

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ELECTIONS

May 2, 1997 Hearing Room E

3 P.M. Tapes 55

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rep. Lynn Snodgrass, Chair

Rep. Lee Beyer

Rep. Ken Messerle

Rep. Kitty Piercy

MEMBER EXCUSED:

Rep. Peter Courtney

Rep. Bill Markham

Rep. Bob Montgomery

STAFF PRESENT:

Rosemary Wood, Administrator

Valerie Luhr, Administrative Support

Kellie Shoemaker, Committee Clerk

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:

HB 3086 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 55, A		
001	Chair Snodgrass	Chair calls the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. There will not be a work session on HB 2480. Opens public hearing HB 3086
<u>HB 3086 - PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
	Rosemary	Committee Administrator, reviews the provisions of HB 3086-6

008	Wood	amendments [EXHIBIT A].
022	Chair Snodgrass	The biggest change in -6 amendments are on page six, sub-section 13 and 14. The amendments came from the Multnomah County clerk with assistance from all county clerks.
031	Rep. Beyer	Asks about the window for ballots being cast.
035	Wood	States will have to check on the -6.
037	Chair Snodgrass	Refers to page three of -1 and -2 amendments for the "window difference", is on page three on -6 [EXHIBIT A] also. Says will be willing to have more discussion on the window issue.
052	Rick Hanson	Office of Secretary of State, you are asking about the mailing window in the -6 amendments; refers to page 3, line 3 through line 11. The -6 amendments do not change the mailing window.
060	Rep. Beyer	Does this narrow the window?
062	Hanson	Does not change existing laws; discusses procedures Secretary of State's Office must follow.
071	Rep. Beyer	Is there any reason why we would not want to make it standard in all 36 counties as to the day all ballots go out.
079	Hanson	That is what the Secretary of State wants. Discusses absentee ballots mailing window which is at the discretion of the County Clerk. The current bill is different because it is vote-by-mail and it not referring to absentee ballots.
096	Rep. Beyer	You believe the Secretary of State would have the authority to make the mailing window standard.
099	Hanson	Line 10 requires the Secretary of State to set the window.
101	Chair Snodgrass	Page three of the -2 amendments move the window a week earlier, then eliminates the Secretary of State from specifying a particular date, does not understand the need for the change.
110	Hanson	Secretary of State does not know either, doesn't know who proposed that amendment.
111	Chair Snodgrass	Would the Secretary of State object to moving the time element a week earlier?
113	Hanson	The Secretary of State would not be interested in having ballots mailed out 4 weeks in advance. The cut off for voter registration is the 21st day. Addresses registration issues.
127	Chair Snodgrass	Asks Hanson about the -6 amendments proposed by Multnomah County Clerk.
133	Hanson	The Secretary of State has no problems with this change.
137	Rep. Piercy	Asks if the Secretary of State has any thoughts about intimidation and coercion issues, education campaign.
152	Hanson	Refers to -6 amendments, page 9, section 7. Public information campaign would be fairly easy for the Secretary of State to conduct.
172	Chair	The actual issue is how to be protected in a vote by mail situation.

	Snodgrass	
177	Rep. Piercy	Need to let people know that we recognize that this is an issue they have to deal with and make some suggestions on how to deal with it
182	Chair Snodgrass	A simple statement?
187	Rep. Beyer	Two things we should do and we could do. * statement on the ballot about voting fraud being a felony, coercion is a felony * there should be a statement on the cover of the voter's pamphlet
202	Chair Snodgrass	Asks Rep. Beyer if he thinks a group voting situation could be attempted coercion.
203	Rep. Beyer	No, but it could be.
210	Rep. Piercy	Suggests not using the word "coercion" because is a difficult word to understand.
215	Rep. Messerle	Gives an example of a group being a situation that attempted to influence voting.
218	Chair Snodgrass	Agrees. Gives another example.
230	Rep. Piercy	Could see herself in that type of situation. Could see situation where everyone has a particular perspective; but also sees other situation. Doesn't know how you would control it.
240	Rep. Messerle	Okay to discuss the issues, but don't fill out the ballot.
245	Hanson	Refers to page 9, lines 6 through 9, had experience with the issues in designing voter registration cards.
260	Chair Snodgrass	Closes the public hearing on HB 3086. Declares the meeting adjourned at 3:34 p.m.

Submitted by, Reviewed by,

Valerie H. Luhr Rosemary Wood

Administrative Support Specialist Administrator

Transcribed by,

Kellie Shoemaker

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A - HB 3086, - 6 amendments, staff, 10 pp.