

SENATE COMMITTEE ON
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

March 1, 1995 3:00 P.M.

Hearing Room B
Tapes 29 - 30

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sen. Stan Bunn, Chair
Sen. William McCoy, Vice-Chair
Sen. Lenn Hannon
Sen. Bill Kennemer

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Sen. Randy Leonard

STAFF PRESENT: Art Wilkinson, Committee Administrator
Mary Gallagher, Committee Assistant

MEASURES HEARD: SB 625 Public Hearing and Work Session
SB 384
SB 152

Work Session
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 29, A

004 CHAIR BUNN: Convenes the meeting at 3:08 P M
-Welcomes representatives from Red Cross and others present
-Change in order of agenda items

019 MOTION: SEN. MCCOY: Moves introduction of LC Drafts #1891 [EXHIBIT A], #2773 [EXHIBIT B], #2944 [EXHIBIT C], #3691 [EXHIBIT D], #3620 [EXHIBIT E], #3684 [EXHIBIT F], #3709 [EXHIBIT G], #3712 [EXHIBIT H], and #3758 [EXHIBIT I] as committee bills

030 VOTE: CHAIR BUNN: Hearing no objection, motion CARRIES SEN. LEONARD is EXCUSED

033 CHAIR BUNN: Ooens PUBLIC HEARING on SB 625

Witnesses: Beth Heinrich
Dick Lightfoot
Steve Sanchez
Frances Hernandez
Bert Kile
Jeff Kresner

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041 BETH HEINRICH, Public Affairs Director, American Red Cross: Testifying IN SUPPORT OF SB 625. Presents written testimony to the committee [EXHIBIT J1.

084 Finishes testimony.

085 DICK LIGHTFOOT, Chair, Oregon Red Cross Disaster Committee/Red Cross Disaster Volunteer: Testifying IN SUPPORT OF SB 625. Presents written testimony to the committee [EXHIBIT K].

128 Finishes testimony.

129 HANNON: Do other states have this kind of leave ?

130 HEINRICH: Seventeen other states have it, and nineteen are considering
it in 1995.

133 HANNON: For public agencies?

135 HEINRICH: Yes. There is actually precedent for public employees to be
granted leave for
certain rescue operations and also to participate in world class amateur
athletic events, where they're granted leave with pay.

146 STEVE SANCHEZ, Prevention Intervention Resource Teacher/Crisis
Counselor, Salem
Keizer School District: Testifying IN SUPPORT OF SB 625. Presents written
testimony to
the committee [EXHIBIT Ll.

207 Finishes testimony.

208 FRANCES HERNANDEZ, State Employee/Red Cross Volunteer, Willamette
Chapter:
Testifying IN SUPPORT OF SB 625. Presents written testimony to the
committee [EXHIBIT
M].

248 Finishes testimony.

251 BERT KILE, Emergency Services Director, Oregon Trail Chapter, American
Red Cross:
Testifying IN SUPPORT OF SB 625. Presents written testimony to the
committee [EXHIBIT
N].

303 Finishes testimony.

304 JEFF KRESNER, Emergency Service Director, Willamette Chapter, American
Red Cross:
Testifying IN SUPPORT OF SB 625. Presents written testimony to the
committee [EXHIBIT
O].

356 Finishes testimony.

359 CHAIR BUNN: It is my intent to move into Work Session on this bill.

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364 CHAIR BUNN: Closes PUBLIC HEARING on SB 625
Onens WORK SESSION on SB 625

368 ART WILKINSON, Committee Administrator: SB 625 does have an
indeterminate fiscal
impact. Presents Fiscal Analysis to the committee [EXHIBIT P].

384 CHAIR BUNN: Addressing the comn~rittee regarding the Ways and Means

con~rnittee.

398 MOTION: SEN. KENNEMER: Moves that SB 625 be sent to the Floor with a DO PASS recommendation.

405 VOTE: CHAIR BUNN: Hearing no objection, motion CARRIES. SEN. LEONARD is EXCUSED. CHAIR BUNN will CARRY the bill.

TAPE 30, A
009 CHAIR BUNN: Onens WORK SESSION on SB 384

Witnesses: None

018 MOTION: SEN. MCCOY: Moves that SB 384 be brought back to the committee.

019 VOTIS: CHAIR BUNN: Hearing no objection, motion CARRIES. SEN. LEONARD is EXCUSED.

020 MOTION: SEN. MCCOY: Moves that it be recommended by the committee that the subsequent referral to the Labor Cornn~ittee by the President's off~ce be removed and that SB 384 be sent to the Floor with a DO PASS recom~nendation.

046 VOTE: CHAIR BUNN: Hearing no objection, motion CARRIES. SEN. LEONARD is EXCUSED. SEN. KENNEMER will CARRY the bill.

056 CHAIR BUNN: Addresses committee: If we have a bill on the Floor that runs into trouble, I would like the party who's carrying the bill to automatically change their vote and give a notice of possible reconsideration so that we have the opportunity to work with the bill.

066 CHAIR BUNN: Closes WORK SESSION on SB 384
Onens PUBLIC HEARING on SB 152

Witnesses: Ted Dicken
Amy Klare
Janna Starr
Ellen Pinney
Kathryn Weit

084 CHAIR BUNN:-We'll be discussing the -4 Amendments today but the bill is still in the process of possibly having other revisions.

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089 TED DICKEN, President/CEO, Pactfic Health & Life Insurance Co.:
Testifying IN

SUPPORT OF SB 152, with proposed amendment~ Presents written testimony
[EXHIBIT Q]
and proposed amendment 1EXHIBIT R1 to the commiKee.

115 Finishes testimony.

124 AMY KLARE: I submitted testimony and made remarks at an earlier committee meeting, but I just wanted to thank you for the opportunity to testify.

133 JANNA STARR, Policy Analyst, Oregon Advocacy Center: Testifying mostly

IN SUPPORT OF SB 152. Presents written testimony to the committee 1EXHIBIT
S1.

165 Finishes testimony.

170 ELLEN PINNEY, Executive Director, Oregon Health Action Campaign:
Testifying partly
IN SUPPORT OF SB 152. Presents written testimony to the committee 1EXHIBITS
T-1 to T-3].

300 Continuing testimony.

358 Finishes testimony.

359 CHAIR BUNN: Addresses Pinney: You indicated that the bill does little to
help with the
confusion issue. It seems to me that the standards it sets up do help us
move toward clarity...but that's not your feeling'?

373 PINNEY: It will hopefully reduce a lot of the paperwork that is now
associated with
purchasing insurance; but when I say confusion, I mean the confusion that
consumers feel when they're trying to get the most 'bang for their buck'
which means that they have to be able to compare plans and see what
companies are charging for those plans.

TAPE 29, B

476 HANNON: Can you identify this statistical information that you've given
us (Referring
to EXHIBIT T-3)?

478 PINNEY: Yes, this information comes from the Dept. of Business and
Consumer Services.
These are the geographic mid-point rates that are filed by the Carriers with
DBCS.

480 HANNON: Do you also have a breakdown of, for example, how much business
Aetna and
American Chambers Life Insurance companies write in Oregon? Can we compare
the amount of business they do versus the rates they charge?

484 PINNEY: I can't speak for that. I used Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Oregon
for my example
because they are one of the larger carriers.

485 HANNON: You listed all these others I think it's appropriate that you
have the same mix and not just Blue Cross. -

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489 PINNEY: I don't have that information. We didn't write this up; it came
directly from the Dept. of Business and Consumer Services.

497 HANNON: Does it cost the same for an appendectomy in Portland as it does
in Medford?

499 PINNEY: The laws of supply and demand would indicate that it should
actually cost less for surgical procedures and health care in Portland than
it does elsewhere in the state, because we have a greater supply of

physicians and hospitals in Portland then anywhere else in the state. However, the Portland market is one of the most expensive health care markets in the state, which says to us that supply and demand to control costs in health care doesn't necessarily work.

507 HANNON: The point I'm trying to make is that there are different rates that reflect what goes on in the different geographical areas of the state. Let's take 75 employees who all make minimum wage. Should they all be covered?

515 PINNEY: Our coalition believes that everyone in the state has a right to be covered.

516 HANNON: I know you believe that; I'm asking you, should these 75 people be covered?

517 PINNEY: Yes.

517 HANNON: How come no insurance carrier will underwrite them in Oregon today, and they're not considered a small group?

520 HANNON: You want to increase the small group number to 100. You can increase it to 10,000, but if they don't meet the underwriting criteria, it's not going to matter.

558 KATHRYN WEIT, parent of a child with a disability: Testifying IN SUPPORT OF SB 152.

596 Finishes testimony.

609 CHAIR BUNN: Those parties working on SB 152 need to include, as extensively as possible, the individual market and individual market reform in that bill. We need to be looking at issues of access, cost, quality and whether we're missing parts of those issues as we work with the bill.

-Adjourns the committee at 4:30 P.M.

Submitted by,

Mary Gallagher
Committee Assistant

Reviewed by.

Art Wilkinson
Committee Administrator

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EXHIBIT SUMMARY:

A - LC #1591--Art Wilkinson--7 pages
B - LC #2773--Art Wilkinson--6 pages
C - LC #2944--Art Wilkinson--7 pages
D - LC #3691--Art Wilkinson--16 pages
E - LC #3620--Art Wilkinson--8 pages
F - LC #3684--Art Wilkinson--1 page
G - LC #3709--Art Wilkinson--8 pages

- H - LC #3712--Art Wilkinson--2 pages
- I - LC #3758--Art Wilkinson--5 pages
- J - Written Testimony on SB 625--Beth Heinrich--2 pages
- K - Written Testimony on SB 625--Dick Lightfoot--2 pages
- L - Written Testimony on SB 625--Steve Sanchez--3 pages
- M - Written Testimony on SB 625--Frances Hernandez--1 page
- N - Written Testimony on SB 625--Bert Kile--2 pages
- O - Written Testimony on SB 625--Jeff Kresner--1 page
- P - Fiscal Analysis on SB 625--Art Wilkinson--1 page
- Q - Written Testimony on SB 152--Ted Dicken--1 page
- R - Proposed Amendment to SB 152--Ted Dicken--1 page
- S - Written Testimony on SB 152--Janna Starr--2 pages
- T-1 Written Testimony on SB 152--Ellen Pinney--6 pages
- T-2 Oregon Approved Carriers (relating to SB 152)--Ellen Pinney--4 pages
- T-3 Estimated and Projected Oregon Health Care Costs (relating to SB

152)--Ellen Pinney--1
page

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