

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES

February 11, 1999 Hearing Room E

1:00 P.M. Tapes 20 - 22

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Jeff Kruse, Chair

Rep. Kitty Piercy, Vice-Chair

Rep. Betsy Close

Rep. Tim Knopp

Rep. Jerry Krummel

Rep. Mike Lehman

Rep. Bill Morrisette

Rep. Jackie Taylor

Rep. Jackie Winters

MEMBER EXCUSED:

STAFF PRESENT: Janet L. Carlson, Administrator

Diane M. Lewis, Administrative Support

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD: HB 2268 Public Hearing

Report on HB 2009

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 20, A

Chair Kruse

Opens the meeting at 1:08 PM and opens a public hearing on HB 2268.

HB 2268 PUBLIC HEARING

020

Rep. Kevin Mannix

House District 32, testifies in support of HB 2268

Describes HB 2268 as an aggressive effort to do some reconnecting, particularly at the community level, but also at the state level. Explains that the bill creates a comprehensive juvenile crime prevention strategy that expands on the Governor's \$30 million plan for high risk youth.

060

Rep. Mannix

States that the bill anticipates a great deal of cooperation and coordination necessary at both the state level and local level and strengthens the local planning process. Describes definition of "community-based services" as all services-- state, county, private, nonprofit, social services, education-- to be included in the local plan. Notes that the State Commission was never intended to be a "top-down" organization and that the "state plan" should be an assimilation of the 36 local plans. Emphasizes what HB 2268 does not do and welcomes ideas for amendments. States that HB 2268 does not move budgets from other state agencies to the State Commission and does not assign the state or local commissions authority to direct or micro-manage the budgets or personnel of any state or local agency. Emphasizes that Oregon Prekindergarten dollars remain where they are now in the Department of Education. Explains that HB 2276 was created to ascertain the full costs of funding these important programs relating to children and families. States that it is about time we put the price ticket in front of us at the outset and understood that we're challenged to meet those full costs.

110

Rep. Morrisette

Asks for a transcript of Rep. Mannix's testimony.

114

Rep. Mannix

Replies that staff will make a transcript for the members.

115

Rep. Mannix

Explains that HB 2276 includes money that is already in agency budgets and adds what is needed to expand those programs. Describes the process as progressive. Concludes that we need to challenge ourselves to do the job right and we also need to be smart about it. This bill is not a panacea, it is not the end for this process. It is another step forward in a process designed to move us into the next millennium where we can have a further level of achievement working with our families and children.

175

Chair Kruse

Opens an informational meeting on HB 2009.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING**HB 2009 REPORT**

185	Donna Middleton	<p>Director, Oregon Commission on Children and Families, introduces Dr. Ronald Dowd, Evaluator for HB 2009, and submits the Family Center Demonstration Project HB 2009 Report (EXHIBIT A). Explains that the state commission was identified as the entity to administer the evaluation. Lists 3 demonstration sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HART Family Center in Harrisburg, OR. • North Lake Wellness Center in Christmas Valley, OR. • Coalition for Kids Family Resource Center in Grants Pass, OR. <p>Points out significant aspects of the report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families and children are able to access and receive support. • Improvements in parenting skills. • Improved family outcomes, family coherence, and marital satisfaction. • Greater community empowerment around developed services. • Focus on wellness and effectiveness in capacity building.
245	Chair Kruse	<p>Thanks Middleton for HB 2009 information and notes for the committee that the informational meeting will remain open in conjunction with the public hearing on HB 2268 until Dr. Ronald Dowd concludes his testimony.</p>
252	Diana Cox	<p>Coordinator, North Lake Wellness Center, submits information pamphlet on the wellness center (EXHIBIT B).</p> <p>Explains that the wellness center started three years ago as a service integration project with Department of Human Resources (DHR). The center is located in a rural area, 100 miles from the county seat. States that some service providers make the 200 mile round trip to Christmas Valley. Explains that new local services have been implemented; i.e., selling building permits, a once-a-week building inspector providing inspections, selling hunting licenses and tags, and many services from public health, mental health, Adult and Family Services (AFS), and Services to Children and Families (SCF). Explains that the wellness board is made up of local business persons, service providers, teachers, and clergy. These people decide what is needed in the community.</p>
284	Peggy Purkerson	<p>Director, H.A.R.T. Family Resource Center, Harrisburg, submits written letters in support of the H.A.R.T. center (EXHIBIT C) and provides the committee with an overview of the center. Explains that H.A.R.T. is one of the demonstration pilot projects and is a year old. States that the center leveraged over \$68,000 of outside, non- government money in the form of grants from US West and Hewlett Packard. Discusses how the cooperative preschool has filled an urgent need with young children and the after-school program has provided a safe place for middle school students. States that the board is filled with local volunteers who live and work in the area. Provides the committee with an example of a single mother and her 2-year old son who were new to the area and needed living assistance for a short time.</p>
350	Debbie Cantiello	<p>Executive Director, Coalition for Kids, Grants Pass, submits and presents written testimony regarding the Family Resource Center (FRC) (EXHIBIT D).</p> <p>Explains that the FRC is entering its 9th year. It is home to 67 paid staff, 10 agencies, and cares for almost 300 preschool age children. States that the 10 agencies work as collaborative partners administering over 25 programs to more than 8,000 clients per year. The FRC feeds more than 250 children lunch and snacks each day. Explains that the Coalition is governed by a board of 14</p>

		<p>directors. States that five working board committees and monthly meetings with partners and agency administrators make up the structure for integrating services. Explains that funding comes from rent, tuition and individual contributions. Less than 10% of funding comes from state or federal dollars. Discusses the acquisition of the child care center in 1994. It is the largest licensed child care center in Josephine County. States that Coalition for Kids provides programs for children with mental and physical disabilities. Discusses the new Personal Responsibility Employment Program (PREP) working in partnership with state agencies, Jobs Council, and community colleges to support people in the transition between welfare and employment.</p>
TAPE 21, A		
022	Tammy Kornbaugh	<p>Front Line Supervisor, Coalition for Kids, testifies in support of family resource centers by providing the committee with her testimonial of how she transitioned from living in an eight-foot trailer on welfare to living a stable, productive, and independent life. AFS sent her to Coalition for Kids Family Resource Center where she received support with her children and help entering the work force.</p>
045	Rep. Close	<p>Asks if parents withdraw from their children when a program is taking on the responsibilities of the parents; i.e., feeding a child lunch and snacks.</p>
055	Cantiello	<p>Responds by explaining how the lunch program functions. States that children were being brought to the center with no lunches. The program is set up to teach social skills that some children would not get at home.</p>
069	Rep. Close	<p>States her concerns about where the responsibility of the parent fits in with the activities of programs. Asks if parent responsibility is being removed.</p>
074	Cantiello	<p>Responds that parent responsibilities are a priority along with providing a safe environment for the child. Explains that many parents get training in parenting and child development as well as receive services that assist with daily living. States that family resource centers challenge parents to participate actively with their children and are in no way alleviating parental responsibility.</p>
085	Rep. Winters	<p>Asks how centers interface with state agencies on a daily basis.</p>
092	Purkerson	<p>Responds that the H.A.R.T. center's director meets with agency representatives during youth services team meetings. Smoothing the way for clients who want to make contact with a state agency is a service of the center but there is no agency presence in Harrisburg.</p>
110	Cox	<p>Explains that the North Lake Wellness Center has an AFS worker on site once a week. Collaboration between AFS and the center may be as simple as AFS sending a client to the center to have business cards made up to assist him or her in a job search.</p>
120	Rep. Carl Wilson	<p>District 49, testifies in support of Coalition for Kids Family Resource Center.</p>

		Describes the genesis of the center. Explains that he has been involved with the Coalition's fund raising efforts for the past few years. States that it is highly thought of in the community and is an organization that does a wonderful job.
147	Rep. Knopp	Asks how HB 2268 would benefit the centers represented at the witness table.
151	Cantiello	Explains that the volunteer coordinator position would continue to be funded along with other programs considered as success stories. Programs that train individuals in advanced computer skills would continue to be funded.
175	Purkerson	States that the H.A.R.T. center will continue to exist because most of the programs are kept alive by volunteers. The computers that were donated by Hewlett Packard have made a great difference to the children. Explains that funding from HB 2268 would go toward the continuation of existing programs.
195	Rep. Piercy	States that she has seen great successes in many programs around the state. Comments that although HB 2268 may not be the best vehicle for continuing these programs, government needs to support them.
205	Rep. Winters	Asks if community involvement is the key factor in identifying the success of family resource centers.
210	Cantiello	Responds affirmatively. Shares with the committee an example of dedication from the past Coalition for Kids director, Don Gray.
230	Chair Kruse	Asks Dr. Dowd to come forward and discuss the Family Center demonstration project report.
238	Dr. Ronald Dowd	<p>Portland State Project Evaluator of the Family Center Demonstration Project, discusses components of the evaluation process. Explains the two-dimensional approach:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Family centers incorporate multiple programs providing specific services. Looking at wellness improvement in the community as a result of these programs. 2. Recognizing that the family center is an entity unto itself. Looking at the success of organization, collaboration, and decision-making strategies. <p>Discusses the tools used for the evaluation including surveys and case studies.</p>
280	Rep. Winters	Asks how family resource centers compare with the old concept of multiple service centers.
283	Dowd	Responds that these two models work similarly.
294	Rep. Winters	Comments that the local resource centers appear to have a greater ability for generating resources and providing services than state agencies.

299	Dowd	Concurs with Rep. Winter's comments and states that the key is the center's focus on collaboration.
305	Rep. Close	Asks Dowd to rate family center programs on a scale of 1 to 10.
310	Dowd	Responds that these programs rate between 7 and 8. States that there are some development issues that need to be detailed and fine-tuned. States that as an evaluator he never rates anything a 10.
330	Rep. Piercy	Asks where areas of improvement exist.
335	Dowd	Responds that in the family centers he would like to see more development in the planning process. There is a need for technical assistance to help the centers plan and train.
350	Rep. Piercy	Asks if there have been family centers that have failed and if so, what were the reasons.
358	Janet Carlson	Committee Administer, explains that the North Area Family Center in Marion County closed its doors this year because it didn't diversify its funding and because the members of the steering committee were primary service providers. The center had made a decision to serve only safety net clients thereby taking away the understanding that "everyone is welcome."
382	Rep. Krummel	Asks if family centers can prevent the kind of criminal and agency dependent problems that they claim to be able to prevent.
393	Dowd	Comments that government responds to problems a piece at a time, creating a fragmented system. States that family centers bring services together and have more consistency and follow through.
408	Rep. Krummel	Asks how people access family centers.
416	Dowd	Responds that phone numbers are available. Explains that citizens can call the centers and talk to a resource representative.
424	Chair Kruse	Comments that referrals come from state agencies as well as self-referrals.
434	Rep. Piercy	Notes that the Coalition for Kids parent satisfaction summary in the members' packets lists a number of avenues that a person may access for resources and referral.
440	Chair Kruse	Thanks Dr. Dowd for providing information on the family center demonstration project evaluation and closes the informational meeting.

TAPE 20, B

015	Gloria Griffith	Project Coordinator, Springfield-Marcola Family Resource Centers, submits written information (EXHIBIT E), and describes the centers as a network of school-based, community-based family resource centers with advisory boards, family involvement, and community support. States that funding comes from the Commission on Children and Families, Title I parent involvement dollars, Center for Substance Abuse and Prevention funds, local donations and volunteer hours. Provides the committee with an example of a family who had been traveling to California and how they became stranded in Springfield and made use of the resource center. Discusses specifics that the resource center provided to keep this family safe and together.
060	Rep. Winters	Asks what percentage of funding is private funding or in-kind funding.
065	Griffith	Responds that very little funding is private money. Explains that well over \$10,000 is in-kind funding. States that there were over 10,000 volunteer hours in the months of October, November, and December 1998.
070	Rep. Close	Asks how many families are being served with these funds.
072	Griffith	Responds that because it is a school-based program the number of families is high. In one year the centers have contact with 5,000 families.
095	Jean Phelps	Executive Director, Eugene Relief Nursery, submits written information regarding relief nurseries (EXHIBIT F). States that relief nurseries are not stand-alone programs. They have a very important part to play in the continuum of services to children and families. Explains that relief nurseries offer services and for high-risk families that are "researched-based" and have been "proven to be effective."
	Cassandra Wade	<p>Executive Director, Family Building Blocks, Salem, states that Family Building Blocks serves both Marion and Polk Counties. Explains that relief nurseries make cross-referrals to early intervention programs for families with multiple needs. Provides the committee with information about who is referring clients to the nursery.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 15% of clients are self referrals.• 23% of clients are SCF referrals.• 9% of clients are Healthy Start referrals.• 4% of clients are Children's Guild referrals.• 6% of clients are corrections referrals.• 30% of clients are private clinic, doctor, psychologist and therapist referrals.
	Julie Mikula	<p>Springfield Outreach Coordinator, Crisis Relief Nursery, submits written information regarding the Springfield relief nursery (EXHIBIT G). Explains four components that have become apparent in the 10 years that she has worked with the relief nursery.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact point--it is possible to directly contact a coordinator in

		<p>Springfield.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuity--moving families through services as needed. • Comprehensive services. • Creative solutions--addressing special needs of families in rural areas; i.e., setting up a mobile unit.
195	Phelps	Discusses the Valentine boxes that were donated by Willamette Christian Church.
221	Dick Withnell	Family Building Blocks Board Member, discusses the importance of relief nurseries. States that the community's 25% match to state funds creates accountability.
248	Rep. Winters	Asks for elaboration of the voluntary, self-referral aspect of the program.
255	Phelps	Explains that relief nurseries are voluntary and prefer to hear from individuals in need of services, rather than agencies referring families to local programs. Nurseries will ask an agency to have the parents call them directly. Explains that the Eugene nursery has a contract with SCF to provide an intensive parenting class in child development and parenting skills. This class is a mandatory class for some parents.
280	Rep. Close	Asks if, after receiving state funds, relief nurseries would oppose future requirements that mandated families to attend programs.
286	Phelps	Replies that relief nurseries go after contracts that match the nursery's program philosophy. States that the nursery is very careful to ensure that the contracts are conducted in a manner that meets the nursery's philosophy. States that crisis relief nurseries will not change their programs to acquire funds.
307	Withnell	States that the board concurs with Phelps's remarks.
310	Wade	Explains that she worked in the CSD-mandated programs and has found that when parents aren't forced into services, they participate with more willingness and trust allowing programs to work better.
335	Mark Nelson	Oregon Head Start Association, expresses some concerns regarding HB 2268 that he hopes will be addressed in amendments. Refers to HB 2268, page 3, lines 1, 5, 6, and 8 and states that the word "shall" is very concerning. Refers to page 2, line 32 and page 11, line 4 and discusses the definition of "community-based services" as those services provided at the local level, by state agencies, including the Department of Education. States the association's concern that HB 2268 is providing the local commissions on children and families with authority to distribute state and federal funds to purchase community-based services. Believes that HB 2268 is moving out of the stated role of HB 2004 of cooperation, collaboration, and information sharing. States that the concerns he is discussing are about local commissions having control over decisions regarding state programs.

TAPE 20, B

025	Chair Kruse	States that it is not the intention of the committee to hear testimony disputing verbiage of the bill. He appreciates Nelson's testimony and welcomes further discussion regarding Head Start's concerns. States that the drafting of amendments responding to Head Start's concerns is possible.
033	Donna Schnitker	<p>Director, Harney ESD Head Start, provides testimony in opposition to HB 2268 and lists existing collaboration efforts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• AFS and Jobs Program• Early Intervention, Early Education• Mental Health• Health Department• School Districts and Community Colleges• Child care programs• Employment Department• Oregon Commission on Children and Families
067	Annie Soto	<p>Executive Director, Lane County Head Start and President, Oregon Head Start Association, discusses components of the Lane County Head Start program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Serves 656 families with full day and full year services.• Shares a center with the Springfield relief nursery.• Collaborates with AFS as a state and national model. <p>States that all Head Start programs are locally controlled and are successful because the people who receive services also help design services. Explains that Head Start mandates require that parents be involved in policy making. This is what makes centers unique from each other. Provides testimony in opposition to HB 2268. Discusses Head Start Association's opposition of the commission's involvement in fund distribution as stated in HB 2268.</p>
115	Dr. Hill Walker	<p>University of Oregon, submits information packets regarding First Step to Success early intervention programs (EXHIBIT H). Discusses the First Step program for children at the point of school entry with dysfunctional, violent, antisocial behavior. States that over the years there has been an increase in children bringing antisocial behavior problems into the schools. Discusses society and peer rejection that takes place for these children. Provides the committee with a list of risk factors (EXHIBIT I) and discusses the repercussions of not addressing the needs of at-risk children. Discusses factors that must be enhanced and developed to divert young people from a future of antisocial, criminal behavior. States that the window of opportunity for instilling change in child behavior patterns exists until the approximate age of 8 years. Explains that First Step to Success costs \$500 per child to implement. Discusses 3 components of the program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Universal screening of all kindergartners• School intervention• Home component named "Home Base" ñ working with parents and children
264	Annemieke Golly	Co-developer of First Step to Success, Special Education Teacher, discusses characteristics of the children she works with and stories that describe progress

		of children involved in First Step to Success. Discusses that the program works with parents providing guidance and information.
412	Rep. Winters	Asks if children involved with First Step to Success have had involvement with Head Start.
420	Walker	States that many First Step participants have been enrolled in Head Start. Explains that these children have multiple mental and behavioral issues that require intervention above what Head Start can offer. Discusses the 5-year grant through the agency for Children, Youth and Families that funds systematic screening of Head Start children demonstrating behavioral problems. States that First Step to Success is a member of the Oregon Head Start Research Council. Explains that Head Start needs supplemental help in the area of children exhibiting violent, antisocial behavior.
469	Walker	States, for the record, his endorsement of HB 2268.
TAPE 22, A		
030	Jan Harbaugh	Education Service Manager, UCAN Head Start, Douglas County, discusses components of her program in Douglas County and submits written testimony regarding the collaboration efforts of UCAN Head Start and concerns regarding HB 2268 (EXHIBIT J). Points out a letter from Matt Brausam, Director, Early Intervention Program included in her submitted testimony.
080	Sandra Medina	UCAN Head Start, Douglas County, submits testimony in opposition to HB 2268 and states that changes resulting from the bill regarding Oregon Head Start are not necessary.
106	Chair Kruse	Asks Medina to be more specific in her definition of "changes" to the program.
110	Medina	Replies that any change in the funding of Head Start would be wrong.
112	Chair Kruse	Asks if Medina believes it would be wrong to change funding by supplying Head Start with more money.
113	Medina	Replies that the intent of her concerns is around the distribution of funds by the commission.

114 Chair Kruse Asks Medina and Harbaugh if they have read HB 2268.

115 Medina and Respond affirmatively.

	Harbaugh	
116	Chair Kruse	Asks if their objections to HB 2268 are similar to Mark Nelson's objections.
121	Medina and Harbaugh	Respond affirmatively.
122	Chair Kruse	States that HB 2268 is not intended to take over or threaten Head Start. Asks if the conversation that took place while Nelson was testifying has eased their concerns.
134	Harbaugh	States that there are places in the bill that still aren't clear.
138	Chair Kruse	Closes the public hearing on HB 2268 and closes the meeting at 3:07 P.M.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Diane M. Lewis, Janet L. Carlson,
Administrative Support Administrator

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EXHIBIT SUMMARY

- A ñ HB 2268 (HB 2009) Report on Family Center Demonstration Project, written information on Oregon family centers by county, Donna Middleton, 127 pp.**
- B ñ HB 2268, pamphlet on North Lake Wellness Center, Diana Cox, 2 pp.**
- C ñ HB 2268, Letters in support of the H.A.R.T. Center, Peggy Purkerson,**
- D ñ HB 2268, written information on Coalition for Kids, Debbie Cantiello, 4 pp.**
- E ñ HB 2268, pamphlet on Springfield Resource Center, Gloria Griffith, 2 pp.**
- F ñ HB 2268, written information on Crisis Relief Nurseries, Jean Phelps, 3 pp.**

G ñ HB 2268, pamphlet on Outreach Relief Nursery, Julie Mikula, 2 pp.

H ñ HB 2268, written information regarding First Step To Success, Hill Walker, 41 pp.

I ñ HB 2268, written risk factors from First Steps to Success, Hill Walker, 2 pp.

J ñ HB 2268, written testimony in opposition, Jan Harbaugh, 3 pp.