each member to give brief statement concerning their interest in education.
040	Chair Sunseri	Outlines operation of the committee and procedures. Gives brief overview of committee administrator's role. Indicates priorities for the committee and stresses individual citizen and general public will have priority in submitting testimony to the committee.
066	Chair Sunseri	Closes Organizational Meeting. Opens public hearing on HB 2384.
<b><u>HB 2384 PUBLIC HEARING</u></b>		
084	Kate Richardson	Legislative Aide to Rep. Lane Shetterly, District 34. Presents testimony in support of HB 2384 <b>(EXHIBIT B)</b> .
107	Jim Willis	Commander, American

		Legion Post 10. Testifies on current law regarding pledge of allegiance in Oregon and speaks in support of HB 2384 <b>(EXHIBIT C)</b> .
115	Jack Magnuson	Legislative Chairman, The American Legion, Dept. of Oregon. Testifies in favor of HB 2384 <b>(EXHIBIT D)</b> .
183	Rep. Morrisette	Comments and congratulates Legion for sponsoring the on Boys' State and Girls' State programs.
191	Grover Simmons	Advocate, Oregon State Elk Association. Endorses remarks of prior witnesses and favors passage of HB 2384.
226	Chair Sunseri	Closes public hearing on HB 2384. Opens informational meeting.
<b><u>INFORMATIONAL MEETING</u></b>		
230	Chair Sunseri	Explains intent of Chair in inviting representatives from various groups concerned with education issues in Oregon.
245	Jean Thorne	Policy Coordinator, Governor's Office. Presents The Kitzhaber Education Agenda <b>(EXHIBIT E)</b> .
326	Thorne	Presents information concerning the challenge to early childhood education and primary and secondary education.
398	Thorne	Presents information concerning the challenge to higher education and the budget processes.
<b>TAPE 2, A</b>		
005	Thorne	Comments on the stability of the education financing systems as detailed in The Kitzhaber Education Agenda.

	Rep. Winters	Asks what percentage of funds is allocated for early childhood education.
044	Thorne	Responds the percentage is 47%.
	Rep. Winters	Asks why the percentage is not higher than 50%.
	Thorne	Responds that the resources are limited. States balancing investments "along the continuum" has been one goal.
056	Rep. Close	Questions whether student loans for higher education are available to home school students.
	Thorne	Explains loan program is for high school students who achieve the Certificate of Initial Mastery (CIM). If home schoolers received the CIM and graduated from high school, they would be eligible for the loan program.
	Chair Sunseri	Asks whether funding approved for distance learning has been implemented.
	Thorne	Responds she will do further research on that issue, but states approximately 20,000 Oregonians are being served by distance learning.
075	Rep. Morrisette	Asks if funds can be used at private colleges in Oregon.
	Thorne	Responds affirmatively.
	Rep. Morrisette	Asks for a copy of the bill and inquires where is it in the legislative process.
	Thorne	Responds that the bill is in legislative counsel draft format. Comments that the State Scholarship Commission is sponsoring the bill.

089	Rep. Morrisette	Asks for additional information on student performance and the testing process as noted in exhibit D. Seeks clarification when additional testing can be accessed.
	Thorne	Responds with general information and explains the Department of Education can provide detailed information. Explains the 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> , and 8 <sup>th</sup> grades are "benchmark" years for testing the students in an effort to determine if student is on "the right path."
106	Wayne Feller	Chair, State Board of Education. Presents testimony on the Board's goals for working with the state legislature.
193	Feller	Discusses Pre K ñ 12 goals. States that there should be a connectedness between the schools and the community. Comments that assessments for CIM for reading and mathematics are completed.
254	Feller	Continues discussing current status of testing outcomes.
	Rep. Winters	Asks what are the benchmarks that relate to readiness of children when first entering school.
279	Feller	Responds that the board is working on goals for all students, but that the board does not have a specific date for achieving readiness for pre-kindergarten students.
290	Rep. Wilson	Asks for witness' opinion why a particular district is succeeding with the CIM and another district is not.
306	Feller	Responds that success depends on how seriously a district takes the Education Reform Act.
314	Don Perkins	Student Services Specialist, Oregon Department of

		Education. Presents testimony <b>(EXHIBIT F).</b>
<b>TAPE 1, B</b>		
005	Perkins	Continues explaining scoring/testing information as specified in written materials presented.
022	Chair Sunseri	Questions how many home school students have fallen below the required percentile.
049	Perkins	Explains material regarding home schoolers statistics is included in materials.
077	Perkins	Explains scoring/testing information is available on the Department of Education's webpage via the Internet.
	Chair Sunseri	Asks how are figures obtained.
104	Perkins	Responds information is obtained from the Educational School District (ESD).
	Rep. Close	Indicates she was a home school teacher for many years and thanks witness for the information.
118	Rep. Knopp	Asks why the Crook & Deschutes area has a lower percentage of home schoolers not re-registering for the school year 1997-98.
	Perkins	Responds that there was no follow up as to reasons for not re-registering.
	Rep. Morrisette	Comments that his home district, Springfield, has an aggressive truancy program. Indicates the time gap in qualifying as a home school is a factor in obtaining results of effectiveness of home schoolers.
147	Perkins	Responds that the responsibility for testing

		student is on parents. Comments that home school testing is not regulated precisely.
	Rep. Morrisette	Questions whether a family should be pre-qualified as a home school family.
	Chair Sunseri	Suggests witness return to give more in-depth testimony.
176	Brian Ray	President, National Home Education Research Institute. Presents material on the home school education program. States there are approximately 1.6 million home school children in the country at this time. Lists reasons why parents would home school their children. <b>(EXHIBIT G)</b> .
253	Chair Sunseri	Asks if there are statistics on home school students attending military academies or ivy league colleges.
254	Ray	Responds that the U.S. Military has started a 3-year program to monitor how home school students perform as pilots. Responds that many colleges actively recruit home school students.
	Rep. Winters	Asks for information on the socio-economic background of home school students.
305	Ray	Responds that the information is in the materials distributed. Discusses home schoolers' computer skills. Continues presentation on status of home school program nationally.
	Rep. Morrisette	Asks how can students be supervised in a home school program if the parents are irresponsible and do not care where their child is.
320	Ray	Responds that if parents are not qualified, children are rarely educated at home. Refers to Oregon law concerning truancy.

347	Ray	Indicates approximately \$5,000 is spent for a public school student per school year; home school families spend approximately \$550. Explains spending and family income does not "correlate with achievement."
399	Ray	Presents national statistics concerning the number of home schoolers and how they score against public school students.
<b>TAPE 2, B</b>		
005	Ray	Presents statistics indicating age of home school students, occupation of parents, socialization of students and after graduation opportunities.
025	Rep. Wilson	Asks what can public schools learn from home schoolers.
	Ray	Responds that the most important factor in educating a child is parental involvement and not teacher training.
	Rep. Knopp	Requests copies of the presentation for future reference.
049	Rep. Morrisette	Comments that the home school program is "marvelous," but notes that a lot of children do not have a responsible parent to guide them. Comments that sometimes the classroom teacher is the responsible individual.
063	Rep. Hopson	Asks if there is a challenge to home schooling.
	Chair Sunseri	Responds that he is not aware of any challenge. States that this is an informational presentation only.
90	Tricia Smith	Government Relations Specialist, Oregon School Employees Association (OSEA), introduces Steve



		Fraga, OSEA.
100	Steve Fraga	Executive Director, Oregon School Employees Association. Presents information regarding Oregon's public education employees. <b>(EXHIBIT H).</b>
202	Rep. Close	Refers to a recent Fortune magazine article regarding public school employees. Asks what percentage of employees in the Oregon schools are not teachers.
	Fraga	Responds that in Oregon the percentage is approximately 30-35%.
	Rep. Lundquist	Comments he has observed in traveling throughout the State that students develop a significant trust relationship with classified employees.
239	Rep. Winters	Questions whether classified employees are becoming substitutes for parents.
	Fraga	Responds the question is difficult and cites a specific example of how one student related to a classified employee.
280	Rep. Morrisette	Comments that in the case of an inadequate parent, teachers or school personnel are frequently the students' "significant other."
	Fraga	Comments on conference in Washington, D.C., regarding violence in the schools and the need for a responsible adult to be available to students.
299	John Marshall	Legislative Representative, Oregon School Board Association (OSBA). Presents information on improvements in education since 1991.
<b>TAPE 3, A</b>		

005	Chair Sunseri	Recognizes representatives from Oregon Education Association (OEA).
010	James Sager	President, Oregon Education Association. Presents information concerning "Quality Teaching and Learning in 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Schools." <b>(EXHIBIT I)</b>
016	Rep. Morrisette	Asks if there will be a teacher shortage in Oregon due to numerous retirements.
	Sager	Responds that his organization is working to expedite teaching training.
099	Rep. Lundquist	Questions whether funding has increased from the past years.
	Sager	Responds that approximately one million dollars of the OEA's general fund has been committed to The Center for Teaching and Learning.
	Rep. Lundquist	Asks if this is a new program.
	Sager	Responds that it is.
	Rep. Hopson	Asks if we will be hearing more from additional interested parties concerning Education.
	Chair Sunseri	Responds that various groups have been invited to present material at this meeting and for the next two meetings.
	Chair Sunseri	Adjourns meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Joan Diaz, Norm Fox,

**EXHIBIT SUMMARY**

**A ñ Organizational Meeting, written materials, staff, 2 pp**

**B ñ HB 2384, written testimony, Rep. Shetterly, 1 p**

**C ñ HB 2384, written testimony, Jim Willis, 4 pp**

**D ñ HB 2384, written testimony, Jack Magnuson, 1pp**

**E ñ Informational Meeting, written materials, Jean Thorne, 13 pp**

**F ñ Informational Meeting, written materials, Don Perkins, 17 pp**

**G ñ Informational Meeting, written materials, Brian Ray, 17 pp**

**H ñ Informational Meeting, written materials, Steve Fraga, 3 pp**

**I - Informational Meeting, written materials, James Sager, 17 pp**