

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

May 20, 1997 Hearing Room D

1:00 PM Tapes 106 -

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rep. Liz VanLeeuwen, Chair

Rep. Kitty Piercy, Vice-Chair

Rep. Bob Jenson

Rep. Jeff Kruse

Rep. Kurt Schrader

Rep. Mark Simmons

MEMBER EXCUSED: Rep. Dennis Luke

STAFF PRESENT:

Janet Carlson, Administrator

Berri Sellers, Administrative Support

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:

HB 3726 Work Session

HB 2494 Work Session

HB 2801 Work Session

HB 3183 Work Session

HB 3728 Public Hearing and Work Session

SB 642 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 106, A		
002		

	Chair VanLeeuwen	Chair calls meeting to order at 1:25 pm. Opens work session on HB 3726.
<u>HB 3726</u> <u>WORK</u> <u>SESSION</u>		
019	Janet Carlson	Explains HB 3726-4 amendments. This merges the DHR ombudsman with the legislative specialist into one bill.
033		Explains that this amendment splits the moeny evenly between the children's ombudsman and the DHR ombudsman.
043	Schrader	Moves -4 amendments to HB 3726.
047		
060	Schrader	Moves to floor.
071	Rep. Kruse	Is concerned about moving this to ways and means. Thought that LC could take this responsibility on under existng resources.
084	Chair VanLeeuwen	Comments taht from her standpoint the bill as drafeted takes care of the issue both ways. As legislators to get the help they need and for those to put it in the agency who people are calling about. Performs the dual role.
099	Vice-Chair Piercy	Concerned about having the money available to do the follow through's with complaints. Wants to be able to respond effectively to public concerns. We are asking them to do their job better not depleting their resources.
110	Rep. Schrader	Does not understand how we are losing resources.
118	Chair VanLeewern	The bill basically does away with the state commission on children and families money.
124	Vice-Chair Piercy	Her understanding is that we are asking the Governor's ombudsman to take on all of these complaints and heave them do it in two places rather than one.
130	Chair	This allows legislators to call someone who is not affilitated with the agency.
145		Calls Marie Bell forward.
147	Marie Bell	Comments that the LC office would have to start from scratch but they already have a position available.
175		Explains that the -4amendments are very fair and that they are a good representation.
187	Rep. Kruse	Concerned.
190	Rep. Schrader	All LC does is act as a researcher for legislators. We are asking them to be a source of information.
216	Chair	Closes work session. Opens work session on HB 3183.

HB 3183 WORK SESSION		
295	Gordon Fultz	Comments on section 2 sub 2 of SB 943. Page 3 of 3183 -3's. Line 11. Line 11 of page three the "shall" used to be a "should." The shall on line 13 is used to be a should. Line 14 is successive counties that have been .
360		The next change is on page seven of 3183. Subsection 6 that whole section was added in SB 943 yesterday. It the desire of the governor to have information from plans.
384		The next change is on page eight. We have added on line 18 and line 22 new language. Added by state and other federal resources. Also on line 23.
TAPE 107, A		
016		Page nine line 19 we had this is the condition of which.....clarified to say that funds would be awarded under approved plans.
039	Gibson	Section 4 sub 7 in 3183 -3. Used to read, based on intergovernmental agreements, to clarify who the party to the negotiations were. There has been a parallel change to section 5 sub 2B negotiated an intergovernmental agreement.
071		On page 6, section 5 sub 3 and B startgin on line 10. Previously they could be placed in juvenile custody.....clarifying amendment. The term juvenile custody has no statutory meaning.
144	Rep. Jenson	Do we know what the substance of the minority report was?
152	Carlson	Explains issues that arose in the crime and corrections committee that led Sen. Tarno and Sen. Qutub to vote no on SB 943 -4.
168		Comments that there were two issues that she would defer to the house side. The deschutes letter and committing people to the high end.
196	Gibson	It is not the intent of the Governor's office to force counties to spend money where its not needed.
244	Fultz	Comments that they came to this bill that this was not necessary but they are willing to go forward with what is before them. Would like to see some new money in the system.
281	Rep. Schrader	Seems like we've had a lot of meetings. Believes we're where we need to be. We should move forward. What are the remaining reservations?
292	Chari	Need to look at the difference in the -2 and -3. Asks how these interface with the SSWig team?
336	Gibson	SSWig is an acronym for work group of state agencies and local partners from public advocacy organizations. Working to try and establish what is the best role for state agencies to

		provide supports for agencies so that they can establish what is best.
284	Chair	What happened to the law in the statute about the coordinating councils.
392	Gibson	Swig is the same group of people that made up the coordinating council. Brought these people together to create the coordinating councils.
416	Chair VanLeeuwen	Explains that somewhere in the law, the governor or someone melded that into something else but did not receive e-board approval.
431	Gibson	Explains that the coordinating council was not accomplishing much. Irregular meetings, we felt that it was a better use of their time to enter in to a larger discussion.
TAPE 106, B		
048	Gibson	Explains who was on the commission.
053	Rep. Jenson	Propose that we wait and see what the senate does. Will allow for more time to do additional study.
065	Gibson	Explains that the children and familie scommittion is a member of the state team.
069	Fultz	Comments that the is concernec about community progress teams. Concerned about what might happen to them.
084		Explains that he hopes there will be a reinvestment formula available to the counties they want to know the rate and see how much counties can get back.
099	Chair	Closes work session on HB 3183.
<u>HB 3728</u> <u>WORK</u> <u>SESSION</u>		
119	Carlson	Explains HB 3728 and the -2 amendments. HB 3728 creates a board for adoption services.
133	Rep. Kruse	Comments that there will be a -3 amendment to HB 3728. Believes that we will adressst hese concerns through LC.
150		Explains that his concerns arose when the agency requested many new people.
156	Rep. Kruse	Explains that this is a deliberative approach that will give them the time to do an in depth opportunity to review the system.
194		Explains that it is not his intention to point fingers or lay blame his objective is to put in place that takes care of the children in the process and for the paretns in the process.
235	Ann Scott	Executive director of adoption agency. Provides written materisla (EXHIBIT).
251		Explains the history of their organization. Explains that they place children with special needs.

308	Scott	Reads testimony. Explains that planned international adoption services is focused os moving quicly and permanently into a permanent placement.
349		Provides statistics that demonstrate the urgency of the situation.
355		Assign a task force. Refert o private and licensed agencies. Step 2 would be to later address problems of special needs categories.
416		Explains the children with specail needs issues.
TAPE 107, B		
030	Scott	Explains the rest of the comments in the packet and that they can get 12 children from China easier than they can get one child from the state.
058	Sandy Macartney	They have adopted children . Explains frustrations they have with the agency. Details the difficulty in adopting a child that is a minority.
080		Explains that they adopted 2 minority children.
092		Explains the situation in Oregon that has made it difficult for people to adopt children in Oregon.
100	Rep. Simmons	How old is the oldest children you ahave placed.
104	Macartney	As old as 2-3 year olds.
115	Rep. Simmons	Who are the oldest children
121	Macarteny	Up to sixteen year s of age.
132	Kathy Neu	Supervises home studies throughout the state.
155		Discusses families she has worked with and the frustrations they have endured.
176	Rep. Kruse	Thanks committee for testifying. Have an agreeable bill on thursday.
189	Fern Ringaring	Adoption and family services. Active in placing special needs children.
203		Explains that there is a great deal of anxiety of families waiting for the committeee process to play out, I believe that this gives the child the opportunity to be matched with an appropriate parent.
214		Explains that our adoption rate is so low, Oregon is a model for otehr states.
228		Explains that if a family cannot go throught he process, she is concerned about the families ability to meet the rejection that the child may bring upon the parents.
251		Explains that she is concerned that the bill provides private agencies to be solely responsible. Not many agneices are active

		in this way. They don't have the experience and the staff to do a good job in this process.
284	Rep. Kruse	Comments that they are talking about more than just special needs kids at stake here.
<u>HB 643</u> <u>PUBLIC</u> <u>HEARING</u>		
406	Diane Lancaster	Explains that they can support this bill with the amended language.
419	Rep. Kruse	Why are there two results?
424	Nancy Miller	Explains that SCF is not concerned about the change in the bill, but that they court might specify a specific placement.
TAPE 108, A		
045	Carlson	Asks if the bill specifies that the child ought to do something but that they cannot specify a specific place.
050	Miller	The agency must retain specific authority.
062	Timothy Travis	In favor of the bill with the -2 amendments.
070	Rep. Simmons	Bill does not explain that placements
077	Miller	That is what the new language does.
103		Didn't think this was necessary at first. By adding additional language all you add is clarity. Nothing of substance is added but clarity.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,
Berri Sellers, Janet Carlson,
Administrative Support Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY