SENATE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ELECTIONS

February 21, 1995 Hearing Room 3:30 p.m. Tapes 9-10

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sen. Randy Miller, Chair Sen. Brady Adams Sen. Shirley Gold Sen. Paul Phillips Sen. Dick Springer

STAFF PRESENT: Kristina McNitt, Committee Administrator Gretchen Haber, Committee Assistant

MEASURES HEARD: SCR 4: Public Hearing and Work Session SJR14: Public Hearing and Work Session HCR2: Public Hearing and Work Session HCR3: Public Hearing and Work Session HJM4: 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 9-A

004 CHAIR MILLER calls the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Reviews agenda.

012 Opens public hearing on SCR 4.

Witnesses: Rep. Veral Tarno testifies in favor of SCR 4. Rep. Terry Thompson testifies in favor of SCR 4.

015 REP. VERAL TARNO, testified in favor of SCR 4. States that he benefited

from the expertise of Rep. Thompson, who is a commercial fisherman. Refers

to amendments that have been approved by the House Natural Resources Committee.

025 REP. TERRY THOMPSON: Uses example of Washington salmon. Discusses task

force. Refers to language: "systematic removal of ..." Discusses removal

of pinapeds. Lists species involved; discusses the biological health of the species.

060 REP. THOMPSON: testifies that often areas are confined; limiting escape

of the salmon. Explains that if a seal goes into small confined areas, the

seal can eliminate entire salmon population of an area.

 ${\tt 064}$ ${\tt CHAIR:}$ asks if fish are destroyed by the sea lions for reasons other than sustenance.

072 REP. THOMPSON: answers that if there is a lot of fish around, the sea lions will be selective: eating just the eggs, for example. Explains situations wherein sea lions do catch salmon. Discusses difficulty with understanding habits of the sea lions.

085 CHAIR: asks about policy with regards to the harbor seals. Notes there

was some elimination of the harbor seals.

090~ REP. THOMPSON: is not supportive of removal unless it is absolutely necessary. Discusses harbor seals and the importance to use discretion and

care for the species.

095 SEN. GOLD: asks what is meant by the phrase "systematic removal."

099 REP. THOMPSON: answers that there is a system wherein particular areas are protected. Describes process for removal. Notes that by removing one or two of the animals, the others will leave on their own; thus eliminating

the need to remove all of the animals.

115 SEN. GOLD: asks where the animals are taken.

117 $$\operatorname{REP}.$ THOMPSON: answers that unfortunately many of them are lost. Has ideas for how that can change.

120 REP. TARNO: notes strong homing instincts of the lions.

 $120\,$ SEN. GOLD: notes that Rogue River sea lions were seen as far north as St. Helens.

 $125\,$ REP. THOMPSON: notes regions for estuaries. Discusses the lack of studies done in the Oregon area.

135 SEN. PHILLIPS: clarifies "systematic removal" as a term which does not clearly state "killing" or imply "the destruction of." Requests that the

bill state the intent clearly; notes potential for a variety of interpretations.

157 REP. TARNO: Notes desire to safely remove the sea lions whenever possible. Feels the change in language should come from the Dept. of Fish and Wildlife. Discusses latest studies compiled by the Dept. of Fish and Wildlife.

165 SEN. PHILLIPS: states that the committee may agree on the intent today,

but that may not be clear in future review of the law. Requests clear expression of legislative intent be written into the measure.

172 REP. THOMPSON: responds that there is a reason why the term chosen is "systematic removal." Explains that some people may find the terms "to kill" to be distasteful.

186 REP. THOMPSON: continues, testifying that this is a unique situation; by regulation and protection of one species, they will be harming another.

195 CHAIR: notes that the federal government may intervene with a proposal which would cost more than the state proposal.

210 Closes public hearing on SCR 4.

215 Opens public hearing on SJR14.

State

Witnesses: Sen. Greg Walden testifies in favor.

Colleen Sealock, Director, Elections Division, Office of the Secretary of

220 CHAIR: notes time conflict shared with Sen. Springer. The Judiciary Committee meets at the same time as does the Rules Committee.

222 SEN. GREG WALDEN testifies in favor of SJR14.

225 SEN. WALDEN: testifies that this bill mirrors requirement for officials elected into office, applying the same inhabitancy requirements for both elected and appointed officials.

245 SEN. WALDEN: notes the exceptions allowed to allow for a residence in Salem for legislators during the legislative session.

253 SEN. WALDEN: discusses importance of credibility to the legislature and

argues the bill as a way to standardize the process.

256 SEN. WALDEN: outlines proposed amendment, L.C. 2614 (EXHIBIT A). Refers to Page 2, Line 2. Requests for a rapid handling of the bill in order to have the provisions apply for the '97 session.

290 SEN. WALDEN: discussed certification process. Drew from discussion with the Secretary of State's office. Notes need for clarification of the certification process as well as a clear definition of inhabitancy.

307 $\,$ SEN. WALDEN: understands the Secretary of State's office could make necessary changes to the certification process in the statutes, rather than

amending the Oregon Constitution. Is aware that there is some case law with regard to inhabitancy.

329 $\,$ COLLEEN SEALOCK, Director, Elections Division, Office of the Secretary of State $\,$ Comments on terms discussed.

334 $\,$ SEN. GOLD: refers to May 16 election date. Asks about companion legislation.

340 SEN. WALDEN: responds, discussing the quickest method through the legislative process in order to accommodate the May election.

356 Closes public hearing on SJR14.

358 Opens public hearing on SCR 4.

361 CHAIR: has personally introduced the bill. Notes that Senator Walden and Representative Markham have cosponsored the bill. Discusses correlation between injuries and speed limit changes.

384 CHAIR: is confident about the federal government's sense that Congress will support the state's right to determine such policy. Notes current legislation in Congress allowing states to self-determine speed limits.

404 Closes public hearing on SCR 4.

406 Opens public hearing on HCR2.

Witnesses: Sierra Club: Liz Frenkel, testifies against. Sen. Rod Johnson, testifies in favor.

Tape 10- A

002 LIZ FRENKEL, of the Sierra Club, testifies against HCR2.

 $006\,$ $\,$ FRENKEL: opposes a blanket policy stating that there shall be no unfunded mandates.

015 SEN. JOHNSON: testifies in favor of HCR2. Argues against unfunded mandates. Looking to obtain tax dollars sent to Washington. Argues that federal dollars could be applied to state-directed programs.

038 SEN. PHILLIPS: discusses concern that some valuable programs will be lost. Feels that states often have to be strongly encouraged to do something that may be a valuable idea.

044 SEN. JOHNSON: disagrees. Notes confidence with the states and state assemblies across the country. Believes the State Legislature and the Governor are more representative of the people of Oregon than are federally

elected public officials.

058 SEN. PHILLIPS: asks Sen. Johnson if he can provide any examples wherein

federally mandated programs have been superior to state programs. Cites state programs such as the Oregon Bottle Bill.

066 SEN. JOHNSON: cannot cite examples of federal programs which are superior to the states. Points to Oregon, and the policy examples stated by Sen. Phillips, as an example of the effectiveness of state programs.

074 SEN. PHILLIPS: notes importance of vicinity as a criterion in effective

governance.

080 SEN. JOHNSON: agrees. Notes that policy making is most often a question of value judgments, with trade-offs made. Argues that the citizens of that state are best suited to make such judgments.

085 $\,$ SEN. GOLD: notes hypocritical nature of the vote, given the mandates passed down from the state assembly to the local and county governments.

100 SEN. GOLD: notes personal resentment on occasion with the federal government. Discusses relationships amongst government bodies.

112 SEN. JOHNSON: notes importance of avoiding unfunded mandates to city and county governments.

125 $\,$ SEN. JOHNSON: describes which issues are best handled by state governments, such as statewide transportation systems. Explains that if the

issue affects several adjoining cities, then it would be a county concern.

Notes that if the issue affected several counties or portions of the state,

then it would be a state government concern. Proposes this explanation in response to Sen. Gold's point about the hypocritical nature of the proposal.

142 $\,$ SEN. GOLD: notes the issues covered would be quite broad. Feels the language in the measure is quite broad.

146 CHAIR: notes high level of change occurring. Noted examples of his past support for legislation, and a subsequent change in opinion. Feels there is a mood shift in the country with regard to the issue.

159 Closes public hearing on HCR2.

160 Opens public hearing on HCR3.

Witnesses: Sen. Rod Johnson, testifies in favor.

162 SEN. JOHNSON: notes that one third of the federal budget is spent on interest towards the deficit. Refers to Sen. Packwood's comments of 2-20-95, which note the inability of Congress to control spending.

187 SEN. JOHNSON: concurs with Senator Packwood in stating that budget will

not be balanced without a constitutional amendment. Discusses impact of the budget upon future generations of Americans.

206 SEN. JOHNSON: lists foreseeable impacts: collapsed economy, limited opportunities for investments, lack of employment opportunities and other economic hardships.

218 $\,$ SEN. JOHNSON: discusses degree of support amongst the Legislative Assembly.

226 CHAIR: refers to statement from President Lyndon Johnson's comments calling on America to not spend more than is taken in.

240 $\$ CHAIR: asks for reasons behind 3/5 voting requirement stipulations. Notes common use of majority rule.

255 SEN. JOHNSON: explains impact. The atypical voting requirement offers additional tests, and allows for additional scrutiny by the media. The hope is this will restrict the congress from submitting proposals that overspend.

269 CHAIR: commends Sen. Johnson for Section 3, which requires the President to submit a balanced budget. Discusses points raised in the Minority Report in the House of Representatives: namely, that such an amendment would carelessly lack a specific proposal for the implementation of the measure.

288 SEN. JOHNSON: responds, stating that the support for a balanced budget amendment can be established without a discussion of the implementation. States that the support for the principle can come first, and the policy outcomes can be debated in the years ahead as they arise.

300 CHAIR: notes current budget and the projected high rate of growth. Notes the possibility of balancing the budget by limiting the rate of growth, rather than cuts in spending.

316 SEN. JOHNSON: cites Oregon as an example of a state which has weathered

cuts. Refers to Ballot Measure Five (Oregon property tax citizen's initiative).

327 SEN. GOLD: refers to Sen. Johnson's comment that those who support the Minority Report are not in favor of a balanced budget. Takes strong exception to this.

340 SEN. JOHNSON: responds that he did not mean to imply a lack of integrity or honor from those in favor of the Minority Report.

352 $\,$ CHAIR: notes that the current administration refrains from discussing the debt in terms of actual dollars, thus, softening the actual impact of a

high deficit.

364 SEN. GOLD: refers to Senator Hatfield's opinions with regards to a balanced budget. Notes that questions have been raised as to how to achieve this goal without decimating the programs currently funded. Notes public relations benefit from discussing a balanced budget, and discussed the minority report as a tool to responsibly communicate the importance of protection of currently funded programs.

Tape 9 - B

008 SEN. GOLD: discussed the serious nature of a resolution to Congress.

016 SEN. GOLD: notes critical discussion is in the methods for achieving the balanced budget, rather than a determination of the desire to balance the budget. Expresses concern with the possible decimation of many programs. Feels the target goal date of a balanced budget by 1999 is not a

rational goal.

027 SEN. PHILLIPS: presents possible amendments which include language discussing the failure of the federal government with regards to fiscal policy, the high debt and the criminal nature of such a high debt. Asks for Sen. Johnson's opinion on his ideas.

041 SEN. PHILLIPS: outlines three items needed to achieve fiscal responsibility at the state level. Calls for a thirty year debt management

plan. Describes impact of the lack of such plan. Notes need to set out clear goal posts.

053 SEN. JOHNSON: concurs with Sen. Phillips and appreciates the ideas, although this particular bill may not be the appropriate vehicle for them.

Desires to avoid general mandates.

070~ SEN. JOHNSON: feels citizens across the land do call for a balanced budget.

080~ SEN. PHILLIPS: appreciates comments from Sen. Johnson. Does not plan to introduce amendments.

090 SEN. GOLD: discusses federal debt snowball since W.W.II. Notes that debt is not a recent phenomenon.

100 SEN. PHILLIPS: responds that only two presidents have not had an acknowledged federal fiscal policy; one of them being President Bill Clinton.

105 $\,$ SEN. GOLD: responds that she is speaking of the debt, rather than a federal fiscal policy.

107~ SEN. JOHNSON: calls for importance of such an amendment. Feels a constitutional amendment transcends relative circumstances, and the mood of

the particular congress at any given time.

127 $\,$ CHAIR: notes that for years, there has been agreement to balance the budget and yet an inability to do so. Lacks confidence in the ability to balance the budget without a constitutional amendment.

136 SEN. GOLD: is not in objection to a balanced budget amendment in theory;

opposes this measure due to its form and procedural directives.

148 Closes public hearing on HCR3.

172 CHAIR: notes difficulty in scheduling meetings and conflicts with other

committee meeting times.

190 Opens work session on SCR 4.

196 MOTION: SEN. PHILLIPS: Moves SCR 4 be sent to the Floor with a DO PASS recommendation. VOTE: In a roll call vote, all members present vote AYE. SEN. SPRINGER 199 is EXCUSED. CHAIR MILLER: The motion CARRIES. CHAIR MILLER will lead discussion on the Floor. 207 Closes work session on SCR 4. 208 Opens work session on SJR14. 210 MOTION: SEN. PHILLIPS: Moves to adopt the SJR14 amendments dated 2/21/95 (EXHIBIT A). 215 VOTE: CHAIR MILLER: Hearing no objection the amendments are ADOPTED. SEN. SPRINGER is EXCUSED. 218 MOTION: SEN. PHILLIPS: Moves that SJR14, AS AMENDED, be sent to the Floor with a DO PASS recommendation. VOTE: In a roll call vote, all members present vote AYE. SEN. SPRINGER is EXCUSED. SEN. WALDEN will lead discussion on the Floor. 225 Closes work session on SJR14. 226 Opens work session on HCR2. MOTION: SEN. PHILLIPS: Moves HCR2 be sent to the Floor with a DO PASS 228 recommendation. VOTE: In a roll call vote, SENS. ADAMS, MILLER and PHILLIPS vote AYE. SEN. GOLD votes NO. SEN. SPRINGER is EXCUSED. SEN. JOHNSON will lead discussion on the Floor. 237 Closes work session on HCR2. 250 Committee recesses. 262 Committee resumes. 263 Opens work session on HCR3. MOTION: SEN. PHILLIPS: Moves HCR3 be sent to the Floor with a DO PASS 265 recommendation. SEN. GOLD: Opposes the bill in its current form. Could offer 257 amendments, but feels they would not be productive at this time. VOTE: In a roll call vote, SENS. ADAMS, MILLER and PHILLIPS vote AYE. 263 SENS. GOLD and SPRINGER vote NO. 280 SEN. SPRINGER: serves notice of a possible MINORITY REPORT. 282 SEN. GOLD: joins Sen. Springer in notice of a possible minority report. 288 Closes work session on HCR3. 273 Reopens work session on HCR2. 275 SEN. SPRINGER: would like the record to show a NO VOTE on HCR2. 278 CHAIR: requests the record shows a NO VOTE by SEN. SPRINGER on HCR2. SEN. SPRINGER: Serves notice of a MINORITY REPORT on HCR2. 280 285 SEN. GOLD: Joins with Sen. Springer in notice of a MINORITY REPORT on HCR2. 290 Closes work session on HCR2. 302 SEN. SPRINGER: appreciates the Chair's courtesies. 307 Opens work session on HJM4. 310 MOTION: SEN. ADAMS: Moves HJM4 be sent to the Floor with a DO PASS recommendation. VOTE: In a roll call vote, all members present vote AYE. SEN. SPRINGER is excused. SEN. ADAMS will lead discussion on the Floor. 322 Closes work session on HJM4. 324 CHAIR: adjourns meeting at 4:58p.m.

Submitted by, Reviewed by,

Gretchen Haber Kristina McNitt Committee Assistant Committee Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY:

A - Proposed Amendments to SJR14 - staff - 1 page