

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES

April 4, 1997 Hearing Room H-170

1:00 P.M. Tapes 65 -66

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 A. Long, Administrator

Diane M. Quinones, Administrative Support

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD: HB 2013 WORK SESSION

HB 3091 WORK SESSION

HB 3013 PUBLIC HEARING

HB 2713 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 65, A		
001	Chair Milne	Calls the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.
003	Chair Milne	Opens a work session on HB 2013.
<u>HB 2013</u> <u>WORK</u>		

SESSION		
005	Lori Long	Committee Administrator, notes additional testimony submitted by proponents of HB 2013 (EXHIBITS A and B) and summarizes the bill.
010	Rep. Repine	Oregon Legislator, District 49, testifies in support of HB 2013. * explains how he became the sponsor of the bill * this bill is a chance for Oregon government to partner with communities that are helping themselves * dollar amount is not an overly large amount
049	Chair Milne	Believes this bill is a perfect example of what government should be doing with its citizens.
055	Rep. Repine	This legislation is not a hand out but a hand up.
064	Rep. Kruse	MOTION: Moves HB 2013 to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation and BE REFERRED to the committee on Ways and Means by prior reference.
		VOTE: 6-0 AYE: In a roll call vote, all members present vote Aye. EXCUSED: 1 - Taylor
085	Chair Milne	The motion CARRIES.
090	Chair Milne	Closes the work session on HB 2013.
094	Chair Milne	Opens a public hearing on HB 3013.
<u>HB 3013</u> <u>PUBLIC</u> <u>HEARING</u>		
097	Emilie Boyles	Representative, Independent living Resources(ILR), submits and presents written information on the Representative Payee Program in support of HB 3013 (EXHIBIT B).
152	Rep. Lokan	Asks what is Independent Living Resources.
154	Boyles	* ILR is part of a national movement that assists individuals with disabilities to obtain maximum independence in the community. * the ILR payee program serves about 100 individuals * 400 individuals are served a month by ILR in a variety of other ways, i.e. creating the voters pamphlet in Braille * helping the newly disabled maintain independence * it is a non profit agency

165	Rep. Lokan	Asks how the representative payee works with the disabled individual.
168	Boyles	<p>* The representative payee makes sure the individual has access to food, housing, clothing and health and safety needs.</p> <p>* The payee helps a person create a budget and acquire necessary items for sustained living.</p> <p>* The system is set up so that the individual has bills paid and some spending money available.</p>
182	Rep. Lokan	Asks if the payee serves as the financial advisor.
185	Boyles	<p>It's considered a case management position.</p> <p>Individuals choose their payee.</p>
190	Rep. Harper	Refers to lines 10 and 11 of the bill referring to "misdemeanors involving dishonesty" and asks if all misdemeanors involve dishonesty.
194	Boyles	<p>Responds affirmatively.</p> <p>The spirit of lines 10 - 12 are to protect disabled clients.</p> <p>There is a small number of payees, serving under Social Security Insurance (SSI) rules who should not have the positions they have based on past criminal behavior and convictions.</p> <p>Recommends that instead of defining "dishonest," an amendment might be drafted using the Department of Human Resources's (DHR) guidelines for working with vulnerable populations.</p>
210	Chuck Sheketoff	<p>Oregon Law Center, testifies in regards to HB 3013.</p> <p>* Refers to ORS 415.050 that allows a DHR agency to set up a payee for people that are on general assistance.</p> <p>* ORS 415.050 only allows for reimbursement of expenses to the payee.</p> <p>* The statute also allows the agency to be a representative payee.</p> <p>* Perhaps the statute should be amended and not the bill.</p> <p>* Supports non compensation and believes the fees the bill proposes are too high for individuals on assistance.</p> <p>* discusses looking at time frames of past criminal convictions</p> <p>* would like to see language that has the agency help find a payee</p>

		* creating an authority for problems with payees and having a bond provision
300	Chair Milne	Asks about the process for matching a payee with a client. Asks what do most individuals do who have been ordered to acquire a representative payee.
313	Sheketoff	The agency issuing the benefits requires a payee to do the following: * discusses individuals that also have a drug and alcohol addiction and the problems this creates * the client has to find a payee * the program is for people that can't manage their funds
367	Rep. Lokan	Asks about social service agencies that provide payee referrals and screening.
373	Sheketoff	There are some social service agencies that provide referrals. * discusses the problems with dishonest payees that have their own disabilities
TAPE 66, A		
001	Sheketoff	Continues presentation.
018	Rep. Kruse	Comments on the vague language in the bill (i.e. "each agency") and asks about the possibility of re-working the bill and bringing it back.
027	Rep. Lokan	Asks if a "non profit entity" is the person selecting the payee, and is it being proposed that these individuals be bonded.
035	Boyles	SSI has a list of agencies that they have approved. Discusses how to become an approved SSI agency: * submit a request for approval * prove sound practices with 5 individuals over a period of time * agency obtains additional bonding * show that there is a process in place for locating and providing housing, food, clothing, health and safety needs Explains the process for determining the need for a representative payee.
053	Rep. Devlin	Asks if SSI compensates payees in any way.
		* Payee receives \$26 or 10 percent which ever is less.

061	Boyles	* the fees are higher for drug and alcohol
067	Chair Milne	Asks both Boyles and Sheketoff to work on possible amendments. * does not like the fee structure that the bill proposes
069	Chair Milne	Closes the work session on HB 3013.
075	Chair Milne	Opens a public hearing on HB 2713.
<u>HB 2713</u> <u>PUBLIC</u> <u>HEARING</u>		
080	Long	Summarizes and presents background on the bill.
089	Rep. VanLeeuwen	Oregon Legislator, district 37, introduces Rep. Boldt and explains how her office was contacted about the bill.
092	Rep. Mark Boldt	Washington Legislator, District 17 (Vancouver, WA), testifies in support of HB 2713. * The Washington Legislative Assembly has a similar bill that was amended into the Washington Welfare Reform Bill. * Each state is required to do something about welfare fraud. * With the federal reform bill there is a 5 year time limit on welfare recipients.
125	Rep. VanLeeuwen	Asks if the members know about a Judiciary Committee that is working on a welfare reform bill.
128	Chair Milne	* Asked Rep. Minnis if there was similar legislation to HB 2713 in the Judiciary Committee and he said no. * Talked to Rep. Sunseri and was told they are focusing on support enforcement.
140	Rep. Boldt	Will provide the committee with an updated version of the Washington legislation.
142	Rep. VanLeeuwen	The Adult and Family Services Division (AFS) has expressed concern regarding the cost and manpower requirements for implementing HB 2713.
145	Rep. Boldt	Washington's agency has said the exact same thing.
153	Rep. Devlin	Asks about costs and manpower when the bill doesn't seem to require more than a good faith effort between the states. Asks about legal Oregon immigrants being cut off from benefits and the possibility that they will be crossing the state line into Washington.
		* Washington legislators have spent a great deal of time on the legal immigrant issue.

165	Rep. Boldt	* When the bill passes, Washington will fund its legal immigrant population as if they were any other state citizen.
180	Rep. Piercy	Asks if there are models of other interstate agreements.
191	Rep. Boldt	* Washington has talked to congress and there are no such models. * About 6 years ago Washington's welfare fraud agency sent social security numbers to Portland, OR. to research duplicate payments. * There was too much welfare fraud to be handled and the pilot program was considered too successful to complete. * The only way our two states share information is by phone and correspondence.
215	Rep. Lokan	Asks about individuals changing their names.
220	Rep. Boldt	* Name change is a problem within the state as well as interstate. * Washington is working on proof of identification legislation.
250	Chair Milne	Asks how big the problem is between the states and wants to know what Washington's experience has been.
262	Rep. Boldt	* The Division says there is about 2 percent fraud. * Only one person in the Vancouver office handles fraud. * Last month there were 360 cases for that office alone. * Some of those cases are from Oregon.
285	Rep. Harper	Supports this bill.
308	Rep. Piercy	Asks for more information about the problem of welfare fraud in Oregon.
320	Chair Milne	Shares concerns about the welfare problems in Oregon compounded with the federal reform bill. * the elderly may be a population that falls through the cracks
370	Long	Will contact AFS for information on welfare tracking and fraud investigation.
390	Chair Milne	Closes the public hearing on HB 2713.
392	Chair Milne	Adjourns the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Diane M. Quinones, Lori A. Long,

Administrative Support Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A - HB 2013, written testimony in support, submitted late, Staff, 8 pp.

B - HB 2123, written testimony in support, submitted late, Staff, 2 pp.

C - HB 3013 written information on representative payee program, Boyles, 2 pp.