

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES

March 26, 1997 Hearing Room H-170

1:00 P.M. Tapes 58-59

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rep. Patricia Milne, Chair

Rep. Jackie Taylor, Vice-Chair

Rep. Richard Devlin

Rep. Jeff Kruse

Rep. Jane Lokan

Rep. Kitty Piercy

Rep. Steve Harper

MEMBER EXCUSED:

STAFF PRESENT:

Lori Long, Administrator

Diane M. Quinones, Administrative Support

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD: HB 2580 PUBLIC HEARING

HB 2710 PUBLIC HEARING

SCR 2 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 58, A		
001	Chair Milne	Calls the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.
002	Chair Milne	Opens a public hearing on SCR 2.
<u>SCR 2 PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
		Oregon Legislator, District 16 presents testimony in support of

003	Senator Derfler	SCR 2. * sending a message to congress that Oregon needs alternatives to the current social security program * finding a solution to social security in Oregon
036	Steve Buckstein	President, Cascade Policy Institute, submits and presents written testimony in favor of SCR 2 (EXHIBIT A).
115	Rep. Taylor	Asks about portability of social security benefits from Oregon.
118	Buckstein	* When dealing with the federal government portability is no problem. * A state plan of portability is an issue that will be researched.
126	Rep. Harper	Asks Buckstein for examples of ideas in the works.
129	Buckstein	Cascade Policy Institute has asked Randall Pozdena from the Oregon Investment Council to put together a proposed option, "the new Oregon option." * inter-generational transfer payment issues - social security is the biggest * current retirees need to stay in the system * a gradation by age would be implemented to decide how much benefit an individual could invest and how much would need to stay in the system to support current recipients * recognition bonds- partial benefits from state, partial benefits from personal investments
145	Rep. Lokan	Asks if the "new Oregon option" would be administered by the state.
148	Buckstein	* participants need choices and private options * refers to Chile's social security system and its similarity to the United States * making a new system as non political as possible * state participation is an important element
185	Rep. Lokan	Asks what the figures of social security would be had it been invested in the private sector.
		* from 1925 to today the return, inflation adjusted, has been 7 percent * currently, people are paying 11 percent into the retirement

192	Buckstein	<p>portion of social security</p> <p>* One could invest 2 percent of the retirement portion of social security in the private sector to get the benefit that the federal government pays now.</p> <p>* people pay more into social security than they get in return</p>
224	Chair Milne	Asks to have these figures made available.
230	Rep. Devlin	Asks what the rise in rates have been in terms of employer or employee contribution to social security since its inception.
230	Buckstein	Doesn't have those figures in hand.
242	Rep. Devlin	Asks if the new option that is being worked out would have an equivalent employer or employee contribution system.
245	Buck	<p>Responds affirmatively.</p> <p>* The rates that are being talked about are employer/employee contributions.</p>
290	Rep. Piercy	Asks how this works in a society, other than Chile, that has free will and does not fear its government.
300	Buckstein	<p>* Its working in Britain where they have a safety net and private retirements and in Singapore where its all private.</p> <p>* A number of counties in the United States have opted out of social security and invested in the private sector, (i.e. Texas)</p>
302	Rep. Harper	Asks about the pervasive attitude in government that individuals can't be trusted to take care of themselves.
305	Buckstein	<p>* The best way to overcome this attitude is to give people choices and see what happens.</p> <p>* People that don't want to risk can invest in insured bonds or savings accounts.</p> <p>* Those that are currently on social security will stay on it.</p> <p>* The latest estimate states that in the year 2012 there will be less payroll tax going into social security than paying out.</p> <p>* in 2029 the trust fund will be solvent</p>
370	Chair Milne	Closes the public hearing on SCR 2 and stands the meeting at ease.
375	Chair Milne	Opens a public hearing on HB 2710.
<u>HB 2710</u>		
<u>PUBLIC</u>		
<u>HEARING</u>		

362	Rep. Liz VanLeeuwen	Oregon Legislator, District 37, testifies in support of HB 2710. * explains the intent of the bill * Those that are on public assistance and purposefully deface public property do not deserve to have the rest of the population pay for their keep.
TAPE 59, A		
002	Chair Milne	Asks if the bill includes children whose family is receiving public assistance.
006	VanLeeuwen	Perhaps an amendment can be drafted to affect persons eighteen or older.
008	Chair Milne	There are a number of young people in Woodburn, whose families are on public assistance, causing damage to property.
010	Rep. VanLeeuwen	The original target was college students and people over eighteen years.
015	Rep. Piercy	Asks if the federal ruling on this kind of law is known.
018	Rep. VanLeeuwen	* Does not know the federal ruling. * If a ruling exists then Oregon will need a waiver.
023	Lori Long	* Committee Administrator, explains the conversation she had with legislative council regarding the Federal Welfare Reform Act. * The language in this bill was drafted before the federal welfare reform act. * The committee must look at the act to see if states have the authority to pass these kinds of statutes.
043	Rep. Harper	Asks about the scope of problems with property defacement.
045	Rep. VanLeeuwen	Relates a personal story of public property theft.
060	Chair Milne	Asks if it is verifiable to relate damage to gang members.
067	Rep. Taylor	Comments on the problem of assuming that people on public assistance are causing more of the problems than people who are not on assistance.
070	Rep. VanLeeuwen	This bill says that the public shouldn't be paying for the livelihood of those that are destroying property.
077	Rep. Piercy	Comments that people caught and convicted of criminal activity are already getting a consequence from the judicial system. This bill would add another level of consequences to a particular population.
086	Rep. VanLeeuwen	She had thought this bill would be referred to judiciary.

090	Rep. Kruse	This bill might act as the fine that most people on public assistance can't pay for lack of funds.
099	Rep. Devlin	Asks what percentage up to 100 percent of assistance would be withheld in the instance where a single parent has more than one child and one of those children is damaging property.
105	Rep. VanLeeuwen	* The original intent of the bill was to target people who were eighteen or older.
110	Rep. Devlin	Asks if an adult with 3 children is receiving assistance and commits damage to public property would assistance for the children be removed.
115	Rep. VanLeeuwen	* This issue would have to be drawn up by rule. * She hopes that someone raising three children wouldn't be out defacing public property.
115	Rep. Piercy	Asks about the gang member that is damaging property and the possibility that the rest of the family will suffer the consequences of losing assistance.
129	Chair Milne	* Parents must take responsibility for the actions and behavior of their children. * Strong messages must be sent to parents that are not controlling their children.
140	Rep. VanLeeuwen	Refers to a bill in session that would extend the parental responsibility of a child.
152	Rep. Piercy	Voices concern that a whole family will suffer because of one member's criminal activity.
182	Chair Milne	Would like to see more work done with the bill.
185	Rep. Taylor	Relays her personal experience with a brother who was involved in some criminal activity. If HB 2710 had been a law he would have caused her family of ten to lose assistance had they been recipients.
202	Sandy Hoback	* Administrator, Adult and Family Services (AFS), presents testimony in regards to HB 2710. * The bill is not clear as to the responsibility of AFS in regards to learning about the criminal activity of its clients. * The fiscal impact of this proposal would be around 8 million dollars to do criminal background checks of AFS clients. * The definition of "public assistance" would need to be clarified. * AFS is actively involved in the governor's work group on

		<p>strategies around juvenile crime prevention.</p> <p>* AFS did some cross matching in Lane county and found that less than 15 percent of juveniles on public assistance were involved with the juvenile justice system in any way.</p>
266	Rep. Kruse	Asks about a definition of "involved" meaning a youth has been adjudicated. Usually juveniles repeat criminal behavior before they show up in the system.
270	Hoback	* Either in the juvenile justice system or with the Oregon Youth Authority.
285	Chair Milne	Asks for the percentage of assistance recipients out of all the juveniles in the justice system.
298	Hoback	<p>* There is no state wide data base to get this information.</p> <p>* The process for retrieving this information is a county by county process.</p>
315	Hoback	<p>* Explains that by federal rule the food stamp program may be ineligible.</p> <p>* Through Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANiF) there may be a way to implement HB 2710.</p> <p>* Loosing even one individuals benefits can greatly impact a family.</p> <p>* Discusses the work attachment approach of AFS and the road blocks that HB 2710 could throw into the goals of the division.</p>
377	Rep. Piercy	Wants the bill looked at by judiciary for equal treatment under the law.
400	Chair Milne	Closes the public hearing on HB 2710.
401	Chair Milne	Opens a public hearing on HB 2580.
405	Rep. Jeff Kruse	Oregon Legislator, District 45, submits and presents written testimony in favor of HB 2580 (EXHIBIT B).
TAPE 58, B		
001	Rep. Kruse	Continues introduction of HB 2580.
100	Rep. Piercy	Asks what happens when an individual relapses while they're working to get clean.
		<p>Some people will relapse as many times as you allow them to.</p> <p>The more an individual relapses the less likely they are to become permanently sober.</p> <p>four possibilities for drug and alcohol addicted people:</p>

105	Rep. Kruse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * sobriety * jail * insanity * death
124	Rep. Piercy	<p>Asks about statistics that show that relapse is going to happen before successful sobriety takes hold.</p> <p>Asks about the possibility of giving individuals chances to begin sobriety again after relapse.</p>
134	Rep. Kruse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * An amendment is possible. * Creating too many chances for people with addictions can work against successful recovery.
141	Rep. Piercy	Asks if the committee can get information from experts in the drug and alcohol field about what is a good structure for this bill.
153	Rep. Kruse	Responds affirmatively.
168	Rep. Lokan	Asks if everyone on assistance would be tested or will this bill affect those that exhibit addictive behaviors.
178	Rep. Kruse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * This is an issue where adjustments have to be made. * Obviously not everyone on assistance has a drug or alcohol problem. * The senior population may need special circumstances.
190	Rep. Lokan	Asks about testing a person with a mental illness.
200	Rep. Harper	<p>A large portion of the population with mental illness can get clean.</p> <p>Some people may never get clean.</p> <p>The point of this bill is to reach as many people as possible.</p>
224	Rep. Devlin	Asks about the costs of providing treatment for many needy people.
230	Rep. Kruse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * There has been an institutional bias toward inpatient treatment as a more effective approach to addiction. * Out patient has been shown to be very effective and requires less institutionalization and dollars. * Cost issues are still being worked out.
255	Rep. Devlin	Asks how the 8 counties would be selected.
		* Will look at counties with more structure in place.

260	Rep. Kruse	* Working with the agency will be important.
272	Rep. Taylor	Asks about which family members receiving assistance would be tested. Asks if one family member tests positive will the rest of the family lose benefits. Asks about the costs of treatment to the state.
318	Rep. Kruse	* Will be looking at what resources each county has. * Looking at the long term costs to the state for drug and alcohol related issues may make this bill cost effective.
348	Jacqueline Zimmer	Director, Association of Area Agencies on Aging (4-A), presents concerns in regards to HB 2580 and the impact on the senior and disabled community. * incontinence is a common issue with seniors * quality of life issues, (i.e. being homebound, taking medication) * additional transportation to drug tests would pose a hardship
380	Rep. Lokan	Asks if there are a lot of seniors with alcohol or drug problems.
386	Zimmer	* Doesn't know how many seniors have drug or alcohol problems. * The concern is that this bill targets people on public assistance and 4-A serves 69,000 seniors on some sort of assistance. * Thinks that seniors and persons with disabilities should be taken out of the bill.
TAPE 59, B		
015	Chair Milne	Asks if there is an awareness of the individuals that this bill is hoping to target. Asks if the intent is to extend help rather than "catch" people involved in an addiction.
024	Zimmer	There are not a lot of programs for alcohol and drug related problems available.
030	Rep. Piercy	There are many low income and underinsured people who would take advantage of treatment if it was offered by the state. Asks for further discussion on creating avenues for people to access help.
039	Rep. Kruse	Treatment is usually the last resort that is sought by addicted individuals.

		Does not want to remove seniors from participation as some who need help wouldn't get it.
050	Long	Explains that alcohol and drug treatment is a part of the prioritized list of the Oregon Health Plan (OHP). * recipients of OHP could access some level of treatment
068	Chuck Sheketoff	Representative, Oregon Law Center, testifies in opposition to HB 2580. * believes that treatment should be available upon demand to everyone * refers to SB 1117 from last session - regarding mental health barriers for individuals becoming self sufficient * refers to HB 5049 in the Ways and Means sub committee for human resources and invites the members to attend the hearing * discusses bills that would raise the beer and wine taxes and channel the revenue to drug and alcohol programs
105	Hoback	Testifies in regards to HB 2580 and explains what AFS is doing in regards to drug and alcohol abuse. * Oregon was the first state to mandate drug and alcohol treatment as part of the JOBS program * discusses SB 1117 * screening is done during the orientation process when applicants come for Aide to Dependent Children * clients are referred to treatment and if they fail to cooperate with treatment they are subject to loss of benefits * this bill involves two divisions AFS and Senior and Disabled Services Division (SDSD) * discusses the benefit programs AFS carries that could be affected * reminds the committee that most benefit recipients hold down jobs * a state wide mandatory drug testing policy has a fiscal impact of almost 400 million dollars with \$65.40 for each comprehensive urinalysis test * discusses the food stamp program and how individuals with

		addiction disabilities get into treatment
195	Rep. Lokan	Asks if the drug screening in the JOBS program has been effective.
198	Hoback	Responds affirmatively. * Data shows placements of people receiving treatment have been as affective as those who don't need treatment.
216	Rep. Kruse	Refers to the number of people that fall through the cracks and the individuals that HB 2580 may reach.
233	Chair Milne	Closes the public hearing on HB 2580.
234	Chair Milne	Adjourns the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Diane M. Quinones, Lori A. Long,

Administrative Support Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A - SCR 2, written testimony from the Cascade Policy Institute, Buckstein, 2 pp.

B - HB 2580, Written testimony and letter in support, Kruse, 3 pp.