

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
HUMAN RESOURCES AND EDUCATION

April 12, 1995 Hearing Room
5:00 p.m.

Tapes 78 - 79

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rep. Dennis Luke, Chair
Rep. Frank Shields, Vice-Chair
Rep. Bill Fisher
Rep. Mike Lehman
Rep. Patti Milne
Rep. Barbara Ross
Rep. Charles Starr
Rep. Terry Thompson
Rep. Sharon Wylie

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Rep. John Meek
Rep. Lynn Snodgrass

STAFF PRESENT:

Jan McComb, Committee Administrator
Tom Mann, Committee Administrator
Shelley Jones, Committee Assistant

MEASURES HEARD:

HB 2990 Informational Hearing
HB 2051 Public Hearing & Work Session

These minutes contain materials which paraphrase and/or summarize statements made during this session. Only text enclosed in quotation marks

report a speaker's exact words. For complete contents of the proceedings, please refer to the tapes.

TAPE , SIDE A

010 CHAIR LUKE: Calls meeting to order at 5:08 p.m.

015 MILDRED GIBBENS, WILLAMETTE CHAPTER, OREGON COUNCIL OF THE BLIND:
Submits written testimony. (EXHIBIT A)
-Request to wait until later in the meeting to do presentation.

018 KAREN BRAZEAU, OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION: Reviews proposal for relocation, renovation, remodeling or new construction fact sheet, and budget comparisons for Oregon School for the Blind (OSB), Oregon School for

the Deaf, (OSD). (EXHIBIT B)

034 -Both programs (OSB) and (OSD) would be better served in a consolidated facility.

046 -Decline in enrollment at the School for the Deaf over the years.

056 -By combining certain non-educational programs and services such as food service and maintenance, the projected savings is estimated to be around \$1.1 million per biennium.

063 -Reviews proposal for the facilities for relocation and remodeling. Plan for 1993 was to combine at the School for the Deaf facility, with common shared services but separate schools.

078 LUKE: What is the cost per student for OSB and OSD?

080 CHRIS DURHAM, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION: Approximately \$45,000 per year at both schools.

135 MAUREEN OTIS, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION: Responds on the number of students in special placement or short term enrollment. The summer program

has a greater demand, up to about 150 students. All funding is donated funds, no state funds are used on the summer program.

189 LUKE: What is the estimated savings of consolidating and renovating.

200 BRAZEAU: The estimated savings is between \$1 and \$1.5 million per biennium.

235 LUKE: Are all the current students residents, or day school attendees.

270 LEHMAN: Does any staff provide services to both schools.

310 THOMPSON: Asked about the original records dated 1881 and the deed from

1883 from Mr. Bush that states that the property has to be used and it should never be able to be sold off. Submits background information on the issue for committee members to review. (EXHIBIT C)

353 -Has concerns that the original intent of the bequest will not be followed.

390 REP. MANNIX: Testifies and supports renovating and maintaining both facilities.

TAPE 79, SIDE A

050 -The land is in central Salem, and should be maintained under State ownership.

-If a program is successful, than the strategy should be to maintain it, including maintaining the operating facilities.

-Expanding utilization of facilities.

-Challenge this legislature to come up with funds to renovate and utilize it more efficiently.

080 JACQUILINE ZIMMER, SALEM CITY COUNCIL: Introduces letter from City Council subcommittee in opposition to HB 2990. (EXHIBIT D)

110 -Must factor in improving infrastructure beyond building improvements, such as streets, sidewalks.

158 REP. BRYAN JOHNSON: This matter is not one which we should try to resolve in the remaining days of this session; needs continued investigation of the merits.

185 REP. MANNIX: Given the current circumstances, things should remain as they are, and possibly referred to the Capital Planning Commission to review the issue of not only the School

for the Blind, School for the Deaf, but other state facilities. There should be a comprehensive plan for state facilities within the Salem area.

230 MILDRED GIBBENS: Reviews written testimony with committee. (EXHIBIT A)

275 -The building and on going maintenance has been largely supported from funding from the community, not state support.

340 -Students face societal problems from life of neglect, and lack of attention to "readiness for learning"

420 -The School for the Blind is centrally located and close to the hospital.

TAPE 78, SIDE B

030 CHARLES WOODCOCK, FORMER ADMINISTRATOR, SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND: Worked as

the Director of the School for the Blind for over 12 years, with over 35 years experience and working with students who are blind.

075 -Has served as an expert witness for the placement of schools in other states and internationally.

-Location and citing is important to help in the learning experience, the current school is centrally located in the community.

110 -Recalls that the previous cost estimates was \$7.1 million, not including design and architect fees.

-Students can go from the campus to local shops and learn more skills by

living in a city or urban setting, rather than a secluded county setting or campus.

183 THOMPSON: Asked about the history of the school and the administrator.
210 -Points out the original contract designates that it was to be used for "charitable use"

260 CARLA MCQUILLEN, NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND: Provides a historical perspective of Legislative action and discussions on bringing the school up to safety and ADA standards.

290 -The relocation or building of a new facility was to improve it, and expand it to accommodate more students. This discussion has been occurring since 1972.

320 -If it seems feasible to put money into the current facility, consolidating with and relocated with the School for the Deaf, or moving the current location, are all fine options; but a permanent decision should be made.

370 LUKE: Comments on touring the building and observations that new equipment is needed.

405 -Long range plan needs to be developed for each facility.

McCOMB: Staff submits testimony from HIGHLAND NEIGHB ORHOOD ASSOCIATION: (EXHIBIT G)

415 MILNE: Ask is there is any kind of study that has been done that can provide further information.

TAPE 79, SIDE B

HB 2051 PUBLIC HEARING

030 McCOMB: Submits staff measure summary, fiscal and revenue impact. (EXHIBIT E)

040 LYNN SCHOESSLER, HOUSING & COMMUNITY SERVICES: Explains the program to the committee. (EXHIBIT H)

070 GARY VANHORN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, DIVISION OF STATE LANDS: Submits and reviews testimony with committee and explains the departments involvement. (EXHIBIT F)

120 LUKE: If the interest rate is 1%, how are the loans secured.

HB 2051 WORK SESSION

MOTION: REP. SHIELDS: Moves HB 2051 to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation.

VOTE: In a roll call vote all members present vote AYE. REP. LEHMAN, MEEK, SNODGRASS are excused.

CHAIR LUKE: The motion CARRIES. REP. SHIELDS will carry to the floor.

140 CHAIR LUKE: Adjourns meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Submitted by,

Reviewed by,

Shelley Jones
Committee Assistant

Jan McComb
Committee Administrator

EXHIBIT LOG:

A- HB 2990, Testimony- Gibbens- 9 pages
B- HB 2990, Testimony- Brazeau- 4 pages
C- HB 2990, Testimony- Thompson- 17 pages
D- HB 2990, Testimony- Zimmer- 1 page
E- HB 2051, Staff measure summary, fiscal and revenue analysis- Staff- 3

pages

F- HB 2051, Testimony- Gustafson- 1 page
G- HB 2990, Testimony- Stucky- 1 page
H- HB 2051, Testimony- Schoessler- 2 pages