

SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
LABOR AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Hearing Room  
Tapes - 2

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Gene Derfler, Chair  
Sen. Neil Bryant  
Sen. Bob Kintigh  
Sen. Randy Leonard

MEMBER EXCUSED:

Sen. Brady Adams, Vice-Chair  
Sen. Bill McCoy

STAFF PRESENT:

Rita Thomas, Committee Counsel  
Amy Baker, Committee Assistant

MEASURES HEARD:

Committee Rules Adopted  
Overview Reemployment Assistance Reserve  
Overview Vocational Rehabilitation 4 to 1 Federal Dollar Match

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

010 CHAIR DERFLER: Brings the committee to order.  
-Staff submits Committee Rules [EXHIBIT A]

014 HEARING NO OBJECTIONS, THE COMMITTEE RULES ARE ADOPTED

017 Opens Informational Hearing on Reemployment Assistance Reserve  
Witness: GEOFF GUILFOY, Deputy Director, Dept. of Consumer and Business  
Services  
SUSIE JORDAN, Manager Workers Compensation Division Benefits Section, Dept.

of Consumer and Business Services

LYNNAE RUTTLEDGE, Asst. Admin. Vocational Rehabilitation Dept. of Human  
Resources

025 GEOFF GUILFOY: Reemployment Assistance Reserve: summarizes testimony  
submitted [EXHIBIT B].

077 SEN. KINTIGH: Aren't these rates set by statute?

081 GEOFF GUILFOY: As of January 1, these statutes have been changed.

095 GEOFF GUILFOY: Continues with testimony .

099 CHAIR DERFLER: How much to university?

103 SUSIE JORDAN: Begins testimony [EXHIBIT C] summary.

140 CHAIR DERFLER: Questions the program and why it has never taken off.

145 SUSIE JORDAN: Details program success.

156 CHAIR DERFLER: Why aren't more employers and employees taking advantage of this program?

179 SUSIE JORDAN: Elaborates on the obstacles to more employees taking advantage of the program.

187 GEOFF GUILFOY: Defends the success and potential reasoning behind the level of performance.

221 SEN. KINTIGH: What about those who work in environments which would be difficult to modify?

242 SUSIE JORDAN: Introduction of info-mercials from Dept. of Consumer and Business Services(video tape).

269 SUSIE JORDAN: Talks about the future plans for the Programs.

289 SUSIE JORDAN: Refers to HB 2017.

304 SEN. BRYANT: What are the benefits for workers injured off the job but who are impaired from working?

320 CHAIR DERFLER: How does this work in conjunctions with OROSHA?

334 CHAIR DERFLER: Is this a duplication?

338 GEOFF GUILFOY: Defends need of two separate programs. One evaluates safety, other allows funding for these safety revisions.

350 Opens Informational Hearing on Vocational Rehabilitation 4 to 1 Federal Dollar Match

375 GEOFF GUILFOY: Gives background on Vocational Rehabilitation program.

415 LYNNAE RUTTLEDGE: Summarizes final report [EXHIBIT E].

435 LYNNAE RUTTLEDGE: Talks about the funding for the past years and present expectation.

469 LYNNAE RUTTLEDGE: References Page 1 of [EXHIBIT E].

Tape 2, A

049 CHAIR DERFLER: Could you please give an example of how the leverage

program works?

051 LYNNAE RUTTLEDGE: Gives example of someone who used the program, "Sharon".

069 SEN. LEONARD: Does this Dept. coordinate for workers covered under PERS employed by the state?

072 SUSIE JORDAN Responds, Yes program treats all employers(public/private) the same.

080 CHAIR DERFLER: What sort of tracking is in place? Are individuals still working in areas trained in through this program?

082 LYNNAE RUTTLEDGE: Responds and describes current tracking system in place.

100 CHAIR DERFLER: Is 60 days an adequate amount of time fully track the participate? Wouldn't 18 months of tracking give better information?

110 SUSIE JORDAN: Responds for Workers' Compensation Dept.

115 LYNNAE RUTTLEDGE: Responds regarding VRD tracking. Cannot track because of confidentiality laws

130 CHAIR DERFLER: Are the limitations, access to personnel files, currently law or administrative rules?

145 SUSIE JORDAN: Summary of last 4 items.

160 SUSIE JORDAN: Details figures of program participates involving workers' compensation claims.

200 Introduction of Virlena Crosley, Administrator of Workers' Compensation Division.

230 Meeting Adjourned.

Submitted by, Reviewed by,

Amy Baker Rita Thomas  
Committee Assistant Committee Counsel

EXHIBIT SUMMARY:

- A - Committee Rules-Staff- 3 pages
- B- Funding & Status of Reemployment Assistance Reserve-Geoff Guilfooy-6 pages
- C- Reemployment Assistance Reserve-Susie Jordan-2 pages
- D- Oregon Return to Work Incentives pamphlet-Susie Jordan-27 pages
- E- Pilot Project: Providing VRD services to Oregon's injured workers-Geoff Guilfooy-19 pages

