

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES**

**April 16, 1997 Hearing Room H-170**

**1:00 P.M. Tapes 76-77**

**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 2207 Public Hearing**

**SB 508 Public Hearing**

**HB 3657 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.**

<b>Tape/#</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>TAPE 76, A</b>		
001	Chair Milne	Calls the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.
004	Chair Milne	Opens a public hearing on HB 2207.

<b><u>HB 2207</u></b> <b><u>PUBLIC</u></b> <b><u>HEARING</u></b>		
006	Barney Speight	Administrator, Oregon Health Plan Administrator's Office, testifies in support of HB 2207 and introduces witnesses.
010	Alan Yordy	Chair, Oregon Health Council  Director, Mid Valley Health Care Lebanon Community Hospital  Chair, Oregon Hospitals and Health Systems Association, testifies in support of HB 2207.  * Oregon is a leader in the nation for having the lowest percentage of uninsured citizens.  * With the proposed expansion of the Oregon Health Plan (OHP), Oregon will move from 10.9 percent uninsured to below 9 percent.  * This bill has a disproportionate impact in the rural communities.  * HB 2207 affects working families who pay social security taxes, state and federal income taxes, Medicare taxes and who are falling through the cracks of health care coverage.
065	Speight	Explains the HB 2207-3 amendments dated 04/16/97 ( <b>EXHIBIT A</b> ).  * notes an error on page 8, line 14, involving the mistaken inclusion of the Joint Interim Task Force on the Oregon Health Plan  * submits and presents briefing points on the Family Health Insurance Assistance Program ( <b>EXHIBIT B</b> )  * Under the Governor's revised budget approximately forty two thousand nine hundred Oregonians will respond with an average per person, per month, cost of \$76.
151	Mark Gibson	Health Care Advisor, Governor's Office, testifies in support of HB 2207.  * The Governor appreciates the working relationship between the committee, state agencies and staff.  * Oregon can adequately fund this package.  * The disincentives have been removed for Oregonians on the OHP to continue working and moving up the economic ladder.  * The state has utilized the current system to the greatest possible benefit.

		* This bill creates an approach that supports business.
204	Chair Milne	Appreciates the working relationship with the OHP office and the Governor's Office.
218	Jim Gardner	Pharmaceutical Research and Manufactures of America, testifies in support of HB 2207-3.
220	Ed Patterson	Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems, testifies in support of HB 2207-3.
245	Chair Milne	Thanks Patterson for his letter of support.
248	Long	Submits written testimony from Ellen Pinney, Oregon Health Action Campaign, regarding HB 2207 ( <b>EXHIBIT C</b> ).
250	Chair Milne	Closes the public hearing on HB 2207.
260	Chair Milne	Opens a public hearing on SB 508.
<b><u>SB 508 PUBLIC HEARING</u></b>		
275	Sen. Eileen Qutub	Oregon Legislator, Senate District 4, submits and presents written testimony in support of SB 508 ( <b>EXHIBIT D</b> ).
310	Rep. Taylor	Comments that this bill places the responsibility on the pharmacists.
332	Chair Milne	Closes the public hearing on SB 508.
337	Chair Milne	Opens a public hearing on HB 3657.

**HB 3657  
PUBLIC  
HEARING**

369	Rep. Kitty Piercy	Oregon Legislator, House District 39, explains the concern she has for the mentally ill in the state and her decision that this bill was important to sponsor when she was approached for help.
382	Sheryl Peterson	Nurse Manager, Hugo Hills Residential Facility, Josephine County Mental Health, submits and presents written testimony in support of HB 3657 ( <b>EXHIBIT E</b> ).

\* amendments to this bill have been submitted to Legislative Counsel

**TAPE 77, A**

001	Peterson	Continues presentation.
025	Rep. Kruse	Asks who is taking care of people that have been relocated out of state institutions that are shutting down.
		Describes the diverse staff population in facilities located in southern Oregon.

028 Peterson \* staff holding mental health technician licenses from other states

035 Rep. Kruse \* people starting out as Certified Nurse Assistants (CNA)  
Asks about special training for people working with the mentally ill.  
\* The Oregon State Hospital has a program it puts its employees through.

038 Peterson \* any other training comes from individual facilities

043 Rep. Lokan \* no standardized training or set guidelines  
Asks if the proposed licensing would stipulate mental health training.  
The licensing requirements would combine two types of training.  
\* mental health training

048 Peterson \* nursing training  
The education requirements would mimic the programs set by other states that have this kind of license.  
\* would like to see local community colleges providing the educational requirements for becoming licensed  
Oregon Legislator, District 18, submits and presents written testimony in support of HB 3657 (**EXHIBIT F**).

112 Rep. Margaret Carter \* has done eighteen months of research in this area for the legislature  
\* the rural communities will be the real winners with the passing of this bill  
Oregon Legislator, testifies in support of HB 3657.

185 Rep. Bob Repine Two issues not addressed:  
\* cost containment in the managed care system  
\* society deserves to have skilled, safe service providers

200 Rose Hogan RN. Allied Health Department Head, Rogue Community College, submits and presents written testimony in support of HB 3657 (**EXHIBIT G**).

275 Hogan Continues presentation.

308 Rep. Taylor Comments on the importance of looking at the closures of large state facilities as opportunities to create good community-based programs that provide employment and training.

328 Rep. Harper Asks about a certificate program rather than a license program.  
Nurse Educator, Faculty Member, Rogue Community College.  
Oregon has one certificate program that is a closed book process for

people who have background or experience in the mental health field.

- 338 Susan Berg M.D. \* very difficult to pass the closed book test
- \* not proper education
- 375 Rep. Devlin Asks how the medical portion of training for becoming licensed as a Mental Health Technician compares to the education of a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN).
- \* The psychiatric mental health technician program heavily emphasizes mental health, developmental disability, alcohol and drug, and care of the abusive patient adding up to approximately two hundred sixteen hours of mental health education.
- 380 Berg
- \* The LPN program has only 24 hours of abnormal and normal mental health education.
- 410 Rep. Devlin Asks for more information about how the medical training compares between a licensed mental health technician and an LPN.
- TAPE 76, B**
- The nursing skills educational portion of the mental health technician program consists of :
- 003 Berg
- \* basic nursing skills that a CNA might receive
- \* medication administration
- 011 Rep. Devlin Asks if there has been discussion and proposals to other community colleges throughout the state to be involved in providing education.
- \* Portland Community College has been involved in a few discussions and supports the mental health technician program.
- 017 Berg
- \* No other community colleges besides Rogue Community College and Portland Community College has been involved in discussions.
- Crisis Respite Program Manager, Josephine County, submits and presents written testimony in support of HB 3657 (**EXHIBIT I**).
- 020 Marilane Jorgenson
- \* discusses gaps in provider skills between CNAs, Qualified Mental Health Specialists, Registered Nurses, and those with Associate degrees
- \* the mental health technician would fill in the skill gaps
- \* concerned for families, communities, disabled clients
- 079 Rep. Taylor Asks about the medication training of a CNA.
- CNAs have no training in medication administration.
- 082 Jorgenson
- Certified Medication Assistants only have forty hours of training and must still have an RN delegate and assign their responsibilities.
- \* CNA is entry-level, basic nursing skills

100 Berg \* certified medication aid has CNA training and an additional forty hours of education learning how to safely administer medication  
 \* Mental health technicians fill the gap between a CNA and a RN with the emphasis on mental health.

120 Rep. Harper Asks about the course work that CNAs, LPNs, or Psychiatric Nurses receive.

125 Berg \* Long term care facilities train their own CNAs.  
 \* The Board of Nursing governs CNAs.

138 Hogan \* As of January 1, 1997 the basic CNA course is one hundred and sixty hours.

145 Berg LPN education is approximately a two-year program.

150 Rep. Harper Asks about the length of the mental health technician training program.

152 Berg Approximately eighteen months.  
 President, Rogue Community College, testifies in support of HB 3657.

155 Harvey Bennet \* Rogue Community College is prepared to deal with the educational requirements of the bill.

184 Rep. Devlin Asks whether the community college is going to be able to implement this program within their current budget or will additional state dollars be needed.  
 \* Until the college has fifteen full-time students there will be no state reimbursement.  
 \* Tuition represents twenty percent of the average cost of a program.

193 Bennet \* The college is not asking the committee for funding.  
 \* The college will use current resources to fund this program by moving dollars around.  
 \* The largest expenditure will be for staff.

214 Rep. Devlin Asks if college programs will be prioritized to implement this program.

223 Bennet Responds affirmatively.

227 Chair Milne Asks how long the program will take to put in place and how many students are anticipated to participate.  
 \* The program could be implemented within a year.

230 Bennet \* The program would start with between ten and fifteen students.

246 Berg Faculty Sponsor for the Mental Health Technician Program, Rogue Community College Nursing Department, submits and presents written testimony in support of HB 3657 and in response to opposition concerns **(EXHIBIT H)**.

001 Berg Continues presentation.

014 Rep. Devlin Asks if the Board of Nursing will be the permanent governing board of the licensed Mental Health Technician.

018 Berg The Board of Nursing is the most logical governing board for this program.

030 Rep. Piercy Asks about concerns that the medical aspect of this program isn't strong enough.

035 Berg The medical aspects of this program go beyond the scope of a CNA, however, CNAs are the main care providers currently.  
Oregon Nurses Association, submits and presents written testimony in opposition to HB 3657 (**EXHIBIT J**).

What needs to happen:

050 Susan King  
\* take a look at the needs of the population  
\* the amount of money that can be devoted to another license provider  
\* which individuals will be attracted to this position  
\* engage in careful dialogue about whether this approach would be best

172 Rep. Lokan Asks about the statement that there has not been serious dialogue regarding the care of the mentally ill.

178 King There has not been enough dialogue between the nursing profession, behavioral health community and the educators.  
\* Believes that the industry is now recognizing the needs of the mentally ill.

190 Rep. Lokan  
\* Supports individuals that are drawn to this profession and would like to see any possible education that benefits mental health care givers become available.  
Asks about the percentage of people training for an LPN license that indicate interest in psychiatric nursing.  
\* There is not sufficient data to answer that question.

215 King  
\* There is a high turnover within the professionals that care for the mentally ill.

227 Rep. Lokan Concerned about the need to continue studying an issue that should have already been dealt with.

260 Brian Delashmutt Represents, Oregon Nursing Association, submits written testimony on behalf of John McCulley, Oregon Psychiatric Association (**EXHIBIT K**) and testifies that studying the issue is best done at the beginning of a proposal where all sides can be a part of the process.  
Testifies in regards to HB 3657 and speaks to the concerns of licensing.

- \* licensing limits accessibility to the profession
  - \* licensing increases costs of services
- 295 Patterson \* licensing increases the costs to the people that are studying to become licensed
- \* offering a certificate program would be a better way to serve the providers seeking additional education  
Mental Health Developmental Disabilities Services Division, testifies in regards to HB 3657.
- \* has a concern about recruitment and retention of mental health technicians
- 412 Barry Kast \* wants to sit down with proponents and discuss goals for treating the mentally ill
- \* the bill is not permissive, it is a requirement
- \* potential costs of the creation of a new license program and a new scope of practice
- 420 Chair Milne Sees value in all interested parties meeting to discuss a consensus.  
Representative, Association of Community Mental Health Programs, testifies in regards to HB 3657.
- 426 Mike McCracken \* will meet with proponents to discuss possible amendments
- 458 Lori Long Committee Administrator, submits additional testimony regarding HB 3657 (**EXHIBIT L**).
- 460 Chair Milne Closes the public hearing on HB 3657.
- 462 Chair Milne Adjourns the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Diane M. Quinones, Lori A. Long,

Administrative Support Administrator

**EXHIBIT SUMMARY**

**A - HB 2207, Family Health Insurance Briefing Points, Speight, 3 pp.**

**B - HB 2207, -3 amendments dated 4/16/97, Staff, 8 pp.**

**C - HB 2207, written testimony of Ellen Pinney, Staff, 1 p.**

**D - SB 508, written testimony from the AARP Pharmacy Service, Sen. Qutub, 4 pp.**

**E - HB 3657, written testimony, Peterson, 2 pp.**

**F - HB 3657, written statement in support, Rep. Carter, 2 pp.**

**G - HB 3657, written testimony, Hogan, 1 p.**

**H - HB 3657, written testimony, Berg, 2 pp.**

**I - HB 3657, written testimony, Jorgenson, 2 pp.**

**J - HB 3657, written testimony in opposition, King, 2 pp.**

**K - HB 3657, written testimony of John McCulley, Delashmutt, 1 p.**

**L - HB 3657, letters and information submitted by staff, 16 pp.**