

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

March 29, 1999 Hearing Room B

1:00 p.m. Tapes 62-63

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sen. Tom Hartung, Chair

Sen. Susan Castillo, Vice-Chair

Sen. Peter Courtney

Sen. Verne Duncan

Sen. Gary George

Sen. Avel Gordly

Sen. Marylin Shannon

MEMBER EXCUSED:

STAFF PRESENT: Jan McComb, Administrator

Karen O'Kelley, Administrative Support

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD: SB 634 Public Hearing

National Charter School Conference

SB 870 Public Hearing

SB 668 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 62, A		
004	Chair Hartung	Opens meeting at 1:04 p.m. and opens public hearing on SB 634.

SB 634 PUBLIC HEARING

006	Rep. Rob Patridge	<p>House District 50. Testifies in support of SB 634. States that he is specifically interested in the "Ready to Read" grants for the public libraries portion of the bill. Comments that the "Ready to Read" program is the only state support for public libraries. Describes the "Ready to Read" program in Jackson County.</p> <p>Hopes that the committee will approve SB 634 and send it to the Ways and Means Committee.</p>
062	Sara Charlton	<p>President, Oregon Library Association (OLA). Testifies in support of SB 634 and submits (EXHIBIT A). States that the passage of SB 634 would accomplish the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Authorize the State Library to make grants to academic and school libraries, as well as public libraries.• Appropriate additional funds for the state's "Ready to Read" grants for public libraries.• Appropriate funds for an automated shared catalog and inter-library system for libraries in colleges and universities.• Appropriate funds for the Oregon School Library Information System (OSLIS).
128	Diane Claus-Smith	<p>Librarian, North Salem High School. Submits (EXHIBIT B). Explains that the OSLIS provides statewide delivery of Internet-based information resources to computer workstations in classrooms, libraries, and at home.</p>
185	Claus-Smith	<p>Encourages the committee's support of SB 634 for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oregon students need equitable and cost-effective access to on-line resources.• Oregon's future is dependent upon preparing children to become information literate citizens.
218	Anne Van Sickle	<p>Director, McMinnville Public Library. Submits (EXHIBIT C). Discusses the "Ready to Read" grant program. States that SB 634 would increase the investment in the "Ready to Read" program from 75 cents per child to \$1 per child. Explains that the total cost of this increase to the state is \$175,000 per year.</p>
268	Van Sickle	<p>Discusses the partnership that the McMinnville Public Library has with the Yamhill County Head Start Program. States that, "the program is intended to encourage a lifetime habit of learning." Urges the committee to support SB 634.</p>
323	Chair Hartung	<p>Asks Charlton if OLA includes every library in each of Oregon's 1,200 schools.</p>
329	Charlton	<p>Responds that it is a mix of public librarians, academic librarians, school librarians, trustees, and library friends.</p>
338	Chair Hartung	<p>Thanks the panel for their commitment for what they are doing.</p>

438	Chair Hartung	Recesses public hearing on SB 634 and opens informational meeting.
<u>NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL CONFERENCE</u>		
356	Donny Griffin	State Board of Education (SBE). States that his comments do not reflect the opinions of the SBE or the Department of Education (DOE). Describes the charter school conference that he attended in Denver. States that there are currently 32 states that have charter school legislation. Comments that Arizona leads the nation with approximately 164 charter schools. States that the movement around charter schools is growing across the nation.
TAPE, 63, A		
002	Griffin	Comments that there seems to be "a line drawn" between proponents of charter schools and proponents of public schools. States that, "the lines need to be erased." Quotes a charter school advocate who stated that, "charter schools should not compete with public schools, they should complete public schools." Refers to the success of charter schools in Michigan. Comments that in many states it is documented that charter schools have improved student assessments.
048	Griffin	States that charter schools can help public schools become more innovative. Believes that, "as leaders and policy makers, we must find ways to complement the public education system and offer opportunities to grow and innovate."
		States that many people do not know what charter schools are. States that he left the charter school conference believing that charter schools do create the opportunity to help young students.
089	Sen. Gordly	Asks Griffin if he plans to testify before the House Education Committee on SB 100, the charter school bill.
096	Griffin	Responds that, if the committee would like him to, he will try to accommodate the request.
103	Sen. Gordly	Asks Griffin if he has given any consideration to writing an "In My Opinion" article for <i>The Oregonian</i> .
111	Griffin	Responds that he has not. States that he will consider it.
115	Sen. Gordly	States that children need more chances to be successful. Asks Griffin for his definition of charter schools.
129	Griffin	Responds that, "charter schools are a part of the public school system that are chartered with a special theme that are also free of some of regulations that

		public schools may be under." Adds that the charters should be consistent with the standards of the state.
179	Griffin	States that Educational Act for the 21 st Century (EA21C) is a big change from how the standards have been in the past. Encourages the committee to support the EA21C. Believes that charter schools may be able to contribute to the success of implementing the EA21C.
204	Chair Hartung	Agrees with Griffin's comments that Oregon needs charter schools in order to enhance the public education system. States that the biggest resistance against charter schools comes from those who have benefited from keeping the "status quo."
244	Chair Hartung	Closes informational meeting and re-opens public hearing on SB 634. Closes public hearing on SB 634 and opens public hearing on SB 870.
<u>SB 870 PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
268	Anita McClanahan	Director, Early Childhood Programs for the DOE. Testifies in support of the concepts outlined in SB 870. States that there is a need for training for child care providers. Recognizes the importance of training in brain research and child development. Suggests changing Section 1, line 12. States that the DOE would like to insert "in collaboration with existing training systems" after the word establish.
326	McClanahan	Explains that the bill would have a fiscal impact on the DOE. States that the important research on brain development should not be ignored.
352	Sen. Frank Shields	Senate District 9. Submits (EXHIBIT D) . States that, "this legislation stems from the training on brain research that the <i>Oregonis Child: Everyone's Business</i> campaign presented in January." States that there is now technology that shows how the brain uses energy. Explains that it is possible to see the difference between a stimulated infant's brain and a deprived infant's brain.
405	Sen. Shields	States that parents of 213,000 children in Oregon rely on child care services while they work. Comments that it is imperative that those children are in quality environments. Explains that this bill directs the DOE to develop and implement statewide training for child care providers on healthy brain development.
442	Sen. Gordly	Submits (EXHIBIT E) . States that she and other legislators have attended two national child policy forums over the past 15 months. Adds that most recently she traveled to Nashville for a conference on child policy with a focus on brain research findings.
TAPE 62, B		

019	Sen. Gordly	States that, "thanks to research we can confirm that early care and nurture have a decisive, long-lasting impact on how people develop, their ability to learn, and their capacity to regulate their own emotions."
		States that although there is a fiscal impact to SB 870, the legislature must demonstrate the commitment and leadership to act on this important research. States that this bill would provide a commitment to brain development training and childcare training. Adds that she would support the recommendation that was made by McClanahan from the DOE.
084	Sen. Shannon	States that the fate of this bill will be decided in the Ways and Means Committee.
093	Sen. Gordly	Believes that the legislature can come up with the dollars to fund this bill. States that SB 870 gives Oregon an opportunity to put children first.
118	Sen. Shields	States that we cannot continue educating children the way we have in the past. States that the old model of focusing only on a K-12 education has changed.
132	Sen. Duncan	Comments that this bill is an investment in the future.
141	Sen. George	Asks how this fits into the child care provider bill.
148	Sen. Duncan	Responds that he will need to check on the content of the child care provider bill.
164	Sen. George	States that when children are engaged in constructive activities there will probably be fewer disciplinary problems with those children.
181	Chair Hartung	Believes that a bill, such as SB 870, is a first step in lowering the number of prisons that are needed in Oregon.
186	Vice-Chair Castillo	States that she is very supportive of this bill. Adds that legislators must act on this research and help the young people of Oregon.
202	Sen. Shannon	Refers to research that shows that juvenile delinquents did not have a strong bond with a loving adult at an early age.
214	Sen. Duncan	States that SB 870 is an educational program rather than a mandate.
224	Sen. Shields	States that if parents fully understood what children are ready to learn at 6 months or a year old there might be a change in the way parents spend time with their children.

249	Sen. Shannon	States that the tax burden needs to be lifted from parents so that they can spend more time with their children. Believes that it would be better if parents cared for their own children.
274	Sen. Gordly	States that a reality in Oregon is that many parents must work. Comments that with so many children in child care, Oregonians need to make sure that child care providers are highly trained.
298	Annette Talbott	Legislative Coordinator, Employment Department. Believes that this bill is consistent with the other Senate bills that have passed in regards to training for child care providers. States that the Governor and the Employment Department support this type of training.
340	Wendy Willett	Oregon Commission for Child Care (OCCC). Testifies in support of SB 870 and submits (EXHIBIT F). Explains that the OCCC serves as an advisory board to the Governor and the legislature on child care policy issues, concerns, and solutions that are critical to the development of a quality child care system. States that SB 870 would be a nice complement to existing statewide programs.
384	Chair Hartung	Closes public hearing on SB 870 and opens public hearing on SB 668.
<u>SB 668 PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
388	Douglas Beauchamp	Director, Lane Arts Council. Testifies in support of SB 668. States in Section 1, the bill refers "to the arts as being conducive to the enrichment and betterment of the social and physical environment." Comments on the importance of understanding the heritage and culture of a community.
TAPE 63, B		
006	Beauchamp	States that, while it may be difficult to come up with the funding, it is important to understand the importance of arts and culture in Oregon.
014	Vice-Chair Castillo	States that cultural events help to bring communities together all around the state.
021	Sen. Lee Beyer	Senate District 21. Refers to the art galleries and museums in Oregon. States that, "culture and the arts are part of life that makes life worth living." States that one half of one percent of the General Fund should go towards an endowment fund for the arts. States that an approach, such as outlined in SB 668, would enrich the lives of Oregonians as well as the economic opportunities in the state.
074	Sen. Gordly	Comments that the arts are connected to tourism. States that Oregon should make an investment in the arts.

086	Christine DiArcy	Executive Director, Oregon Arts Commission (OAC). Submits (EXHIBIT G) . States that the OAC is supportive of the idea that Oregon would spend one half of one percent of the General Fund to support local cultural activities and arts projects. Explains that the OAC supports SB 668 for the following reasons: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The arts in Oregon have been under-funded for many years. 2. It is a way to report on the issues raised this summer and fall by the Governorís Task Force on Cultural Development.
		Looks forward to working with the committee in support of the arts and culture in Oregon.
157	Chair Hartung	Closes public hearing on SB 668 and adjourns meeting at 2:42 p.m.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Karen O'Kelley Jan McComb

Administrative Support Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A ñ SB 634, written testimony, Sara Charlton, 2 pp

B ñ SB 634, written testimony, Diane Claus-Smith, 1 p

C ñ SB 634, written testimony, Anne Van Sickle, 2 pp

D ñ SB 870, written testimony, Sen. Frank Shields, 1 p

E ñ SB 870, written testimony, Sen. Avel Gordly, 2 pp

F ñ SB 870, written testimony, Wendy Willet, 2 pp

G ñ SB 668, written testimony and reports, Christine DiArcy, 64 pp