

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

April 7, 1999 Hearing Room B

1:00 p.m. Tapes 66-67

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Tom Hartung, Chair

Sen. Susan Castillo, Vice-Chair

Sen. Peter Courtney

Sen. Verne Duncan

Sen. Avel Gordly

MEMBER EXCUSED:

Sen. Gary George

Sen. Marylin Shannon

STAFF PRESENT:

Jan McComb, Administrator

Karen O'Kelley, Administrative Support

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:

SB 887 Public Hearing

SB 144 Public Hearing

SB 693 Public Hearing

SB 162 Public Hearing and 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 66, A		

004	Chair Hartung	Opens meeting at 1:08 p.m. and opens public hearing on SB 887.
<u>SB 887 PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
012	Liz Vohland	Testifies in favor of SB 887. Believes that there is a need in Oregon to educate children on what to do if they come into contact with a firearm. States that normally she is not in favor of mandates for the schools.
028	Sen. Duncan	Asks Vohland if she has appeared before the State Board of Education (SBE).
033	Vohland	Responds that she has not.
034	Sen. Duncan	States that the SBE establishes curriculum requirements.
036	Vohland	States that during the 1997 Session, the House and Senate passed a bill that requested that the SBE encourage the school districts to provide gun safety education in the schools.
048	Sen. Duncan	Asks if she has talked to anyone in the Department of Education (DOE) to encourage this type of program.
050	Vohland	Responds that she has not.
052	Chair Hartung	Closes public hearing on SB 887 and opens public hearing on SB 144.
<u>SB 144 PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
058	Jan McComb	Committee Administrator. States that SB 144 is at the request of Hill Walker. Comments that Walker will not be able to testify today.
063	Wilma Wells	Confederation of Oregon School Administrators (COSA). Submits (EXHIBIT A) . States that COSA is opposed to SB 144, however, they believe that parents should feel that their children are safe at school. States that if the funds were available to fund such a center, COSA suggests that those funds be directed to school districts to lower class sizes and to hire more counselors.
090	Jim Green	Oregon Schools Boards Association (OSBA). States that the OSBA supports the idea of creating a safety center. States that the OSBA is concerned with the new requirements SB 144 would have on school districts and administrators. States that SB 144 would have a dramatic impact on resources. Believes that this bill does not completely address the needs of special education students. Comments that he would be willing to work with the sponsor of the bill.
139	Chair Hartung	Requests that Green meet with Walker.

146	Nancy Miller	State Court Administrator's Office. States that the Judicial Department is neutral on SB 144. States that they are concerned about page 3, line 2, of the bill which would create a "constitutional separation of powers." Refers to page 5, line 39, and comments they are not clear about what "consulting with the courts" means. Refers to page 6, Section 13, and states that SB 449 which recently passed in the Senate, addresses the issues better than SB 144.
184	Carl Myers	Oregon Juvenile Department Directors' Association. States that they are concerned with Section 13. Believes that this issue is better addressed in SB 449.
211	Chair Hartung	Closes public hearing on SB 144 and opens public hearing on SB 693.
<u>SB 693 PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
216	McComb	Explains that SB 693 is at the request of Sen. Tony Corcoran. States that Sen. Corcoran has requested to have this bill sent to the Judiciary Committee.
227	Sen. Courtney	Comments that a bill similar to SB 693 is currently in the Judiciary Committee.
239	Chair Hartung	Closes public hearing on SB 693 and re-opens public hearing on SB 887.
<u>SB 887 PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
248	Rod Harder	Oregon National Rifle Association. Testifies in support of SB 887 and submits (EXHIBIT B) . States that, as a general rule, he is opposed to mandates.
267	Tim Pitzer	<p>Coordinator, Oregon Eddie Eagle Gun Safety Program. Testifies in support of SB 887 and submits (EXHIBIT C). States that gun control is not taught through this program. Explains that the program does not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teach a child how to use a gun. • Teach a child that guns are good or bad. <p>States that the program teaches children that firearms are not toys. States that the message, "Stop! Don't touch! Leave the area! Tell an adult!" is the heart of the Eddie Eagle Program.</p> <p>Refers to the news program 60 Minutes which tested the Eddie Eagle Program. States that the results of their experiment proved that the program works.</p> <p>Refers to a brochure called a Parent's Guide to Gun Safety included in EXHIBIT C.</p>
379	Harder	States that the success of the Eddie Eagle Program in Oregon is due to Pitzer's efforts.
388	Chair Hartung	Asks how many schools in Oregon are participating in the program.

390	Pitzer	Responds that there are 96 schools. Lists some of the school districts that are participating.
415	Sen. Duncan	States that he is supportive of the concept of this program. Comments he is uncomfortable with the legislature mandating programs on school districts.
438	Pitzer	Adds that the program is often taught by law enforcement officials.
449	Sen. Gordly	Asks if there was a similar bill introduced during the 1997 Session.
453	Harder	Responds that it was a resolution which encouraged the SBE to promote the program.
TAPE 67, A		
002	Kevin Starrett	Executive Director, Oregon Firearms Federation (OFF), Oregon Representative, Gun Owners of America (GOA). Applauds the intentions of SB 887. States that he is concerned that "the people who are tasked with doing this job" are not clearly defined in the bill. Comments that he would like to have it more explicitly defined.
022	Chair Hartung	Asks Starrett to define the OFF.
026	Starrett	Responds that the OFF is a lobbying organization and a statewide affiliate of the GOA.
028	Chair Hartung	Asks Starrett if there is any connection with the National Rifle Association (NRA).
029	Starrett	Responds that there is not.
033	Green	States that the OSBA supports the Eddie Eagle program itself. States that this bill would mandate this program around the state. Believes that this decision would be best made at the local level. States that the OSBA opposes SB 887 because it would be a mandate for the schools.
060	Wells	Concurs with Green's testimony.
067	John Hellen	Oregon Gun Owners (OGO). States that there are curriculum mandates that attempt to address public safety issues. Comments that this program would be one of the best ways to address public safety. Believes that this program would not require very much funding.
090	Chair Hartung	Asks if the OGO are affiliated with the NRA.

093	Hellen	Responds that the OGO has existed for over 25 years. States that the board members of the OGO are life members of the NRA. Explains that the OGO are a separate and distinct group composed only of Oregonians.
103	Chair Hartung	Asks if all OGO members belong to the NRA.
104	Hellen	Responds that they are not all members.
108	Chair Hartung	Asks Hellen if he is speaking on behalf of the NRA.
110	Hellen	Responds that he is representing the OGO.
113	Chair Hartung	Closes public hearing on SB 887 and opens public hearing on SB 162.
<u>SB 162 PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
118	Grattan Kerans	Director Government Relations, Oregon University System (OUS). States that SB 162 is primarily a "housekeeping bill to square up the prevailing wage rate statutes and their relationship to the OUS and the Higher Education Efficiency Act (HEEA)." States that the OUS is in support of the bill and the 11 amendments included in (EXHIBIT D) . Comments that he is not aware of any opposition to this bill.
173	Chair Hartung	Asks Kerans if the labor groups that are effected by this bill are in agreement with the amendments.
175	Kerans	Responds that they are.
178	Bob Shiprack	Oregon State Building and Construction Trades Counsel. States that the amendments to the bill would allow the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) to legally enforce issues relating to worker protection issues.
189	Chair Hartung	Asks Shiprack if the HEEA created any problems for his people.
198	Shiprack	Responds that there has been a dramatic improvement. States that the OUS complied a report which outlines the savings.
212	Chair Hartung	Asks if the OUS model has had any effect on the HEEA.
217	Kerans	Responds that it has not.
223	Sen. Gordly	Asks for an example of what this statute applies to.

231	Kerans	Explains that there is a law on prevailing wage rates. Asks Shiprack if he wants to comment.
246	Shiprack	Gives an example of some workers who were not being paid properly. States that the current statute states that the OUS will pay prevailing wages, however, it cannot be enforced. States that this bill would give BOLI the statutory authority to enforce the statute and handle wage claims.
276	Sen. Duncan	States that he is impressed with the collaboration between the employer, the union, and the contractor.
294	Paul Tiffany	Government Relations Manager, BOLI. Supports the bill with the -1 amendments. States that there have been some problems with ambiguity and enforcement in the past.
311	Chair Hartung	Closes public hearing on SB 162 and opens work session on SB 162.
<u>SB 162 WORK SESSION</u>		
317	Sen. Duncan	MOTION: Moves to ADOPT SB 162-1 amendments dated 03/08/99.
		VOTE: 4-0 EXCUSED: 3 - Castillo, George, Shannon
320	Chair Hartung	Hearing no objection, declares the motion CARRIED.
322	Sen. Duncan	MOTION: Moves SB 162 to the floor with a DO PASS AS AMENDED recommendation.
		VOTE: 4-0 AYE: In a roll call vote, all members present vote Aye. EXCUSED: 3 - Castillo, George, Shannon
328	Chair Hartung	The motion CARRIES. SEN. DUNCAN will lead discussion on the floor.

338	Chair Hartung	Closes work session on SB 162 and adjourns the meeting at 2:02 p.m.
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Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Karen O'Kelley Jan McComb

Administrative Support Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A ñ SB 144, written testimony, Wilma Wells, 1 p

B ñ SB 887, brochure, Rod Harder, 2 pp

C ñ SB 887, written testimony and brochures, Tim Pitzer, 12 pp

D ñ SB 162, -1 amendments, staff, 1 p