

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY

Hearing Room  
Tapes - 43

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:            HB 3025 - Public Hearing  
                                  HB 2547 - Public Hearing and Work Session  
                                  HB 3111 - Public Hearing and 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 , A

005        CHAIR FISHER: Calls the meeting to order at 1:37 PM.

          Opens the Public Hearing on HB 3111 (Exhibit A)  
          Witnesses:        Representative Carolyn Oakley  
                                  Michael Foland, Oregon Veterinary Association  
                                  Phil Ward, Department of Agriculture

012        REP. CAROLYN OAKLEY: Testifies in support of HB 3111.

028        MICHAEL FOLAND, OREGON VETERINARY ASSOCIATION: Testifies in support of HB 3111, reads from prepared testimony.(Exhibit D).

060        REP. CORCORAN: Requests clarification of language of bill regarding employees of veterinarians.

065        FOLAND: An amendment clarifying that language will be introduced at this meeting.

075        REP. WELLS: Questions about requiring licensing for employees, compared

to agricultural operation where this is not the case.

Discussion follows

110 PHIL WARD, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE: Submits Exhibit B, suggesting amending HB 3111 to include exempting the employees of veterinarians

CHAIR FISHER: Closes the Public Hearing on HB 3111  
Opens the Work Session on HB 3111

140 REP. WELSH: Moves the conceptual amendments to HB 3111, adding employees to the exemption, BE ADOPTED.

CHAIR FISHER: Hearing no objections, the amendments are ADOPTED.

MOTION: REP. WELSH: Moves that HB 3111, AS AMENDED, be sent to the Full Committee with a DO PASS recommendation.

VOTE: In a roll call vote, all members are present and vote AYE.

CHAIR FISHER: The motion CARRIES.

150 Closes the Work Session on HB 3111.  
Announces due to delay in receiving -2 amendments, HB 2120 will be held over to the next meeting.

Opens the Public Hearing on HB 3025

Witnesses: Richard and Linda Patterson

Lonnie Woosley

Jeff and Lillian King

Jerry Hague, Professor of Veterinary Medicine

Mike and Cindy Kilpatrick

Wade Hainstock, Oregon Elk Breeders Association

Stephen Kafoury, Wildlife Society

Dan Edge, Wildlife Society

Dr. Bruck Koblentz

Greg Clapper, The Oregon Hunter's Association

Representative Larry Sowa

Chuck Woosley, Izaak Walton League of America

Linda Nickerson, Elk Creek Ranch

Gerhard Kessler

180 STAFF: Submits and reads from Exhibit C, giving a summary of HB 3025.

210 RICHARD AND LINDA PATTERSON: Present a slide show, demonstrating their elk herds.

Comments about "velveting" the elk.

280 L. PATTERSON: Comments about the tourists their elk attract.

305 R. PATTERSON: Discusses poaching velvet.(antlers).

356 LONNIE WOOSLEY: Testifies in support of HB 3025.

TAPE 41, A

026 REP. WELLS: Requests history of game farming business.

036 WOOSLEY: Not an expert, issued a permit - recounts his history in the business, and recent developments.

050 REP. WELLS: Questions time "window" for permitting animals; discusses a situation with a constituent.

060 WOOSLEY: We were grandfathered in.

065 REP. WELLS: Questions problems with current system - questions need for HB 3025.

075 WOOSLEY: Responds.

100 JEFF AND LILLIAN KING: Testifies in support of HB 3025. Notes the success of his business, comments about the last two years, hard not being able to sell breeding stock under certain circumstances. Would like to see industry grow, good for state.

150 L. KING: Echoes her husband's position; testifies to the temperament of the elk, gentle, very tame.

178 JERRY HAGUE, PROFESSOR OF VETERINARY MEDICINE, SASKATOON: Submits Exhibit E, and presents a slide show regarding the history of elk and their domestication.

256 - Disease issues.

330 - Testing issues and problems.

TAPE 40, B

010 Chronic wasting disease, (one of "three little diseases"), is not found in ranches elk "simply not true".

020 Liver fluke, an unpleasant parasite.

037 REP. CORCORAN: Question about TB bacillus being present in an animal without illness.

044 HAGUE: Responds, yes may not appear until illness develops.

050 REP. CORCORAN: Questions comparison between domestic and wild elk meat.

060 MIKE KILPATRICK: Testifies about industry. Comments about ODFW as opposed to the Dept. of Ag. Regulation vs. jurisdiction. Submits Exhibit F, supporting HB 3025, but suggesting some adjustments.

132 - Discusses Starkey Experimental Station.

152 - States that he cuts the horns off of his elk, sells them out of state.

175 - Discusses various liability issues, taking of private property.

200 REP. WELLS: Questions where it is legal in the United States to sell horns, velvet and meat.

215 KILPATRICK: Clarifies that HB 3025 is for selling everything, horns, meat, hides, etc.

230 CINDY KILPATRICK: Testifies in support of HB 3025.

235 WADE HAINSTOCK, EXEC. DIRECTOR, OREGON ELK BREEDERS ASSOCIATION:  
Testifies in support of HB 3025.

275 - Game farming is all over the world. The fence is the line (between  
native and domestic herds).

287 STEPHEN KAFOURY, WILDLIFE SOCIETY: Emotional issue, brought experts.

303 DAN EDGE, THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY: Reads from prepared testimony,  
introducing The Wildlife Society, opposes HB 3025. Concerned about its  
effect on ODFW.

348 - Threats of disease; escape; long term harm, interbreeding; competition  
and habitat damage.

390 EDGE: Continues reading his testimony opposing HB 3025.

413 - "Biological roulette".

TAPE 41, B

005 EDGE: Concludes reading his testimony.

015 REP. CORCORAN: Questions why he uses the term "exotic".

020 EDGE: There is no definition in the bill.

025 REP. CORCORAN: Respond to Dr. Hague's comments;

031 DR. BRUCE KOBLENTZ: Responds; discusses New Zealand. Many diseases are  
a real threat no matter how infrequent the occurrence.

056 REP. TARNO: Questions exotic.

060 EDGE: Defines as non native species from the state of Oregon.

061 REP. TARNO: So you would consider polled hereford, etc., exotic?

065 EDGE: I guess I would.

Discussion follows regarding genetic integrity.

103 REP. WELSH: Feels the concerns are addressed in HB 3025.

114 DR. BRUCE KOBLENTZ: Expresses concerns about HB 3025, opens the door  
for any kind of exotic animal from all over the world; worried about  
captive populations escaping.

175 GREG CLAPPER, THE OREGON HUNTER'S ASSOCIATION: Opposes HB 3025.

194 REP. LARRY SOWA: Testifies as a veterinarian, supports having ODFW  
manage game ranches.

250 - Calls for very tight rules and regulations to avoid damaging wildlife  
populations.

315 REP. JOSI: Questions if an elk can be tested for genetic evidence of  
breeding with red deer.

348 - Questions nature of evidence, history from recent introduction or ancient history?

361 CHUCK WOOSLEY, IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA, OREGON DIVISION: Submits Exhibit G and reads from it, opposing HB 3025.

TAPE 42, A

005 WOOSLEY: Continues reading from Exhibit G.

053 REP. JIM WELSH: Sponsored HB 3025, testifies about the need for it, and the benefits of it.

103 LINDA NICKERSON, ELK CREEK RANCH: Submits Exhibit H, testimony regarding HB 3025, supporting passage.

126 - Discusses genetic degradation and red deer, after noting problems with cross-breeding sika and elk.

140 - Discusses transportation of wild vs. domesticated animals, and why they are unhappy with ODFW regulations.

153 - Discusses problems with ear tagging.

186 - Lost their farm use designation, discusses taxes, explains why the Department of Agriculture is the better agency for regulating domestic game herds.

225 - Discusses regulatory authority, or the lack of it. HB 3025 would change the statutory authority to the Department of Agriculture.

277 CHAIR FISHER: Announces that there is a mandatory caucus at 4:00 PM.

289 GERHARD KESSLAU: Supports HB 3025, reads from Exhibit I.

340 CHAIR FISHER: Closes Public Hearing on HB 3025  
Opens Public Hearing and Work Session on HB 2547  
Witnesses: Sheldon Ladd, Oregon State University  
Dave Nelson, Oregon Seed Growers  
Carl Hill  
Larry Price, Price Farms

380 SHELDON LADD, OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY: Submits Exhibit J, and testifies in support of HB 2547.

DAVE NELSON, OREGON SEED GROWERS: Introduces - 1 amendments, hand engrossed by staff, Exhibit L

TAPE 43, A

015 CARL HILL: Supports HB 2547 as amended; submits Exhibit K

044 LARRY PRICE, PRICE FARMS: Supports HB 2547, based on economic reasons.

MOTION: REP. WELLS: Moves the -1 amendments to HB 2547, BE ADOPTED.

VOTE: Hearing no objection, the amendments are ADOPTED.

MOTION: REP. WELLS: Moves that HB 2547-1 be sent to the Full Committee with a DO PASS recommendation.

VOTE: In a roll call vote, all members are present and vote AYE.

CHAIR FISHER: The motion CARRIES.

Closes the Public Hearing and Work Session on HB 2547.

068 ADJOURNS the meeting at 4:03 PM.

Submitted by, Reviewed by,

GAIL E. BOESCH PAT ZWICK  
Committee Assistant Committee Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY:

- A - HB 3111, Staff Measure Summary -- Pat Zwick, Committee Administrator --  
1 page
- B - Testimony on HB 3111 -- Phil Ward, Oregon Department of Agriculture -- 1  
page
- C - HB 3025, Staff Measure Summary -- Pat Zwick, Committee Administrator --  
1 page
- D - Testimony on HB 3111 -- Michael Foland, Oregon Veterinary Medical  
Association -- 2 pages
- E - Testimony on HB 3025 -- Jerry Hague -- 1 page
- F - Testimony on HB 3025 -- Mike Kilpatrick, Oregon Elk Breeders Association  
-- 5 pages
- G - Testimony on HB 3025 -- Chuck Woosley, Izaak Walton League of America --  
2 pages
- H - Testimony on HB 3025 -- Linda Nickerson - 2 pages
- I - Testimony on HB 3025 -- Gerhard Kessler -- 1 page
- J - Testimony on HB 2547 -- Sheldon Ladd, Oregon State University -- 1 page
- K - Testimony on HB 2547 -- Carl Hill -- 12 pages
- L - HB 2547, Hand Engrossed with -1 amendments -- Staff -- 1 page
- M - HB 2547, Staff Measure Summary; Letter of testimony from dan Swindell,  
W-D Seed Growers Inc -- Pat Zwick, Committee Administrator -- 2 pages