

SENATE COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

May 1, 1995 Hearing Room
1:00 P.M. Tapes 94A, 95A

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Bob Kintigh, Chair
Sen. Brenda Brecke
Sen. Bill Dwyer
Sen. Tom Hartung
Sen. Rod Johnson, Vice-Chair
 Sen. Marylin Shannon

STAFF PRESENT:

Bruce McIntosh, Committee Administrator
Catrina Victor, Committee Assistant

MEASURES HEARD: SB -2178, Public Hearing and Work Session
 SB -3044, 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 94 A,

004 Chair Kintigh: Calls meeting to order at 1:11 P.M.

005 Opens PUBLIC HEARING on HB -2178

Witnesses:

 Phil Ward, Oregon Department of Agriculture

 Frank Brawner, Oregon Bankers Association

008 Staff Measure Summary on HB 2178 is submitted for the record (EXHIBIT A).

010 Phil Ward: Testifies in support of HB 2178 and reviews provisions of the bill.

045 Sen. Dwyer: Asks the average mediation cost.

049 Ward: About \$2000.00 per case.

055 Sen. Dwyer: Asks if individuals know in advance what approximate costs will be.

059 Ward: Yes.

080 Frank Brawner: Gives background of mediation program and reviews banking industry's concerns with HB 2178.

Presents and reviews proposed amendment (EXHIBIT B) and asks for committee's consideration of the amendment which would exempt Oregon's commercial state and nationally chartered banks from the Department of Agriculture's mediation program.

Does not see a reason for government to be involved in private lending.

265 Chair Kintigh: Asks how widely the department solicits for the mediation program.

270 Ward: Department does a modest solicitation. Do not have staff or resources to conduct a large scale program or solicitation. Mail brochures annually to farm groups, extension services and some lenders. Department makes no attempt to recruit beyond that.

280 Sen. Johnson: Asks if program is worthwhile if no banks participate.

285 Ward: Yes. A number of other entities participate in the program. Feed and seed suppliers utilize the program to a significant measure. Government agencies and individuals who borrow also use the program. Believes the program is valuable and should continue whether or not banks are involved.

Concurs with chair's statement that if you take the bank out of the credit mediation program, it seems incongruous to the original purposes of the program.

305 Sen. Johnson: If the banks can and do already say "No" I feel we should adopt the proposed amendment from Mr. Brawner.

350 MOTION: SEN. JOHNSON: Moves adoption of proposed amendment (EXHIBIT B).

360 VOTE: Without objection, Chair Kintigh declares amendment adopted.

370 MOTION: SEN. DWYER: Moves to conceptually amend HB 2178 to include a sunset date of July 1, 1999.

VOTE: Without objection, Chair Kintigh declares amendment adopted.

379 Chair Kintigh: Asks if emergency clause is still needed.

381 Ward: Yes, because we would sunset at the end of the biennium and not be able to reopen until 90 days after the close of session.

400 MOTION: SEN. JOHNSON. Moves HB -2178, as amended, to the floor with a DO PASS RECOMMENDATION.

407 VOTE: 6-0. MOTION CARRIES. All members are present.

420 Chair Kintigh: Sen. Hartung will carry the bill.

408 Closes WORK SESSION on 2178

410 Opens PUBLIC HEARING on HB 3044

Witnesses:

Phil Ward, Department of Agriculture

Tape 95,A

015 Staff Measure Summary on HB 3044 is submitted for the record (EXHIBIT C).

020 Ward: The department supported HB 3044 in the House. Reviews provisions of the bill.

030 Sen. Dwyer: Asks who requested HB 3044.

035 Ward: Seed Growers Council.

037 Sen. Dwyer: Asks if the bill has a fiscal impact on the department.

040 Ward: There are some budgetary implications of consolidation and related efficiencies.

075 Chair Kintigh: Asks who will be monitoring the air quality.

078 Ward: Air quality monitoring will remain with DEQ.

085 Sen. Dwyer: Asks if DEQ objected on the House side.

088 Ward: No.

095 MOTION: SEN. HARTUNG: Moves to send HB 3004 to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation.

098 VOTE - 5-0

On a roll call vote, MOTION CARRIES. Senator Johnson is excused.

100 Chair Kintigh: Senator Hartung will carry the bill.

Adjourns meeting at 1:42 PM

Transcribed by,

Pat Zwick

EXHIBIT SUMMARY:

A-HB 2178-Staff Measure Summary-Staff-1 page

B-HB 2178-Proposed Amendment-F. Brawner-4 pages

C-HB 3044-Staff Measure Summary-Staff-1 page