

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY

Hearing Room
Tapes - 11

MEMBERS PRESENT:

REP. BILL FISHER, Chair
REP. TONY CORCORAN, Vice-Chair
REP. LARRY WELLS
REP. JIM WELSH
REP. TIM JOSI

STAFF PRESENT:

PAT ZWICK, Committee Administrator
GAIL E. BOESCH, Committee Assistant

MEASURES HEARD:

SB 278 - Public Hearing and Work Session
HB 2177 - Public Hearing

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 , A

005 CHAIR FISHER: Calls the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

Opens the Public Hearing on SB 278

Witnesses: Gerald Bieberle, Oregon Fryer Commission
Phil Ward, Oregon Department of Agriculture

010 STAFF ZWICK: Presents overview of SB 278. Allows meat from meat producing animals not covered by federal Meat Inspection Act to be processed and sold in Oregon.

026 GERALD BIEBERLE, OREGON FRYER COMMISSION, OREGON POULTRY COUNCIL & OREGON POULTRY INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION: Speaks in favor of SB 278. Explains why SB 278 was formulated, to close loophole which made it technically illegal to slaughter and sell poultry in Oregon. Explains situation for sale of meat from ratites.

051 PHIL WARD, OREGON DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE: Rectify an error, allows those that are cultivating emus for food to be able to market them. Supports SB 278.

060 CHAIR FISHER: Questions how ratites became included in this legislation.

062 WARD: No protocol yet developed for this market. Can slaughter without federal inspection, hope to get a new industry off the ground.

079 BIEBERLE: Clarifies that the farmers are already working with the inspectors and that this bill just makes it official.

092 REP. WELSH: Questions quality of inspection.

095 BIEBERLE: Responds that ratite inspections are new territory, but would follow poultry inspections guidelines as much as possible.

106 MOTION: REP. WELLS: Moves that SB 278 be referred to the Full Committee with a DO PASS recommendation.

VOTE: In a roll call vote, all members present vote AYE. REP. JOSI is excused, but votes AYE later in the meeting.

REP. WELLS will lead the discussion in Full Committee.

120 CHAIR FISHER:

Closes the Public Hearing and Work Session on SB 278

Opens the Public Hearing on HB 2177.

Witnesses: Bruce Andrews, Oregon Department of Agriculture
Phil Ward, Oregon Department of Agriculture
Dani Wilke, Oregon Veterinary Medical Association (OVMA)
Dr. Michael Foland, President, OVMA
Dr. Bill Barry, D.V.M.
Gordon Cunningham, District Director, OVMA
Laura Wyant, Horse Council of Oregon
Tom Roberts, Horse Council of Oregon
Dr. Mike Harms, D.V.M.
Dave Nelson, Oregon Dairy Farmers
Bernie Faber, President, Oregon Dairy Association
Gerald Bieberle, Oregon Fryer Commission
John McCulley, Oregon Cattlemen's Association
Ralph Merrill, Oregon Pork Producer's Council
Sharon Harmon, Oregon Humane Society

125 STAFF: Presents overview on HB 2177, and submits for the record that REP. FISHER received a telephone call in opposition of the bill by Dr. Scott Hendy, and a note in favor from Ray Price, President, Oregon Poultry

Association.

140 BRUCE ANDREWS, OREGON DEPT. OF AG: Submits Exhibit C, in support of HB 2177.

185 REP. CORCORAN: Questions intent of HB 2177.

190 WARD: Intent of HB 2177 is to fund a portion of Oregon's animal health program. Requires manufacturer of animal health product to pay \$65.00 to register product for sale in Oregon.

- Failure of HB 2177 would require reduction of staff to meet budget shortfall.

- 22 people down to 8, "devastating to the program"; recounts successes even with reduced staff.

247 REP. CORCORAN: Questions whether private vets could take over testing responsibilities. Questions whether small animal industry subsidizes large

animal programs.

273 WARD: Explains deputy vets for the state. Re: small vs. large animal, agrees that large animal industry gets the nod, important to state economy.

Explains what the failure of the bill would do. Exotic animal safety program; animal welfare complaints, etc. Would lose that ability if this bill went away.

304 ANDREWS: Comments that the program is dealing with subsidies to the food supply.

347 REP. WELSH: Question about size of livestock industry since 1991.

354 ANDREWS: Varies. Single largest commodity of all the agricultural crops, but value changes.

375 DANI WILKE, OREGON VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: Submits Exhibit D and speaks in opposition to HB 2177.

TAPE 11, A

023 DR. MICHAEL FOLAND, PRESIDENT OF OREGON VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOC.: Submits Exhibit E, and reads from it in opposition to HB 2177. Inconvenient, intrusive.

057 DR. BILL BARRY, LAKEVIEW OREGON: Testifies in opposition to HB 2177.

095 - Refutes prior testimony that livestock industry would be financially devastated by passage of bill. Cost would be less by current standards.

105 GORDON CUNNINGHAM, DISTRICT DIRECTOR, OVMA: Benefits and credentials of the private practitioner. Have to have state accreditation to sign rabies certificates.

136 REP. LEWIS: Questions who pays for testing out in the field, and that will change if HB 2177 doesn't pass.

143 BARRY: Responds, the buyer or the seller of the cattle does the testing.

153 REP. LEWIS: Asks Dr. Barry if he believes the state would have to begin charging for testing.

Note: REP. JOSI: enters the meeting at approximately 2:15 pm.

216 REP. WELSH: Trying to figure out budget and services, can see where to gain savings, but not fully clear who's going to pay.

233 BARRY: Source of funding is the question.

240 REP. CORCORAN: Poses general questions about testing. Regarding costs, queries what would be a fairer way.

263 BARRY: There was a time when the state furnished the vaccine & tags and paid the vets to give the shots. Now just the tags that show certified vaccinations. The producer has assumed much of the financial responsibility over the last 25 years. Highly volatile issue.

301 FOLAND: Diseases are not a common problem.

366 REP. WELLS: Questions if a lab is needed in this state.

370 FOLAND: Diagnostics are run at Oregon State; benefits of one location. Suggests OSU due to expertise level on staff and partially funded by state already.

390 BARRY: The diagnostic lab is indispensable part of the process. Used to send samples out of state.

TAPE 10, B

010 FOLAND: Speaks in support of OSU as a veterinary diagnostic lab.

031 CHAIR FISHER: Questions possibility of liability because the diagnostic lab is not accredited.

052 BARRY: To accreditation question, willing to accept the lab's findings; definitive diagnosis.

066 FOLAND: Explains his understanding is that a lack of accreditation has to do with depth of experts available, explains.

090 CHAIR FISHER: Notes that with reduction in budget and staff, the work still has to be done somewhere else.

100 REP. WELLS: Discusses fee and questions its effect on the veterinarian's practice.

130 LAURA WYANT, HORSE COUNCIL OF OREGON: Submits and reads from Exhibit F, supporting HB 2177.

230 TOM ROBERTS, HORSE COUNCIL OF OREGON: Shares complaints of vets about health certificates; "police work".

255 DR. MIKE HARMS, VETERINARIAN, CANBY, OREGON: Lonely practitioner in an urban situation. Speaks in support of HB 2177.

Strictly large animal work, works out of his home; is also in charge of livestock auction. Uses Animal Health Department facilities.

275 - Opposes user fee; urges keeping the Animal Health program intact. Essential to livestock industry in Oregon.

330 - Recounts problems of not having time to do all the follow up that is necessary, and the need for the department's help.

355 - Urges not to cut the force of the Animal Health program. Reasserts that he does not have the time for the appropriate follow-up that the department can do.

389 CHAIR FISHER: Questions if the private veterinarian would have to charge for testing services if "we take the funds away from the Department of Agriculture".

395 HARMS: Responds, emphasizes surveillance for disease control and testing.

TAPE 11, B

005 HARMS: Continues, gives example of Kentucky State Fair.

017 REP. WELSH: Question to Dr. Harms, realizing the brunt of the cost, whether there is a way to assess a fair fee.

030 HARMS: Want to avoid the small/large animal split; fewer large animal practitioners. Inequity in funding

055 CHAIR FISHER: Questions how many veterinary products are common to both large & small animal practices.

062 HARMS: Notes that vets are not the only ones who sell drugs. OTC (over the counter) drugs are also sold.

135 BERNIE FABER, PRESIDENT, OREGON DAIRY ASSOC.: Speaks in support of HB 2177.

200 GERALD BIEBERLE, OREGON FRYER COMMISSION: Submits Exhibit G, supporting HB 2177.

230 JOHN MCCULLEY, OREGON CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION: Speaks in support of HB 2177.

265 RALPH MERRILL, OREGON PORK PRODUCERS COUNCIL: Gets back to choices, and personal responsibility. Favors user fees. Supports HB 2177.

347 SHARON HARMON, OREGON HUMANE SOCIETY: Submits Exhibit H, supporting HB 2177. Shares situations where Dept. of Ag. has helped the Humane Society.

387 HARMON: Continues, as a consumer, prices same, tremendous loss of service.

400 CHAIR FISHER: Closes the Public Hearing on HB 2177.

MOTION: REP. CORCORAN: Moves to SUSPEND the Rules, to allow REP. JOSI to vote on SB 278.

VOTE: CHAIR FISHER: Hearing no objections, the rules have been suspended.

VOTE: REP. JOSI: Votes AYE on SB 278.

420 CHAIR FISHER: Adjourns the meeting at 3:25 PM.

Submitted by, Reviewed by,

GAIL E. BOESCH PAT ZWICK
Committee Assistant Committee Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY:

- A - Testimony on SB 278 -- Gerald J. Bieberle, Oregon Fryer Commission, Oregon Poultry Council & Oregon Poultry Industry Association -- 2 pages.
- B - HB 2177- Staff Measure Summary, Fiscal Analysis, Statutes -- Pat Zwick, Committee Administrator -- 4 pages.
- C - Testimony on HB 2177 -- Bruce Andrews and Phil Ward, Oregon Department of Agriculture - 4 pages.
- D - Testimony on HB 2177 -- Dani Wilke, Oregon Veterinary Medical Association -- 1 page.
- E - Testimony on HB 2177 -- Michael Foland, President Elect, Oregon Veterinary Medical Association -- 2 pages.
- F - Testimony on HB 2177 -- Laura Wyant, Horse Council of Oregon -- 1 page.
- G - Testimony on HB 2177 -- Gerald J. Bieberle, Oregon Fryer Commission, Oregon Poultry Council, Oregon Poultry Industry Association.
- H - Testimony on HB 2177 -- Sharon Harmon, Oregon Humane Society -- 1 page.