

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ELECTIONS

March 3, 1997 Hearing Room E

3:30 P.M. Tapes 13 - 14

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rep. Lynn Snodgrass, Chair

Rep. Peter Courtney, Vice-Chair

Rep. Bill Markham

Rep. Ken Messerle

Rep. Bob Montgomery

Rep. Kitty Piercy

MEMBER EXCUSED:

Rep. Lee Beyer

STAFF PRESENT:

Rosemary Wood, Administrator

Valerie Luhr, Administrative Support

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:

HCR 24 Public Hearing and Work Session

HJR 13 Public Hearing

HJR 35 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 13, A		
005	Chair Snodgrass	Calls the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m. Opens the public hearing on HCR 24.
<u>HCR 24 - PUBLIC</u>		

<u>HEARING</u>		
012	Rosemary Wood	Committee Administrator, reviews the provisions of the measure.
021	Rep. Carolyn Oakley	State Representative, House District 36, comments in support of HCR 24.
040	Chair Snodgrass	Closes the public hearing on HCR 24, and opens the works session on HCR 24.
<u>HCR 24 - WORK SESSION</u>		
043	Rep. Markham	MOTION: Moves HCR 24 to be sent to the floor with a BE ADOPTED recommendation
047	Rep. Piercy	Does not support changing the constitution to achieve a balanced budget.
		VOTE: 5-1 NAY: 1 - Piercy EXCUSED: 1 - Beyer
	Chair Snodgrass	The motion CARRIES. REP. OAKLEY will lead discussion on the floor.
066	Chair Snodgrass	Closes work session on HCR 24, and opens public hearing on HJR 13
<u>HJR 13 - PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
069	Wood	Reviews provisions of the measure.
080	Rep. Markham	Asks for clarification of the length of term limits.
101	Rep. Ken Strobeck	State Representative, District 6. Testifies regarding the provisions of term limits
115	Rep. Markham	Asks if someone could be elected twice, but cannot go for the third term.
125	Rep. Strobeck	Says old law prohibits someone from filing for office if serving would put the person beyond term limits. Testifies in support of HJR 13.
170	Chair Snodgrass	Asks about Section 19, Subsection 8, Testifies about when a law would take effect.
178	Rep. Strobeck	The blank allows for a transition.
190	Chair Snodgrass	Asks if intent is to go back to the 1992 law or start from this time forward.
193	Rep. Strobeck	Explains who would be affected.

194	Rep. Montgomery	Asks if the Superintendent of Education, Bureau of Labor and Industries, and Attorney General are now under eight-year terms.
196	Rep. Strobeck	Replies other statewide offices are under eight-year terms.
199	Rep. Montgomery	Asks about lines 23 and 24, are they limiting those three positions to eight- year terms.
210	Rep. Strobeck	Testifies it does say for statewide office the term limit would be eight years.
219	Dianna McCoy	Representing AFSCME Council 75. Submits and presents testimony [EXHIBIT A] in support of HJR 13.
240	Chair Snodgrass	Asks Rep. VanLeeuwen if she would like to testify.
243	Rep. Liz VanLeeuwen	State Representative. Submits and summarizes legislative drafts [EXHIBIT B] dealing with term limits.
279	Chair Snodgrass	Closes the public hearing on HJR 13. Opens the public hearing on HJR 35.
<u>HJR 35 - PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
288	Speaker Lynn Lundquist	Speaker of the House and State Representative, House District 59. Comments on the importance of the House Rules and Elections Committee.
305	Speaker Lundquist	Begins testimony in support of HJR 35.
355	Speaker Lundquist	Continues testimony.
<u>TAPE 14, A</u>		
005	Speaker Lundquist	Continues testimony. Important to continue citizen legislature.
012	Rep. Piercy	Asks Speaker Lundquist if his bill has the same provisions as Rep. Strobeck's bill.
016	Rep. Lundquist	Yes, the provisions are the same.
028	Chair Snodgrass	States Dianna McCoy's earlier testimony also applies to HJR 35.
032	Bill Sizemore	Oregon Tax Payers United, comments on a ballot measure in 1992. Terms limits have their up and down sides. His organization has done extensive national polling. Comments on the results of the polls. Says the people want a citizen legislature.
069	Sizemore	Testifies in opposition to HJR 35. Term limits on the wane. Cannot counter the arguments. Term limits do not do well in low-voter-turnout elections. Some people think term limits are undemocratic.
092		States will oppose both measures on the agenda today pertaining to

		term limits. Comments on a measure already passed.
109	Rep. Markham	Asks what it would take to make HJR 35 and HJR 13 acceptable.
111	Sizemore	Replies when it comes to terms limits there is concern with complexity of a political system and not enough time to develop experience.
131	Rep. Markham	Asks when does it go too far.
132	Sizemore	Responds. After 12 years in public office--losing touch with the public.
145	Rep. Markham	Says he has more concern for his constituents the longer he serves.
155	Rep. Piercy	States she respects peoples' right to vote for whomever they want even if she disagrees with the candidate.
166	Chair Snodgrass	Asks if 12 years is too much, what is enough.
173	Sizemore	Says if he was writing the term limits, eight years in the Senate or the House; but twelve years total.
192	Chair Snodgrass	Asks what different combination of terms could be served, and if four terms could be served in the house.
	Sizemore	Replies that terms could be done in any order, but no one would serve more than eight years in any body.
200	Chair Snodgrass	Ask how ten years would work in the House--five terms.
	Sizemore	Says ten years in the House is too long. Explains.
225	David Buchanan	Executive Director, Oregon Common Cause. Is in agreement with the testimony of the first four people who testified. On page 1, lines 6 and 7, first three clauses are not factually objective. Suggests how to amend HJR 35. Is in favor of either HJR 13 or HJR 35.
257	Chair Snodgrass	Closes the public hearing on HJR 35. Declares the meeting adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

Submitted by, Reviewed by,

Valerie H. Luhr Rosemary Wood

Administrative Support Specialist Administrator

Transcribed by,

Erik Deitz

Committee Clerk

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A - HJR 13 and HJR 35, Written Testimony, Dianna McCoy, 1 p.

B - HJR 13, LC Draft, Rep. Liz VanLeeuwan, 3 pp.