

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Hearing Room 8:30 AM Tapes - 14

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. John Meek, Chair Rep. Judith Uherbelau, Vice-Chair Rep. George Eighmey Rep. Bill Fisher Rep. Patti Milne Rep. Kitty Pi

STAFF PRESENT: Tom Mann, Committee Administrator Pamela Berger, Committee Assistant

MEASURES HEARD: HCR1 - Public Hearing HB 2029 - Public Hearing

These minutes contain materials which paraphrase and/or summarize statements made during this session. Only text enclosed in quotation mark report a speaker's exact words. For complete contents of the proceedings, please refer to the tapes.

TAPE , A

005 CHAIR MEEK: Calls the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. -announces that HB 2304 will be postponed -refers to article regarding CASA pro HCR1 - Public Hearing

TOM MANN: Briefs members on HCR1

030 CHUCK SHEKETOFF, LEGAL AID: Testifies in support of HCR1, although opposes language under paragraph 2, line 16 urging that money be

090 FISHER: Comments about national debt; how do you propose helping them from going into further debt? Any consideration about the JOB

SHEKETOFF: Discusses discretionary cuts -Oregon option; rising child care costs -economy

CHAIR MEEK: Responds to Sheketoff's suggestions

165 PIERCY: Is the intent of a block grant to lower the national debt?

CHAIR MEEK: No, it is to allow more flexibility

176 EIGHMEY: Specific meaning to "block grant" which means lump sum of money -would like language "federal monies to the states in such

FISHER: Agrees with Eighmey -refers to study on recidivism done during last session; medical services and child care

MEEK: Suggested language

244 FISHER: Comments that if gap is too wide, we set program up for failure -staff will work on language

HB 2029 - Public Hearing

266 TIMOTHY TRAVIS, OREGON PROJECT: Submits and reads written testimony in favor of HB 2029, with a couple of exceptions (EXHIBIT B) 25

TAPE 12, SIDE A

-don't want people going on a CSD fishing expedition to obtain information for divorce cases 025-in response to Eighmey, information needs i

EIGHMEY: Would you like restrictions placed on accessibility to information?

TRAVIS: Responds by reading ORS 419.

065 UHERBELAU: Disclosure -access to information about the care of the child is important

TRAVIS: Caretakers need information -private information needs to be respected also, for the safety of the child

FISHER: Comments

100 TRAVIS: We look to relatives as caretakers, first upon the removal from

the home and second when it has been determined that the parents aren't capable of caring for the child and a permanent or semi-permanent pl is necessary

130 UHERBELAU: Refers to testimony from CSD at 1/26 meeting that they already consider placing child in care of relatives

TRAVIS: Feels that this is an uneven performance throughout the state -although it is in CSD's administrative rules, feels that it should al in statute

EIGHMEY: There is unevenness within the counties also -concerned about "permanent" terminology -"temporary" terminology - what do you think

TRAVIS: Agrees -suggests expanding the definition of relatives; don't limit it

208 PIERCY: Refers to CSD's testimony at 1/26 hearing

TRAVIS: Social experiment -in response to Piercy, not saying that CSD is against open adoption

SNODGRASS: Line 27, page 1; which has more weight

TRAVIS: (d) and (e) are designed for two entirely different cases

SNODGRASS: Then we don't need the language "and/or"

PIERCY: Concerned about "most likely" might not be the best relative -- would like to see that language changed

TRAVIS: Choosing among relatives; balance

UHERBELAU: Concerned about conflict with language in (d)

TRAVIS: Prefers language in bill

EIGHMEY: Prefers to keep provision in the bill

TRAVIS: Protection from direct contact; grandparents working on child's concept of reality

UHERBELAU: Allegations; concerns

TRAVIS: Responds to Meek that "party" is defined in statute

TAPE 11, SIDE B

MEEK: Further possible language changes

TRAVIS: Responds

051 EIGHMEY: (b) is also a concern

UHERBELAU: Agrees

SNODGRASS: Why was language put in there is the first place

MEEK: You will hear more about that later

FISHER: Tells of his wife's placement as a small child after the death of her mother; took 25 years before she found out about her relative

TRAVIS: There is no language in this bill that would address that issue; could be a different bill, willing to talk about that with you at

105 VELMA HARTWIG: Submits and reads written testimony in favor of HB 2029 (EXHIBIT C) -false allegations -child abuse has become big b

225 DIANE WALTON, STATE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES: Testifies on HB 2029; policy statement -thinks that Travis brought up vali

250 MARK HILL, FORMER CSD WORKER: Submits and reads written testimony in favor of HB 2029 (EXHIBIT D) -feels that extended families are

TAPE 12, SIDE B

UHERBELAU: Would like study results from New Zealand

HILL: Responds

040 LAWRENCE GRIFFITH: Testifies on HB 2029 from an adoptive foster parent's perspective -need to encourage relative placement and adop

150 NANCY MILLER, CITIZENS REVIEW BOARD: Testifies on HB 2029 -there is policy in place to do what this bill is asking -there is also f

231 BARBARA MOSS: Submits and reads written testimony in support of HB 2029

(EXHIBIT E) -her 10 year old grandchild was beaten by the father and at first CSD would

not respond -child is now in a vegetative state in a nursing home, under CSD care

270 DARLENE DEARDORFF: Submits and reads letter from Vay Koyama, a grandmother (EXHIBIT F)

380 MICHAEL LINICK: Submits and reads written testimony in favor of HB 2029

(EXHIBIT G) with some suggested revisions

TAPE 13, SIDE A

105 -in response to Uherbelau, clarifies about suggested revisions on page 2

Section 3 Exhibit G 140 -in response to Milne, you cannot "will" a child in the case of parental

death because they are not a piece of property, although court would strongly look at the parents' wishes listed within a will

EIGHMEY: Agrees, the court looks out for the best interest of the child -balance consideration of parents wishes with best interest of chil

241 UHERBELAU: Comments about wills

330 DARLENE DEARDORFF: Submits and summarizes written testimony in favor of

HB 2029 (EXHIBIT H)

TAPE 14, SIDE A

-submits further information regarding her grandson's situation (EXHIBIT I)

052 FLORENCE BROWN: Refers to testimony she submitted at 1/26 hearing -submits and reads testimony regarding her god granddaughter, Sh

125 MICHELLE LYNN TARRANT: Submits and reads written testimony (EXHIBIT J)

MEEK: Points out that HB 2029 will not resolve her particular situation

EIGHMEY: Points out that no legislation will solve everybody's problems; will not resolve conflicts between people

222 CARLA RAFFAELE: Submits and reads written testimony in favor of HB 2029

(EXHIBIT M)

365 CLAUDE DELL: Submits and reads written testimony, and additional information, in favor of HB 2029 (EXHIBIT L)

TAPE 13, SIDE B

030 AMANDA MANLEY, GRANDPARENT: Submits and reads written testimony in favor of HB 2029 (EXHIBIT N)

132 TOM BOONE: Testifies in support of HB 2029 -CSD has not complied with their rules to place children with relatives -talks about the

UHERBELAU: CSD does not have immunity against perjury under the court of law

EIGHMEY: Talks about immunity for CSD workers

231 NANCY SIMMONS, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE: Submits and reads written testimony in opposition to HB 2029 (EXHIBIT O) -doesn't feel that b

313 CHAIR MEEK: Adjourns the hearing at 11:45 a.m.

Submitted by, Reviewed by,

Pamela Berger Tom Mann Committee Assistant Committee Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY:

A - CASA article - staff - 1 p B - HB 2029 - Testimony - Travis - 2 pp C - HB 2029 - Testimony - Hartwig - 3 pp D - HB 2029 - Testimony - Hi