

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

March 01, 1999 Hearing Room E

1:30 PM Tapes 54 - 56

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Ron Sunseri, Chair

Rep. William Morrisette, Vice-Chair

Rep. Chris Beck

Rep. Betsy Close

Rep. Elaine Hopson

Rep. Bob Jenson

Rep. Tim Knopp

Rep. Lynn Lundquist

Rep. Carl Wilson

Rep. Jackie Winters

MEMBER EXCUSED:

STAFF PRESENT: Norm Fox, Administrator

Joan Diaz, Administrative Support

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD: SB 100A - 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.

TAPE/#	Speaker	Comments
TAPE 54, A		

004	Chair Sunseri	Calls meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Opens work session on SB 100A.
<u>SB 100A WORK SESSION</u>		
007	Vicie English	Director, Brownsville Academy. States the academy is a private alternative program in its 5 th year of operation. Discusses the problems encountered with the Central Linn School District. (EXHIBIT A)
052	English	Discusses stop-loss funding in the 1997-98 school year.
092	English	Discusses education reform in small school districts.
114	Rep. Morrisette	Clarifies funding that Central Linn School District receives.
116	English	Responds that the district billed the state for the 119 students in alternative education, but there are now only 9 students in that program.
120	Rep. Morrisette	Asks for further clarification.
125	English	Discusses procedures used to encourage drop outs to re-enroll.
133	Rep. Lundquist	Asks for numbers of students, drop outs, home schoolers, or in private schools, for which the state is still receiving funding.
135	English	Explains that the district is receiving funding for the 100+ students that are no longer in the public school system due to the stop loss funding mechanism.
144	Chair Sunseri	Comments that the stop loss funding ends next year.
148	English	States the school district accessed a loophole in the law.
154	Rep. Lundquist	Asks if this situation applies to only one school district.
158	Chair Sunseri	Explains that it is not unusual but the manner in which the district handled this situation is unusual.
162	English	Comments her program never did not receive 80% funding as per the law.
180	Rep. Morrisette	Asks for information regarding stop loss funding.
185	Rep. Lundquist	Suggests Legislative Revenue present the clarification to the committee.

195	Chair Sunseri	Explains stop loss funding.
205	English	Discusses further funding that Central Linn School District is receiving.
209	Rep. Lundquist	Asks if she is referring to ADMw (Average Daily Membership weighted).
212	English	Responds affirmatively. Advocates for autonomy in alternative education or charter schools.
215	Chair Sunseri `	Asks how could the problem have been prevented.
218	English	States that the funding should match the actual number of students. Discusses stop loss funding and declining student enrollment.
225	Chair Sunseri	Asks how could the committee address that issue in a charter school bill.
230	English	Suggests another sponsor besides a school board should be in SB 100A.
235	Chair Sunseri	Asks instead of 80% funding, how much did she actually receive.
240	English	Responds she received approximately 54% funding; functioning for four years. Comments this is setting alternative schools up for failure.
245	Rep. Morrisette	Asks what did the contract say was the amount to be received.
246	English	Explains that her program was to provide educational services for a certain amount per day.
250	Rep. Morrisette	Asks when did the discussion occur.
255	English	Responds in the 2 nd year.
260	Rep. Morrisette	Asks if the school was originally a private school.
265	English	Responds affirmatively; the school district asked them to convert.
268	Rep. Lundquist	Asks if the funding was inadequate why was an agreement made.
270	English	Comments on how arrangement evolved and its impact.

290	Steve Meyer	Legislative Revenue. Explains stop loss mechanism in the school funding formula which was originally intended to help small districts. Explains the amount is a guarantee that the district, state and local dollars will be at least as in some prior year; base year applicable is 1996-97. Explains district is guaranteed a district total, not per student. but not per student. Explains phasing out of this provision, \$4800 cap and equalization districts.
357	Rep. Morrisette	Asks for something in writing for further review by the committee.
362	Meyer	Responds he will provide that to the committee.
385	Rep. Hobson	Asks is what happened in the Central Linn School District unusual.
399	Meyer	Responds it was not incorrect, but he does not know if it is a unique situation.
TAPE 55, A		
004	Rep. Hobson	Asks for definition of "that source" in declining student enrollment.
013	Meyer	Responds that when the provision was adopted in 1995, it is doubtful that the situation under discussion was anticipated.
015	Chair Sunseri	Asks if provision included students attending another school.
018	Meyer	Comments he thinks discussion did not address "at risk" students on a contractual basis.
025	Chair Sunseri	Comments the district allegedly inflated their numbers and then reduced their obligation to the alternative program in order to take advantage of the stop loss funding.
030	Meyer	Responds that he is unsure if the term "inflated" applies.
045	Rep. Bob Jenson	District 57. Testifies against charter schools. Explains his major opposition is that charter schools are being promoted for the wrong reasons. (EXHIBIT B)
116	Rep. Jenson	Quotes Sen. Gordon Smith and refers to the Kerry-Smith education bill being proposed in the U. S. Congress.
128	Rep. Morrisette	Asks how has his position altered.
131	Rep. Jenson	Responds that he is not adamantly opposed to charter schools, but a better approach would be to improve all schools.

142	Rep. Close	Asks if the schools of yesterday are like the schools of today.
145	Rep. Jenson	Comments on SAT scores and their improvement in the last few years. Discusses the students who took the SAT in 1950s versus the students who are taking the SAT today.
164	Rep. Close	Asks if schools have declined or need to improve.
166	Rep. Jenson	Comments on the competition in today's schools.
175	Chair Sunseri	Asks how many times has the SAT been re-normed.
178	Rep. Jenson	Responds he is not sure, but it has been a number of times.
184	Rep. Winters	Agrees with his statement that the committee should be making things better for all schools.
186	Rep. Jenson	Comments that the need for improvement should never be satisfied.
190	Chair Sunseri	Explains committee will start on Wednesday working through the amendments one at a time. Explains today's work session will begin a discussion of the major elements of charter schools.
200	Rep. Beck	Asks if the Superintendent of Instruction will be presenting information.
220	Chair Sunseri	Responds that the superintendent will attend Wednesday's work session, but the amendments he had drafted have been distributed to the committee.
230	Rep. Beck	Asks for clarification of each amendment.
260	Chair Sunseri	Responds that information will be forwarded by tomorrow and also who submitted each amendment. Opens discussion on certification.
281	Rep. Morrisette	Discusses sponsors of a charter school. States "fairly strongly" that the local school district should be the sponsor. Discusses a State Charter Board.
330	Chair Sunseri	Clarifies if he is open to an appeal process.
332	Rep. Morrisette	Responds he would be.
335	Rep. Wilson	Responds he also would prefer first right of refusal for the school board. Advocates a secondary sponsor before any appeal.

345	Rep. Lundquist	Discusses potentially contentious charter school and school board relationship. Advocates for a strong appeal process.
365	Chair Sunseri	Asks for definition of a "strong appeal process."
409	Rep. Lundquist	Responds he would like the Superintendent of Public Instruction to be present to assist committee with definition. Responds that school boards routinely implement statutes which the legislature requires.
TAPE 54, B		
006	Chair Sunseri	Comments that the ñA56 amendments were drafted by the Department of Education; refers to section 8. (EXHIBIT C)
023	Rep. Lundquist	Comments the school boards would not have a problem implementing an appeal process. Refers to process used by other boards in similar situations.
046	Chair Sunseri	Refers to ñA56 amendments, page 4, subsection (7).
051	Rep. Hobson	Comments she agrees there needs to be an appeal process to the Department of Education (DOE) via the State Board of Education.
075	Rep. Beck	Asks what federal funds would be received should a charter school law be enacted.
080	Chair Sunseri	Responds the funding would be \$5 millions dollars annually. Explains a charter school law must include an appeal process to qualify for these funds.
085	Rep. Beck	Asks if lack of appeal process is the only reason Oregon is not eligible for the federal funds.
096	Chair Sunseri	Responds he is not sure.
098	Norm Fox	Committee Administrator. Comments he will research and give the committee that information by the next meeting.
099	Chair Sunseri	Comments why charter school legislation should be enacted. Asks for input on sponsors, such as, an educational service district or a community college.
105	Rep. Jenson	Comments he does not think those organizations should be sponsors.
109	Rep. Morrisette	Explains he would like to see a charter school bill that includes the school board as sponsor and an appeal process to Department of Education. Indicates the

		legislation could be changed in the future.
122	Rep. Jenson	Agrees with that position; states he favors local control.
152	Chair Sunseri	Clarifies direction of appeal process.
165	Rep. Hobson	Comments she has made no distinction between the DOE and the State Board of Education; would like to review what would be different. Discusses contiguous school districts as sponsors.
185	Chair Sunseri	Asks for committee input about contiguous school districts.
190	Rep. Winters	Responds that the local school board, who represents the local community, should be the initial contact and the sponsoring body.
197	Chair Sunseri	Asks committee for input about teacher certification.
203	Rep. Wilson	Comments that there should be either a 50/50 mix of certified versus non-certified; or certified teachers for core subjects.
206	Rep. Hobson	Responds that she favors certification for all teachers, but would be open to further discussion.
211	Rep. Beck	Comments that he favors certification, particularly for teachers of core subjects.
259	Chair Sunseri	Comments that testimony shows that the way Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) prepares teachers is not pertinent to charter schools.
270	Rep. Morrisette	Stresses the need to be "conservative."
280	Chair Sunseri	Asks if he is in favor of certification for all teachers.
286	Rep. Morrisette	Comments on each classification of TSPC.
296	Rep. Winters	Comments that core basic subjects should be taught by a certified teacher. Recommends flexibility for short-term instructors.
308	Chair Sunseri	Responds that part time teachers do not have to be certified. Asks for input on a certified teacher supervising the grading system.
315	Rep. Wilson	Responds that is acceptable.

320	Rep. Jenson	Comments he "strongly" favors certified teachers.
358	Chair Sunseri	Asks how long would it take to develop a course for training charter teachers only.
365	David Myton	Executive Director, Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC). Responds that it normally takes about a year to develop a course; preliminary rules could be ready to adopt by July, 1999.
399	Rep. Morrisette	Asks is the professional/technical licensure applicable to an accountant teaching in the schools.
TAPE 55, B		
005	Myton	Explains work experience without the requirement of professional education. Describes committee composition who would issue the professional/technical licensure. States expedited service takes approximately two days.
016	Rep. Morrisette	Asks if a holder of that kind of license is eligible for state wages.
020	Myton	Responds affirmatively; licensure is for 3 years with additional requirements at renewal.
029	Rep. Morrisette	Clarifies renewal requirements.
041	Rep. Jenson	Asks what licensure a CPA would be qualified for.
052	Myton	Explains which license is appropriate.
065	Rep. Hobson	Comments she does not think additional training is appropriate for charter school teachers. Objects to teaching under supervision of grading; trying to get away from inflated and deflated grades.
076	Rep. Lundquist	Clarifies that all the classifications of licenses issued by TSPC enable a person to teach in the public school system.
079	Myton	Responds affirmatively.
085	Rep. Lundquist	Asks if any differentiation needs to be made in the professional/ technical licensure so that it is applicable to core subjects.
105	Chair Sunseri	Comments there are assessments available in only three core subjects.

108	Rep. Lundquist	Explains his question relates to full implementation.
110	Myton	Responds with explanation of elementary, middle and high school authorizations.
115	Chair Sunseri	Asks if there is a point where paid, part-time staff must be certified.
121	Myton	Responds no; explains transitional license. Defines "limited license" as teaching one or two periods.
141	Rep. Wilson	Comments that the intent of a charter school is to do something different from tradition. Explains a bill should include new and innovative methods of operating schools.
165	Rep. Knopp	Comments on licensure and percentage of teachers who should be licensed in a small charter school. Disagrees with SB 100A.
190	Rep. Beck	Comments on innovation in the alternative school movement.
226	Rep. Lundquist	Asks Rep. Knopp to clarify his remarks on 100% licensure.
241	Rep. Knopp	Responds that if smaller schools have only two or three teachers, they will be teaching the core subjects and should be licensed.
253	Rep. Lundquist	Agrees that percentages will be difficult to define.
262	Chair Sunseri	Comments he is trying to ascertain what causes a person/teacher to work for less. Comments on lessening restraints from the public school system.
282	Rep. Morrisette	Describes his teaching background. Comments on the dedication required by teachers.
317	Chair Sunseri	Explains he was not criticizing public school teachers.
319	Rep. Beck	Comments on his years in school. Comments on the general lack of funding for schools.
376	Rep. Hopson	Comments that the committee did not hear from the charter schools who failed. Expresses caution that they are not all successful.
TAPE 56, A		

003	Rep. Jenson	Comments on the need to make the educational experience more personal to parents, students and teachers.
026	Chair Sunseri	Explains that teachers should have option to work for less salary in charter schools.
036	Rep. Wilson	Comments on seeking venture capital in business and applying those principles to the operation of schools.
055	Rep. Morrisette	Asks for committee's upcoming schedule.
058	Chair Sunseri	Closes work session on SB 100A. Adjourns at 3:25 p.m.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Joan Diaz, Norm Fox,

Administrative Support Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A ñ SB 100A, written testimony, Vicie English, 4 pp

B ñ SB 100A, written testimony, Rep. Bob Jenson, 2 pp

C ñ SB 100A, proposed ñA56 amendments, staff, 9 pp

D ñ SB 100A, written testimony submitted prior to the meeting, Lloyd Kumley, 2 pp