

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**March 11, 1997 Hearing Room D**

**08:30 AM Tapes 39 - 40**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**Rep. Charles Starr, Chair**

**Rep. Terry Thompson, Vice-Chair**

**Rep. Dennis Luke**

**Rep. Ken Messerle**

**Rep. Kurt Schrader**

**Rep. Judith Uherbelau**

**Rep. Larry Wells**

**MEMBER EXCUSED:**

**STAFF PRESENT:**

**Judith Gruber, Administrator**

**Linda Kowal, Administrative Support**

**MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:**

**Alternative Growing Biological Environment Presentation**

**HB 2555 Work Session**

**HB 2537 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.**

<b>Tape/#</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>TAPE 39, A</b>		
<b>011</b>	<b>Chair Starr</b>	<b>Opens meeting at 8:33 am. Recognizes the teacher and students from Canby High School and the project they have been working on.</b>

**ALTERNATIVE  
GROWING  
BIOLOGICAL  
ENVIRONMENT  
INFORMATIONAL  
MEETING**

013	Rep. Schrader	Introduces the project by stating, this is a model for the state of Oregon and possibly for the nation, in terms of how to work education, business and educational reform together. Introduces the lead men: Max Sherman, Terry Bradfield and Ron Barker.
024	Chair Starr	Asks them to introduce the program and students. States the committee will spend about 20 minutes hearing the introductions then recess to view the exhibit and return for questions.
032	Max Sherman	Agriculture Instructor at Canby High School. States the students will present the information. (EXHIBIT A)
035	Stephanie Perrin	Senior at Canby High School. States the name of the project is Alternative Growing Biological Environment (AGBE). Introduces Superintendent Steve Miller, Principal Jim Gadberry, Heads of the Biology Department Terry Bradfield and Rod Barker. Head of the Agriculture Department Max Sherman. Introduces seniors, Rick Sherman and Mike Peoples, juniors, Jake Wilson and John Suchanek, and sophomore Jason Staehely who is outside with the traveling display.
046	Perrin	States that AGBE "combines the theory of biological science with the practical application of agriculture evaluating the systems that show promise for rural economic development." Gives the background on the project. Gives a video presentation.
063		Video presentation.
096		End of presentation.
102	Jake Wilson	States that the agriculture, natural resources and biology classes are involved in the design, development and marketing of AGBE. Talks about what the students have researched, the systems that were developed and the products derived from these systems. Comments that associated with this project, the students worked with plumbing, electrical, construction, marketing, and computer design.

140	Rick Sherman	States this is a school based business where the students have developed working systems in hydroponics, aquaponics, aquaculture, aerialponics, biological control and water testing. Talks about marketing goals.
166	Rep. Thompson	Asks what products do they sell and how much of a market is there.
168	Sherman	Answers mint and basil are the two biggest sellers.
177	Rep. Thompson	Asks about the fish.
179	Sherman	Answers they have 45 fish from the first batch and kept 10 for brood stock. They had a fish fry from what was left over at the end of the year.
187	Mac Sherman	Adds that Tilapia has grown in popularity in the US. Pacific Coast Seafood will purchase all the Tilapia they can raise. In response to Rep. Thompson's question, the market for the fish they sell depends on the size.
210	Mike Peoples	States the goals for AGBE and details the size and types of labs that a state-of-the-art facility would have.
257	John Suchanek	States they seek the support of the committee to gain the finances needed to develop the pilot project. This would provide students with the ability to explore advances in biotechnology with a business partnership.
269	Chair Starr	Declares a recess till 9:15.
275	Chair Starr	Reopens the meeting for questions.
277	Rep. Messerle	Commends the facility and students on the knowledge and depth of understanding on this project.
286	Rep. Thompson	Asks how do the electric costs compare with the final costs.
289	Sherman	Answers that currently the project is in the corner of the agriculture shop next to other activities. They cannot monitor the actual costs but they do have an approximate cost analysis.
311	Rep. Luke	Suggests they write a letter to their state representative detailing the project. If the representative wrote a letter commending the project, the power company may set a meter up for them.
317	Rep. Schrader	Asks what other school districts have they contacted.
319	Suchanek/Sherman	

		Answers Sandy, North Clackamas, Gervais, and Vale.
324	Rep. Schrader	Asks if they view the pilot project to be self sustaining.
351	Sherman	Affirmative.
367	Rep. Thompson	Comments that they should contact Hatfield Marine Science Center and the experts at Oregon State University in Corvallis.
384	Sherman	States the first supply of fish was from Oregon State University.
387	Rep. Schrader	Ask could this have statewide impact.
400	Sherman	Affirmative
414	Rep. Uherbelau	Refers to written testimony. Asks who and where are they seeking the grant from.
423	Sherman	Responds so far they have secured small grants from \$2500 to \$7500 but they are exploring all opportunities.
<b>TAPE 40, A</b>		
010	Rep. Thompson	Suggests they personally contact a scientist at the Hatfield Marine Science Center who is a leader in this type of aquaculture.
014	Rep. Uherbelau	Suggests looking on the internet for information on grants.
016	Chair Starr	Comments that he invited them to come before the committee because he feels that this is a real economic development opportunity. In addition, this could also be food production work projects for prisoners, so he has also invited people from the state corrections department to see this project.
046	Chair Starr	Closes the informational meeting and opens the work session on HB 2555.
<b><u>HB 2555 WORK SESSION</u></b>		
047	Rep. Luke	Asks why the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODF&W) is doing this and not Oregon State University (OSU).
053	Kay Brown	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. (EXHIBIT B) States they would encourage that the study be done through OSU or some other educational institution. The department would do some of the writing for the final report and some of the descriptive language relating to fish management actions.

075	Rep. Luke	States there's nothing in the bill that says they have to contract out.
077	Brown	Affirmative.
079	Rep. Messerle	Is there any reason why the OSU can't handle it.
083	Brown	Responds there's no requirement that the department has to have control of the study. The department would like to provide information.
095	Jim Myron	Oregon Trout. (EXHIBIT C) States there is a good working relationship between the department and OSU.
102	Rep. Luke	Asks where is the \$100,000 coming from.
106	Myron	Responds they would like to see this bill move to Ways and Means to discuss the money issue.
110	Rep. Uherbelau	Comments on the fact that OSU is not there to inform them if they have the resources.
124	Rep. Luke	States the committee needs more discussion regarding the funding.
133	Rep. Schrader	Comments that it does seem like a lot of money.
139	Brown	Responds that in addition to a literature review, that person would also be interviewing people around the state.
146	Rep. Messerle	States that he agrees with Rep. Uherbelau and would like to hear from OSU.
151	Rep. Wells	Asks is there any way of dealing with this problem.
152	Brown	States the whole purpose of the study is to identify the problems and look for possible solutions.
165	Myron	Comments that they would like to see that these fish do not expand any further.
172	Rep. Thompson	Responds to Rep. Wells that there are techniques available and probably some that haven't been researched.
184	Rep. Schrader	Comments that perhaps the Oregon Healthy Streams Act may be a source for funding.
190	Brown	States there is no funding allocated for exotic studies in the proposed funding for the Oregon Healthy Streams Act. This study, relative to HB 2555, looks at impacts on more than coastal salmon.
196	Rep. Schrader	States that the Healthy Streams Act is a plan for the whole state.
201	Chair Starr	

		States he has decided to take more time with this and try to get someone from OSU for a future work session.
215	Rep. Thompson	Offers that Doug Markel is the person to contact.
218	Rep. Luke	States they still need to take a look at where the funding is going to come from.
223	Rep. Thompson	Asks if the department would want this outside of their existing budget.
224	Brown	Affirmative. The department would want additional funding.
227	Rep. Thompson	Asks if they would then subcontract OSU.
229	Brown	Affirmative.
230	Rep. Luke	Would like to see a deal with OSU on the record.
239	Myron	Refers to amendments.
246	Chair Starr	Closes the work session on HB 2555 and opens public hearing on HB 2537.
<b><u>HB 2537 PUBLIC HEARING</u></b>		
273	Rep. Bob Repine	District 49. States that this bill is an attempt deal with an issue that the hunters are faced with in the field.
278	Rod Harder	Executive Director of the Oregon Sportsman's Defense Fund. States that current law is if you hunt game with a hand gun, your license has to be validated and it is the only weapon you can use for that species. Refers to suggested amendments. (EXHIBIT D)
323	Rep. Uherbelau	Asks are you saying this is in addition to the regular hunting license.
335	Harder	Negative. States for example, if you have a deer tag, you take it to ODF&W and have it stamped to use a hand gun. Now you can use only the hand gun to hunt deer.
347	Rep. Uherbelau	Asks is a special stamp needed when going to hunt with a rifle.
349	Harder	Negative.
355	Rep. Uherbelau	Asks why do they need this information.
360	Harder	Responds the motivation is raise the hunters level of competency.
374	Rep. Messerle	Asks to clarify that you can't pack a rifle and a hand gun at the same time.

376	Harder	Answers you can, but you can't use the hand gun on big game unless your license is validated to do so. Gives another example.
386	Rep. Messerle	Asks how would you administrate that.
404	Harder	Comments that if this proposal is adopted a hunter would be able to use either a rifle or a hand gun.
412	Rep. Luke	Asks if in most cases the hand gun would be used after an animal was already brought down by a larger weapon.
416	Harder	Affirmative, however, some people do hunt with only a hand gun.
421	Rep. Luke	Comments if you have an animal brought down by another weapon but not dead, legally you can't exercise humane disposition with a hand gun.
<b>TAPE 40, B</b>		
011	Rep. Messerle	Comments that on family property they have found elk that were hit with an arrow and never found. Asks is there a danger of not having enough power to bring the animal down.
016	Harder	Answers that this danger always exists. States this problem is the most discussed however it has not proven to be a significant problem.
022	Rep. Wells	Asks if he supports this bill with the amendments.
024	Harder	Affirmative.
026	Rep. Wells	Asks for background on current administrative rule.
027	Harder	Comments the reasoning is that people who hunt with a hand gun only would be more conscientious about the caliber they use. States that the field biologist have not seen this to be a problem.
038	Jim Greer	Assistant Director of the Wildlife Division, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. (EXHIBIT E) Gives a brief history on the hand gun requirement. States it's purpose was to address the proficiency of the hunter. Continues with testimony and concludes by stating that the commission has directed them to put into the point-of-sale process a way for the hunter to have the tag validated at the time of purchase.
086	Rep. Uherbelau	Asks when is this new system starting.

086	Greer	Answers that the commission directed them to enter into the point of sale process this coming year. Big game hunting regulations are set annually, usually June 1st.
089	Rep. Uherbelau	Ask for Harder to give his opinion of the solution.
091	Rod Harder	States it lessens the impact on those who choose this for a single weapon. It does not address having to choose if you want a hand gun as a single weapon and having the tag validated.
097	Rep. Luke	Asks why not create another license.
103	Harder	Comments that he is aware of an increase in people who want this. Comments negatively on the separate license idea.
114	Rep. Luke	States that he'd like to see using a pistol at close range on an animal that is already down legalized.
125	Harder	States he agrees and that this amendment would address that.
120	Rep. Uherbelau	Refers to Rep. Luke's concerns regarding humane disposition and also comments on the ethical concerns raised. Asks is there any solution for both.
133	Greer	Responds there are less than 1,000 people getting the validation.
155	Rep. Uherbelau	Asks how he feels about this amendment having a sunset.
162	Greer	Responds he would like it to go beyond two years.
166	Rep. Luke	States a need for expert testimony and a longer hearing.
177	Rep. Messerle	Agrees with Rep. Luke and states concern of micro-management.
188	Harder	Responds that he agrees that this can be accomplished by administrative rule. This has been before the commission and it was not given favorable consideration.
205	Rep. Schrader	Agrees with Rep. Luke and Rep. Messerle that this is a Commission issue.
210	Rep. Luke	Comments on the alternative of a hearing with biologists and other witnesses of the same caliber.
221	Justin Burns	Oregon Gunowner's. States they spoke with the State Police and the law as written is



		unenforceable. Regarding proficiency, they believe it will result in less wounded animals.
238	Rep. Luke	Asks how he feels about another permit.
243	Burns	Originally they agreed to the stamp validation in order to get the concept through. States there is a another class of pistols. "There's some high power contender pistols with longer barrels that are scoped, that act more like a rifle, that people are trying to hunt with. They're classified as a pistol and those are the people we're trying to help out."
257	Rep. Luke	Suggest that they have the Commission look at what they classify as pistols and rifles and what is allowed to hunt with.
265	Burns	Responds his point is well taken but they want the issue of humane disposition to be addressed.
270	Rep. Luke	States that the illegality of using a pistol for humane disposition has always bothered him.
285	Chair Starr	States "you can say it's not a very big problem but for those few who would like the alternative it's a big problem." States there will be further discussions in and out of committee and will consider the potential of bringing this back with expert testimony.
295	Rep. Luke	States he would support a bill that requested the ODF&W to develop a policy for the different classes of weapons from small pistols to rifles.
320	Chair Starr	Closes hearing on HB 2537 and adjourns meeting at 10:09 am.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Linda Kowal, Judith Gruber,

Administrative Support Administrator

**EXHIBIT SUMMARY**

A - Informational exhibit, Max Sherman, 3 pp

B - HB 2555, written statement, Kay Brown, 1 p

C - HB 2555, proposed amendments and written correspondence, Jim Myron, 2 pp

D - HB 2537, proposed amendments, Rod Harder, 1 p

E - HB 2537, written testimony, Jim Greer, 2 pp