

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RULES, ELECTIONS, AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

**March 16, 1999 Hearing Room D**

**3:30 P.M. Tapes 18 - 19**

**MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Mark Simmons, Chair**

**Rep. Richard Devlin, Vice-Chair**

**Rep. Bruce Starr, Vice-Chair**

**Rep. Jason Atkinson**

**Rep. Chris Beck**

**Rep. Roger Beyer**

**Rep. Randall Edwards**

**Rep. Dan Gardener**

**Rep. Kevin Mannix**

**Rep. Kitty Piercy**

**Rep. Jim Welsh**

**Rep. Max Williams**

**MEMBER EXCUSED:**

**STAFF PRESENT: Cletus B. Moore, Jr., Administrator**

**Kevin E. Wells, Administrative Support**

**MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD: Public Hearing HJR 15**

**Public Hearing HCR 5**

**Public Hearing and Work Session 349**

TAPE/#	Speaker	Comments
<b>TAPE 18, A</b>		
005	Chair Simmons	Calls the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m
<b><u>PUBLIC HEARING HJR 5</u></b>		
025	Rep. Ken Strobeck	District 6. Testifies in support of HCR 15. Explains the history behind HCR 15. Discusses how the interim has become less and less effective for preparing legislators and legislation. States that HCR 15 makes the interim and the legislative session more effective for everyone.
075	Rep. Strobeck	Explains that shortly after the election the legislature would gather for an organizational meeting: swear in member, appoint leadership, committee chairs and committee membership. Outlines how the interim would begin before the legislative session, which would convene in September, and committees would work a few days a month during the pre-session interim. States the session would end before the end of the year, though there is no provision to ensure that.
100	Rep. Strobeck	Explains the need for the Constitutional amendment. Points out the possibility of having the organizational meeting in December.
129	Rep. Judy Uherbelau	District 52. Testifies in support of HJR 15. Discusses the problems with current interim structure, specifically the lack of continuity. Reports that the budget process would need to change. Comment that the new budget cycle would make the process easier for schools.
149	Vice-Chair Starr	Asks if work could be done more efficiently under the proposed legislative session.
156	Rep. Strobeck	States that is the purpose of the proposal. Explains the benefits of the proposed legislative session and interim.
167	Rep Uherbelau	Explains that when the session begins the legislature would be very well prepared and could begin serious work immediately.
175	Vice-Chair Starr	Asks how much the proposal would save in operational costs.
177	Rep Strobeck	Replies that no fiscal analysis has been done. Implies that there would be savings. Adds that members' bills could be drafted and printed prior to the session. Stresses that the mechanics of the legislature would work more efficiently under HJR 15
196	Rep Uherbelau	Notes that fiscal analyses have been done previously.

205	Rep. Williams	Expresses concern about the effect HJR 15 would have on amateur legislators; would it lead to full-time service.
217	Rep Uherbelau	States that committees would meet as frequently during interim as they do currently, but it would be more regulated and effective. Emphasizes that the regular session will be shorter. Suggests that it would benefit amateur legislators who have to take leave from work.
239	Rep. Piercy	Asks about specific date for ending the session.
243	Rep Strob	Explains that it was considered, but that it is not consistent with the history of the Oregon Legislature. Suggests that the holidays would be a natural deadline that no one would want to work through.
258	Rep. Piercy	Agrees that it is unlikely. Expresses concern that the session will go longer than intended in HJR 15.
264	Rep Uherbelau	Restates that the timing of the session would encourage a quick end.
275	Rep. Strobeck	Reiterates that a specific end-date is not consistent with the history and spirit of Oregon.
282	Vice-Chair Devlin	Asks about the impact on legislation. Discusses potential problems.
320	Rep. Uherbelau	Explains that bills will be pre-session filled, so will be prepared and refined during the interim.
336	Rep. Strobeck	States that the change will improve the quality of legislation.
355	Rep. Gardner	Acknowledges involvement in the Advisory Work Group. Supports the resolution.
370	Rep. Strobeck	States that the interim currently is not an effective tool for the legislature. Stresses that the interim needs to be made more effective.
386	Chair Simmons	Agrees that the interim can be improved.
411	Ramona Kenady	Chief Clerk of the House. Explains that HJR 15 is not a new idea. States that the idea is that bills would be sent to committee for work during the interim. Explains this allows for consolidating similar bills. Concludes that it would allow the session agenda to move quickly.
<b>TAPE 19, A</b>		

012	Kenady	Explains that the interim schedule would bring legislators together and give them the opportunity to get to know one another better.
024	Chair Simmons	Asks if interim committees would work LC drafts of legislation.
028	Kenady	States that is the purpose of the proposed change.
040	Chair Simmons	Closes Public Hearing HJR 15.
<b><u>PUBLIC HEARING HCR 5</u></b>		
044	Rep. Ken Strobeck	District 6. Testifies in support of HCR 5. Discusses the life and accomplishments of Elsie Stuhr.
067	Chair Simmons	Asks what the amendments change in HCR 5.
068	Rep Strobeck	Explains amendments to HCR 5 correct information in the resolution.
076	Rep. Edwards	Asks if HCR 5 needs to go to the Senate.
084	Rep. Strobeck	Responds that it does not
088	Chair Simmons	Closes Public Hearing HCR 5.
<b><u>PUBLIC HEARING SB 349</u></b>		
095	Moore	Explains SB 349.
106	Alan Scharn	Deputy Director, Department of Public Safety Standards and Training. Supports SB 349 ( <b>EXHIBIT A</b> ). Reviews how members are appointed to the Board on Public Safety Standards and Training. Notes that several members serve by virtue of their office. States that they should not be subject to Senate confirmation..
147	Vice-Chair Devlin	Asks what the Senate vote was.
148	Moore	States it was 28-0-2 with no nays.
<b><u>WORK SESSION SB 349</u></b>		
158	Rep. Williams	<b>MOTION: Moves SB 349 to the floor with a DO PASS</b>

		<b>recommendation.</b>
		<b>VOTE: 9-0</b> <b>EXCUSED: 3 - Atkinson, Beck, Gardner</b>
	<b>Chair Simmons</b>	<b>Hearing no objection, declares the motion CARRIED.</b>  <b>REP. WILLIAMS will lead discussion on the floor.</b>
170	Chair Simmons	Adjourn the meeting at 4:23 p.m.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Kevin E. Wells, Cletus B. Moore, Jr.,  
Administrative Support Administrator

**EXHIBIT SUMMARY**

**A ñ SB 349, written testimony, Alan Scharn, 2 pp.**