

HOUSE EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

ON REVIEW OF HOUSE BILL 2991

February 5, 1997 Hearing Room 137

7:00 AM Tapes 19-20

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rep. Ron Sunseri, Chair

Rep. Bob Jenson

Rep. Charles Starr

MEMBER EXCUSED:

STAFF PRESENT:

Bryan Boehringer, Administrator

Joan Diaz, Administrative Support

ISSUES HEARD:

HB 2991 (1995) 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 19, A		
<u>HB 2991</u> <u>(1995)</u> <u>PUBLIC</u> <u>HEARING</u>		
005	Chair Sunseri	Opens public hearing at 7:00 a.m.
010	Charles Arthur	Teacher from Reynolds School District, Multnomah County. Presents (EXHIBIT A) . Testifies that reading standards are set too low (90%) as stated in HB 2991 (1995). Criticizes the math standards as vague. No body of knowledge evaluated. States that this represents a change from the past. Scoring guides are vague and unknown. Standards useful but need to be better clarified.

127	Chair Sunseri	Inquires if Oregon would benefit from the same standards that California recently adopted.
139	Arthur	States that reading accuracy is the key.
149	Chair Sunseri	Asks for opinion of Oregon's manner of testing grades 3, 5, 8 and 10.
160	Arthur	States that he doesn't have problems with testing the reading, but the math testing is a concern; doesn't include computational skills.
	Chair Sunseri	Inquires as to what changes would he recommend for current tests.
176	Arthur	Suggests that for math testing, students should not be allowed to use calculators, the major skills, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division should be represented. Reports test is out of alignment with the standards.
194	Al Meunier	Superintendent of Schools, Pendleton School District. Testifies in support of HB 2991 (1995) without changes. States he has a problem with changes recommended in Section 25 and Section 29 of HB 2991 (1995). Pendleton considers Certificate of Initial Mastery (CIM) an achievement of a new benchmark. Would not like to see state undertake a two tier system. Section 29 calls for developing a national, norm-referenced test which he states would consume already limited resources.
248	Chair Sunseri	Asks for questions from committee. Inquires if any parents in Pendleton school district are against CIM.
	Meunier	States that is probably the case, but believes CIM will increase the standards for all students. Discusses his district's testing method in response to an inquiry from the Chair.
276	Jay Conroy, Pat Canan and Jim Dort	Teachers from Corvallis High School give input regarding their teaching specialties. State they represent a group of high school teachers who have raised concerns within their district. They support a lot of what is in the Act but express concerns with CIM as it applies to high school students. Suggest that Oregon allow CIM as an option. Discusses budget impact of reform. States his district is holding a parent meeting in six weeks to allow Corvallis parents who are unhappy with the CIM system to meet.

		(EXHIBIT B)
TAPE 20, A		
003	Conroy	Continues discussion on CIM system. Recommends changing the law to give flexibility that CIM be an option, not a requirement.
018	Dort	Comments that funding for CIM drains funds that ultimately affects fine arts or electives schedule. States that it also doesn't address the drop out rate for students who can't meet standards already in place.
056	Canan	Supports high standards but has problem with 10th grade CIM test. If Oregon retains a CIM certificate he recommends another format for passing, a different formula.
081	Conroy	Comments he helped facilitate CIM in the classroom and studied other states. Other educators' experience was that students felt overwhelmed with standards. In the past, Corvallis teachers and parents gave input with little impact on the Department of Education. Reports that over 700 students in the Corvallis area are not in public school. Parents looking for alternatives. Reports on recent construction of a middle to high school for 400 students, which has been built with private funding by well known industrialist.
120	Dort	Gives input that he agrees with concerns expressed by his colleagues from Corvallis and indicates funding ramifications should be considered as well as teacher morale.
170	Lowell Smith	School Psychologist, Marion County, supports changes to HB 2991 (1995) to allow schools the option of Certificate of Initial Mastery (CIM) and Certificate of Advanced Mastery (CAM) (EXHIBIT C) . Feels states are mandating unproven assessments. States nationally norm-referenced tests have limitations; no one test can do it all. Comments that Oregon set goal to have best educated students in nation by year 2000. Recommends that state make a commitment to evaluate progress fully and commit to full participation in the NAEP. Calls subcommittee's attention to Section 21. As a participant in workgroup, it was recommended the phrase, " <i>which he or she is qualified to administer</i> " be struck.
374	Chair Sunseri	Indicates time for input is short and recognizes last three witnesses.
TAPE 19, B		
002	Richard Meinhard	Private Citizen, testifies in favor of changes in HB 2991 (1995) (EXHIBIT D) . Indicates that schools must be accountable to parents and to the community, and that the third customer is the legislature. Notes that

		the NAEP test has an accountability factor. Supports subcommittee's move towards a research based approach but give parents a choice.
050	Julie Brandis	Indicates she represents the Association of Oregon Industries and speaks against changes to HB 2991 (1995).
064	Ozzie Rose	Indicates he represents Confederation of Oregon School Administrators and speaks against changes to HB 2991 (1995). States the need is to better prepare students who will be functioning in the next century.
091	Fallie Calder	Oregon School Board Association representative thanks the subcommittee for the opportunity to be part of the workgroup. Supports HB 2991 (1995) as it is with no changes, and points out that this spring will be the first time the new standards will be implemented, and that it is too early to judge effectiveness.
104	Tricia Bozak	Oregon Education Association representative states she is supportive of HB 2991 (1995) without changes.
120	Chair Sunseri	Thanks the workgroup for their hard work the past few weeks in recommending revisions to HB 2991 (1995) (EXHIBIT E). Adjourns hearing at 8:02 a.m.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Joan Diaz, Bryan Boehringer,

Administrative Support Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A - HB 2991 (1995), written testimony, Charles Arthur, 8 pp

B - HB 2991 (1995), written testimony, John Conroy, 4 pp

C - HB 2991 (1995), written testimony, Lowell Smith, 3 pp

D - HB 2991 (1995), written testimony, Richard Meinhard, 2 pp

E - HB 2991 (1995) (with proposed changes), written materials, staff, 34 pp