

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

February 6, 1997 Hearing Room B

1:00 P.M. Tapes 14-16

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rep. Liz VanLeeuwen, Chair

Rep. Kitty Piercy, Vice-Chair

Rep. Bob Jenson

Rep. Jeff Kruse

Rep. Dennis Luke

Rep. Kurt Schrader

MEMBER EXCUSED: Rep. Mark Simmons

STAFF PRESENT:

Janet Carlson, Administrator

Berri Sellers, Administrative Support

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:

Informational Meeting

Invited Testimony

Bill Brock-Former Secretary of Labor and U.S. Senator

Jack Roberts-State Labor Commissioner

Accountability

Benchmarks-Jeff Tryens, Oregon Progress Board

Interim Indicators-Clara Pratt, Oregon State University

Legislative Performance Audit-Diane Hansen and Legislative

Fiscal Office Staff; County Representatives

Deschutes County Joint Audit Committee Discussion-Dennis

Maloney, Director, Community Justice

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 1, A		
013	Chair	Calls the meeting to order at 1:05. Introduces Jack Roberts and former Senator Bill Brock.
<u>DISCUSSION ON EARLY EDUCATION</u>		
027	Jack Roberts	State Labor Commissioner for Oregon. Discusses how he met Senator Brock and their mutual interest in the issue of early education.
050	Bill Brock	Former U.S. Senator and Secretary of Labor under the Reagan administration. Discusses his passion for the issue of children and families as it pertains to early education.
066		Discusses the way children learn at different speeds and our expectation that they must all learn at the same levels, with the same speed.
093	Brock	Focus teaching on grammar schools, because it's more expensive to work with juvenile delinquents than with grammar school children.
105		His organization offers assessment of children that includes a physical and intellectual assessment of the child. Creates a learning plan that is individually prescribed for the child.
130		Addressing problems of children at a level that is efficient and cost effective.
140	Chair VanLeeuwen	Question about the accessibility of materials
153	Vice-Chair Piercy	Are any of the programs actually implemented already in Oregon?
160	Brock	Answers above question; unsure as to whether or not any of these programs are available in Oregon.
197		Discusses how we lose children by not providing them with positive experiences.
<u>OREGON PROGRESS BOARD</u>		

237	Jeff Tryens	Director of the Oregon Progress Board. Uses (EXHIBIT A) for entire testimony.
275		Explains the mission of the Progress Board; keeping Oregon focused on the future.
320		Found a series of commonalities. Main finding was early prevention. Explains how this relates to benchmarks.
324	Tryens	Looking at the changes to benchmark organization
355		How benchmarks are used to assess progress
394		Uses the example of prenatal care to show an example of how benchmarks work.
TAPE 2, A		
042	Vice-Chair Piercy	Comment/question about the ability to look at the entire population to review the access of prenatal care across the state.
062	Tryens	Look at neighboring states in order to compare our results.
097		Examine prekindergarten expansion in order to evaluate benchmarks.
123		Compare large and small counties as they relate to the benchmark system.
152		1995 as it compares with 1992 in terms of pregnant women receiving adequate prenatal care.
177	Rep. Kruse	Question about the value of benchmarks.
196	Tryens	Explains how systems are evaluated.
206		Twenty-two of the ninety-two programs are qualitative.
214		Comment about comparing counties as they relate to one another and defining their benchmarks.
225	Chair VanLeeuwen	Comment about benchmarks
234	Rep. Jenson	Question as to whether or not benchmarks are driven by policies and number of experts in communities.
<u>INTERIM INDICATORS</u>		
277	Clara Pratt	Researcher at Oregon State University and expert on interim indicators and outcome evaluations for programs on children and families.
344		

		Evaluating benchmarks and studying interim outcomes. Wellness for Oregon's working children and families.
368		Relationship of children being ready for school as well as schools being ready for kids.
393		References handouts (EXHIBIT B), the six major steps to evaluate programs.
TAPE 1, B		
030		Looking at steps that will help us to reach these goals.
052	Pratt	Discusses their evaluation of the Healthy Start program.
063		Describes background for the Healthy Start program.
095		Low income and highly stressed families particularly benefit from support services.
116		Discusses how we follow inputs in order to judge the outcomes of programs.
150	Pratt	Fundamental research conclusion is that we must deal in the whole area of human development. There is no magical number for which we need to take care of, we must take care of children at all ages.
189	Rep. Jenson	Question about how consistent authoritarian family is better than erratic family background.
<u>LEGISLATIVE PERFORMANCE AUDIT</u>		
233	Chair VanLeeuwen	Recognizes local commission and CASA representatives in the audience
265	Diane Hansen	Legislative Fiscal Office staff. References (EXHIBIT C) which is a report of the audit done on the Oregon Commission on Children and Families.
278		Three main areas of concern were found during the audit; focus, management and accountability.
289		Describes the counties that were involved in the audit.
310	Hansen	Explains roles of local commissions
330	Rep. Luke	Question about how the local commissions work.
356	Bill Coulombe	

		Staff at the Legislative Fiscal Office. Discussion of how conflict of interest has been and is still a concern among commission members.
420		Discusses the recommendations for the state commissions.
TAPE 2, B		
026	Vice-Chair Piercy	Question as to how the counties report their progress.
044	Coulombe	Continued discussion about recommendations for local commissions
083	Vice-Chair Piercy	Comment about how county commissioners relate to local commissions.
095	Coulombe	Discusses the clarification of expectations as they relate to legislative responsibilities.
115	Rep. Kruse	"One of the problems I have, is that state agencies get so tied up in reporting and monitoring, we end up setting up programs that are designed to serve the needs of the state in terms of it's numbers rather than the people their designed for."
135	Rep. Schrader	Question about distribution of monies.
138	Coulombe	Cannot recall answer to question. Thinks that roughly 6 percent of the overall funds were used at the state commission level.
137	Rep. Luke	Question about assigning an ombudsman to the Department of Human Resources.
154	Coulombe	Would be in support of an ombudsman position at the Department of Human Resources.
163	Vice-Chair Piercy	Question about asking local commissions how they relate to state agencies.
171	Coulombe	Addresses these concerns in Appendix A of the full report. (EXHIBIT C)
167	Chair VanLeeuwen	Comment about the state commission changing managers last year.
<u>REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE LOCAL COMMISSIONS</u>		
188	Mary May, Dawn Alberti McNannay, Gillian Nicolaides, Debbie Wheeler	Representatives from Linn County and Douglas County Commissions.
202	Nicolaides	

		Positive remarks about the audit process and their willingness to listen to their concerns. Explains how commissions are not about programs but about making services to children and families better.
217	McNannay	Heavy focus during the audit on programs and the technical aspects.
228	Vice-Chair Piercy	Question about relationship between state and local commissions.
235	Nicolaides	Difficulty of establishing goals that everybody understands in the beginning.
254	McNannay	Discusses how the state commission staff is very supportive of the local commissions.
<u>DESCHUTES COUNTY JOINT AUDIT COMMITTEE</u>		
272	Dennis Maloney	Director of the Department of Community Justice in Deschutes County.
286		Discusses his interest in the commission and how his job relates to the job of taking care of children and families.
309	Rep. Luke	Recognizes Dennis Maloney as a well-respected member of the community.
353	Maloney	How Measures 11 and 17 increase the cost of corrections.
371		The gap that is created between funding corrections and children and families issues.
388		Discusses the effort we can make to reduce the cost of chronic care.
415		How we can make agencies more efficient, thus supporting other agencies.
TAPE 3, A		
024		Need to look to community volunteers to solve this dilemma.
039		Look at Habitat for Humanity and Mothers Against Drunk Driving as ways to make a better world.
058	Maloney	How the commission focuses on prevention.
082		Discusses the makeup of his local commission on children and families.
111		Story about how citizen action has made a difference in his community
133	Rep. Luke	References story in the Oregonian

140	Rep. Luke	Discusses how Deschutes County has set an example for other counties, but is not an anomaly.
164	Chair VanLeeuwen	Question about teen court system in Deschutes County
177	Chair VanLeeuwen	Chair adjourns meeting at 3:05

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Berri Sellers, Janet Carlson,

Administrative Support Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A - "Oregon Benchmarks," Oregon Progress Board, Jeff Tryens, pp.37.

B - "What Get's Measured Get's Done," Interim Indicators, Clara Pratt, pp.4.

C - "A Program Evaluation of the Oregon Commission on Children and Families," Legislative Performance Audit, Diane Hansen, pp.12