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SENATE COMMITTEE ON PARKS

March 13, 1997 Hearing Room 137

3:00 PM Tapes 24 - 25

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Bill Dwyer, Chair

Sen. Verne Duncan

MEMBER EXCUSED:

Sen. Gary George

Sen. Joan Dukes

Sen. Veral Tarno

STAFF PRESENT:

Glen Stonebrink, Administrator

Brad Harper, Administrative Support

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:

Informational Meeting: Funding Sources

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 24, A		
005	Chair Dwyer	Convenes meeting at 3:10 PM. Due to the absence of Senators Dukes, George, and Tarno, the committee lacks a quorum and meets as a subcommittee.
<u>INFORMATIONAL MEETING: FUNDING SOURCES</u>		
017	Rep. Randall Edwards	State Representative for District 15. Submits proposed legislation for parks funding (EXHIBIT A). Discussion of issuing approximately \$30 million in bonds. Those bonds would be funded at approximately \$3 million annually with dedicated lottery proceeds.
080	Chair Dwyer	Question regarding method of issuing bonds.
094	Rep. Edwards	Bonds should be issued in no less than \$10 million increments.
110	Chair Dwyer	Supports Rep. Edwards' proposal.
121	Sen. Duncan	Comments
133	Robert Meinen	Director of Oregon State Parks & Recreation Department (OPRD). Supports Rep. Edwards' bond proposal.
157	Chair Dwyer	Question regarding how long \$30 million would fund parks.
160	Meinen	Would split \$30 million bond issuance over two bienniums, with a \$15 million sale during each of those two bieniuums.
176	Bob Clausen	State Director of Good Sams Recreational Vehicle Club of Oregon. Opposed to increases in recreational vehicle license fees. Proposes increase in gasoline tax increase.
205	Chair Dwyer	That proposal requires a constitutional amendment which is not possible this session.
214	Clausen	Proposes increase in beverage container deposits.
220	Chair Dwyer	Comment
225	Clausen	Response
233	Chair Dwyer	Supports idea, but notes there is little support in leadership.
238	Clausen	Discussion of deposit proposal.
242	Chair Dwyer	Comment regarding proposal to collect unclaimed bottle deposits.

258	Sen. Duncan	Many bottles are carried out of state and unclaimed.
261	Chair Dwyer	Further discussion of unclaimed bottle deposits.
274	Clausen	Supports proposal.
278	Chair Dwyer	Revenue could be as great as \$12 million, but adequate if only \$4 million.
288	Clausen	Discussion of proposal to tax 10% of campaign funds.
325	Chair Dwyer	Does not believe the proposal is feasible.
334	Clausen	Further discussion of proposal.
342	Chair Dwyer	Discussion of constitutional obstacles and more feasible proposals.
364	Clausen	Discussion of proposal to license all utility trailers under 1,800 pounds.
390	Chair Dwyer	Comment
393	Clausen	Discussion of check-off box on state income tax returns.
405	Chair Dwyer	Question regarding stability of funding source.
TAPE 25, A		
024	Sen. Duncan	Discussion of check-off provisions.
029	Chair Dwyer	Explanation of applicable requirements to list check-off options on income tax returns.
040	Clausen	Proposal to support OPRD directly from general fund.
055	Chair Dwyer	Will explore proposal.
068	Clausen	Discussion of increase in recreational vehicle license fees. Does not support increase of fees based on nationwide survey. Encourages broad based support for parks. Requests acknowledgment that recreational vehicle users currently raise more than their fair share of parks revenue. Discussion of discounts for Good Sam members.
128	Chair Dwyer	Comment regarding need to raise money, not spend more.
132	Clausen	Further discussion of fee increases.
140	Gerald George	Gresham citizen. Comments on fund raising proposals.
165	Chair Dwyer	Comment
168	Sen. Duncan	Clarification of funding options.
171	George	Submits written testimony regarding SB 377 (EXHIBIT B).
173	Chair Dwyer	Accepts testimony, but notes that committee will hold public hearing on SB 377 at a later date when a quorum is present.
182	Chuck "Grandpa" Fields	Representing Bollinger Travel Homes. Discussion of parks funding problems. Opposed to increasing recreational vehicle licensing fees - warns of diminishing returns.

		Supports decreasing fees.
300	Fields	Further discussion of recreational vehicle registration fees. Average income of recreational vehicle users less than \$30,000, but they contribute 65% of OPRD revenue.
370	Frank Labombard	Representing Poke-About-Sams. Discussion of park funding issues and alternatives to OPRD campsites.
TAPE 24, B		
027	Sen. Duncan	Question to clarify classification of parks based on those which generate revenue and those which do not.
037	Chair Dwyer	Comment regarding danger of only keeping profitable parks open. Revenue generating parks must subsidize those parks which operate at a loss. Discussion of diminishing returns concept.
063	Labombard	Question regarding need for increased license fees.
072	Chair Dwyer	Discussion of committee agenda and legislative obstacles.
088	Sen. Duncan	Comment regarding committee's support for OPRD.
095	Chair Dwyer	Chair adjourns meeting at 4:10 PM.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Brad Harper Glen Stonebrink

Administrative Assistant Administrator

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EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A - HB 3586, written materials, Rep. Randall Edwards, 2 pp.

B - SB 377, written testimony, Gerald George, 1p.