

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

January 20, 1993  
3

Hearing Room F 1:30 p.m.

Tapes 2 -

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. John Meek, Chair Rep. Lisa Naito,  
Vice-Chair Rep. Patti Milne Rep. Gail Shibley

MEMBER EXCUSED: Rep. Larry Campbell

VISITING MEMBER: Rep. Ron Adams

STAFF PRESENT: Annette Price, Committee Administrator Edward C.  
Klein, Committee Assistant

AGENDA ITEMS: Overview of aspects of children and families in  
DHR

programs Overview of final report of Children's Care Team

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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. [--- Unable To Translate Graphic  
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TAPE 02, SIDE A

003 CHAIRMAN MEEK: Calls the committee to order at 2:06 p.m. as a  
subcommittee

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WITHIN DEPARTMENT OF  
HUMAN RESOURCES

Witnesses: Kevin Concannon, Director, Department of Human Resources  
Vickie Gates, Department of Human Resources

013 KEVIN CONCANNON, Director, Department of Human Resources (DHR):  
Presents an overview of programs for children and families within DHR.  
-Major programs are: -Women, Infants and Children (WIC), within the  
Health Division. -Aid for Families with Dependant Children (AFDC) -The  
Food Stamp Program. -Medicaid. -Access to Health care is the issue of  
greatest concern to families. -He discusses the Children's Services  
Division. -He discusses programs within the Office of the Director. -He  
discusses other divisions within the department: -Senior and Disabled  
Services Division -Vocational Rehabilitation Division. -Employment  
Division. -He states the mission of the department. -He discusses the  
efforts Oregon is making within welfare reform. -He discusses the Family  
Support Act of 1988. -A priority are teen parents. They account for 51%  
of AFDC. -People at greatest risk of being a teen parent are already  
teen parents. -About 84% of teen parents are going back or are back in  
school. -We are in partnerships with schools, community colleges, county  
health departments and private agencies. -We are on the mothers' sides,

but are unbending in our expectations. -A direct byproduct of our work is the increase of GEDs completed. -LFO examined our teen parent programs and gave it very high marks. -Problems of impoverishment are related to the huge growth of single parents

405 CHAIRMAN MEEK: You have some examples of fathers supporting their children born out of wedlock?

CONCANNON: Correct. -We generally want people to establish child support orders. We think

it's a sound social policy. -Many of you have seen the graph which shows the relative impact on income for parents with two children who go to work from our jobs program. -For most cases, there has to be child support in order to get above the property line.

TAPE 03, SIDE A

020 CONCANNON: There needs to be some assurance nationally that every child should receive some basic child support. -It means a more aggressive effort in determining paternity and establishing child support orders in the beginning. -We think that would have a moderating effect on the men who parent a number of children.

028 REP. NAITO: There is no incentive for mothers to declare paternity.

CONCANNON: By federal regulations, the first \$50 goes to the mother. -We are urging that it be significantly more and stay with the mother, regardless of marital status. -We want to have discussions around child support with the legislature. -We recover relatively small amounts. -He comments on health care. -The issue of health care transcends health. -Things that relate to children and families can be put into three categories: Support, supplementation and substitution.

132 REP. SHIBLEY: Is there any statewide figure on the average length of

stay on welfare? -What percentage of those who receive assistance never go back versus those who might go back at some point?

CONCANNON: That data is fairly consistent nationally. -Some people are on welfare for very short periods of time.

REP. SHIBLEY: There's no average?

CONCANNON: No. -He presents an analogy which describes the welfare system. -There is state and national data that shows the distribution of people on public assistance. -Teen parenthood is an important element.

179 CHAIRMAN MEEK: Welcomes a school group.

184 CONCANNON: Continues with an explanation of support, supplementation

and substitution. -He discusses the Poverty Level Medical Care Program. -He discusses the importance of prenatal care. -He discusses DHR's relationship with school systems. -If we can make schools successful in helping children graduate, we help ourselves in cutting future

caseloads. -He's encouraged by the successful teen parent programs in the schools.

347 CHAIRMAN MEEK: Kevin will be back Friday. -He gives him specific items he would like him to focus on.

387 CONCANNON: He will be happy to focus on those elements. -He'd also like to talk about CSD and corrections.

CHAIRMAN MEEK: Also focus on the connection you're making with the schools.

414 REP. SHIBLEY: Would like him to discuss the Benchmarks that are under his purview and others they indirectly effect. -She'd like to hear an outline for an action plan to achieve those Benchmarks.

TAPE 02, SIDE B

028 CHAIRMAN MEEK: We'll have a presentation of the Benchmarks on Monday.

030 CONCANNON: We will be happy to discuss the Benchmarks; we've been working with them.

038 REP. MILNE: Would like to hear more on child support.

047 CONCANNON: We have some of that data.

REP. MILNE: Would like to hear what mothers can do to get the support.

055 CONCANNON: Responds.

065 REP. NAITO: Would like more information on the relationship with the

schools. -Do you have any data on how many of these fathers are incarcerated? 078 CONCANNON: Lincoln County did an assessment and found there was a very high relationship between incarcerated and absent parents.

081 VICKIE GATES, DHR: We have data that indicates it's quite high.

REP. SHIBLEY: Is concerned about the rise of homelessness. -There is an alarming correlation between homelessness and a child's foster care background.

103 GATES: Part of the issue is how do you transition young people without permanent family support into some type of independent lifestyle? -It's sometimes a problem moving children back into their home environments. -We've done a lot of work with our housing agency. Housing is a major

issue. -The average rent in Oregon is \$450 a month. -We'll try to bring some data back.

130 REP. SHIBLEY: Would like Rey Ramsay, Oregon Housing Commission to testify on their piece on children and families. -She discusses the Housing Trust Fund.

CHAIRMAN MEEK: It will be on our agenda.

OVERVIEW OF FINAL REPORT OF CHILDREN'S CARE TEAM -- EXHIBIT A

Witness: Craig Campbell, Chief of Staff, Speaker of the House

160 CRAIG CAMPBELL, Chief of Staff, Speaker of the House: Presents an overview of the final report of the Children's Care Team. -He refers to three charts (EXHIBIT A): -The Wellness/Development Model. -The Support-Based Service Delivery System. -The organizational framework (governmental structure).

TAPE 03, SIDE B

024 CHAIRMAN MEEK: Asks two members of the Children's Care Team in the audience to introduce themselves.

REP. NAITO: When will the final report be available?

CAMPBELL: About a week and one-half.

044 REP. SHIBLEY: Asks that we hear from the schools. -What's the time line for hearing bills?

CHAIRMAN MEEK: We will still go through some briefings. -We won't hear any bills for at least another week. -He'd appreciate any suggestions for presentations or tours.

079 REP. SHIBLEY: It would also be helpful to hear from the Governor's Office. -There are opportunities to work with the other branches of government.

083 CHAIRMAN MEEK: Adjourns at 3:38 p.m.

Submitted by,

Reviewed by,

Edward C. Klein,  
Committee Administrator

Annette Price Committee Assistant

EXHIBIT LOG:

A - Three Charts from final report of Children's Care Team - Craig Campbell - 3 pages