

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

February 22, 1993
- 30

Hearing Room 50 2:00 p.m.

Tapes 28

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. John Meek, Chair Rep. Lisa Naito,
Vice-Chair Rep. Ron Adams (Alternate) Rep. Patti Milne Rep. Gail Shibley

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

PUBLIC HEARING: HB 2141 -- Requires CSD to establish priorities
for

receiving custody of children based on available resources.

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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 27, SIDE A

003 CHAIRMAN MEEK: Calls the committee to order at 2:07 p.m.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Rep. Adams, Rep. Milne, Rep. Naito, Chairman
Meek EXCUSED: Rep. Shibley

CHAIRMAN MEEK: Apologizes for cancelling last Friday's meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING - HB 2141 -- EXHIBITS A to G

Witnesses: Billy Carey, Administrator, CSD Benjamin De Haan, Deputy
Administrator, CSD Muriel Goldman, Chair, Public Affairs Committee,
Children First for Oregon Chris Krenk, CEO, Albertina Kerr Centers Allen
Hunt, Executive Director, Rosemont School, Inc. Jackie Murry, Airborne
Group Home

Danielle McKenzie, Youth living in Airborne Group Home James Seymour,
Executive Director, Catholic Community Services Foundation Larry OgleSB
y, Juvenile Director, Marion County Jim Dyer, Foster Parent

020 CHAIRMAN MEEK: Opens the Public Hearing on HB 2141.

022 BILL CAREY, Administrator, CSD: Presents testimony in support of
HB 2141 (EXHIBIT A). Rep. Shibley enters at 2:14 p.m.

167 BENJAMIN De HAAN, Deputy Administrator, CSD: Summarizes HB 2141.

188 CHAIRMAN MEEK: What kind of discussions have you had on the
legal liability ramifications and liability of maintaining a list?

203 CAREY: Responds. -He doesn't think the liability would be any greater than what we have

today.

224 De Haan: Legal liability is very clear to us. He elaborates.

234 REP. ADAMS: There is a cost savings related to this.

CAREY: There are not savings, there's a redirection of resources.

256 REP. NAITO: Is there a subsequent referral to Ways and Means?

CHAIRMAN MEEK: No. -Could you clarify the level of services to Level 6 and above?

283 CAREY: Responds.

352 CHAIRMAN MEEK: Refers to figures from Governor's Mandated Budget (EXHIBIT B).

CAREY: Responds.

384 CHAIRMAN MEEK: Will ask him to come back once we begin discussion on

the Care Team legislation.

406 CAREY: This is the first step towards honest budgeting. -This prioritization is being done by every caseworker today. -He agrees with the values espoused in the Care Team report. -The prevention issues are key. -We need to discuss prioritization in context with the Care Team legislation.

TAPE 29, SIDE A

012 REP. SHIBLEY: Other systems have failed once kids get to the Juvenile Justice System. -We need to be honest with the resources we have. -She refers to the Preliminary Staff Measure Summary (EXHIBIT B). -How does the Fiscal Impact play in to this if we're shifting funds?

030 CHAIRMAN MEEK: We'll have a fiscal Impact Statement if we schedule a

work session.

REP. SHIBLEY: You anticipate this in the mandated budget and it doesn't affect your budget limitations.

036 ANNETTE PRICE: We can request an estimated fiscal impact from LFO.

REP. SHIBLEY: But this bill doesn't affect the division's overall limit.

De HAAN: Correct.

043 CAREY: If we cannot prioritize services we can't implement the budget.

052 REP. SHIBLEY: If the mandated plus budget were implemented is there enough of a fund shift to add to your budget?

CAREY: It's would be a one percent increase.

059 REP. SHIBLEY: Describe the differences between HB 2540 (1991) (EXHIBIT B) and HB 2141.

CAREY: Explains.

081 REP. ADAMS: If the funding was restored last session, why did the University of Southern Maine study discover your caseloads were too high and you weren't serving this group anyway?

088 CAREY: The budget was restored to the status quo. He explains.

110 REP. SHIBLEY: Level 7 are pretty healthy and bright.

CAREY: Compared to the other six levels.

REP. SHIBLEY: What would CSD do for an out of control 14 year-old today and what would CSD do under this bill?

129 CAREY: We wouldn't open a case unless the court ordered it. -Under this bill we would have provisional custody from the court and they would be on a waiting list. They would not be served.

140 REP. MILNE: What about other funds?

CAREY: We've gotten more adept at bringing federal funding into the state. He elaborates. -He can supply specific information on the amount of federal funds.

163 REP. ADAMS: What's the reduced level budget?

CAREY: That's the original exercise of putting together an 80% budget. If we did that we could only serve through Level 4. -He discusses Agency FTE (EXHIBIT A).

209 REP. SHIBLEY: Welcomes Muriel Goldman.

213 MURIEL GOLDMAN, Chair, Public Affairs Committee, Children First for Oregon: Presents testimony in opposition to HB 2141 (EXHIBIT C).

401 CHRIS KRENK, CEO, Albertina Kerr Centers: Presents testimony in opposition to HB 2141 (EXHIBIT D).

TAPE 28, SIDE B

020 KRENK: Continues with his testimony.

073 ALLEN HUNT, Executive Director, Rosemont School, Inc.: Presents testimony in opposition to HB 2141 (EXHIBIT E).

131 REP. SHIBLEY: Suggests that anyone concerned about throwing away services to kids should do more than advise members of Ways and Means to restore the cuts to the Level 7 kids. -The Revenue Committee should also be advised. -Can necessary care be paid for with available resources?

148 GOLDMAN: We do not have enough money.

REP. SHIBLEY: If there are insufficient funds available, where do we make additional cuts?

163 HUNT: We simply have to find more resources. These children must be

served.

171 GOLDMAN: Concurs with Allen Hunt.

186 REP. ADAMS: CSD wasn't serving Level 7 anyway. They aren't being served the way they should be. -The majority of the voters suggest we work smarter. -He'd appreciate any ideas how we could do better with the available dollars.

209 KRENK: There is a question whether the existing system is effective. -We believe what we're doing is effective. -It doesn't matter what system we design if we don't have the necessary dollars.

227 REP. ADAMS: It seems if we could work harder it could help us through all of these processes. -This appears to be a gigantic black hole. -It's difficult to see where we can turn the corner. Is there a corner?

253 GOLDMAN: We've never had sufficient resources. -We've tended to pit one program against another. -We have to put more into prevention. -We need more resources in order to make it.

281 REP. ADAMS: If we create the expectation through the Care Team legislation that we're fixing problems by reorganizing, the dollars still will not be there. 299 REP. NAITO: Have the groups you represent agreed to adopt or endorse

any specific tax restructuring plans?

310 GOLDMAN: We support tax reform and revenue replacement, but don't have a specific proposal at this time.

316 REP. NAITO: Are you suggesting we need to do things differently for the Level 7 kids?

327 GOLDMAN: Not exactly. -Most of the Level 7 children are served in-home. -Most of the services they get are not necessarily the kinds of services for children with severe behavior problems, which is what these children tend to have. -That's why she suggested CSD get together with the other players.

363 REP. NAITO: There are not very many services for this age group. -Strategies for this population may be very different.

GOLDMAN: You'll be hearing what a foster parent has done to turn around the women in her home around.

377 REP. ADAMS: Where does the funding for OACP members come from?

KRENK: Explains.

391 REP. ADAMS: You're not state agencies.

KRENK: We're private non-profit agencies.

411 JACKIE MURRY, Airborne Group Home: Describes being a foster parent.

TAPE 29, SIDE B

020 MURRY: Continues.

042 DANIELLE MCKENZIE, Youth living in Airborne Group Home: Testifies on

her experiences and her opposition to HB 2141.

068 JAMES SEYMOUR, Executive Director, Catholic Community Services Foundation: Presents testimony in opposition to HB 2141 (EXHIBIT E).

135 REP. SHIBLEY: This issue is a fundamental philosophical divide; no government intervention versus the public good. Do you agree?

150 SEYMOUR: Responds.

173 REP. SHIBLEY: Catholic Community Services does a good job balancing this dichotomy. -Can we provide necessary care from available resources?

SEYMOUR: Doesn't know. We waste so many resources. -He supports the Children's Care Team (CCT) recommendations. -Our current system rewards children and families for giving up. -He doesn't know if anyone can honestly tell you the answer.

196 REP. SHIBLEY: Also supports most of the CCT recommendations. -If we buy the conclusions of the Children's Care Team, we're asking the state to only focus on the, so-called, low incidence, high tech kinds of processes. -We're really talking about only having a very small, limited children's department. -What's wrong with this bill in that context?

223 SEYMOUR: If you pass the CCT recommendations, he'd come back and support this legislation, because we'd have another safety net.

244 REP. ADAMS: Danielle, you fortunately found the window to us. -If he heard Bill Carey correctly, there are children in Levels 1 through 6 who are also being deprived of services. -This proposal would serve Levels 1 through 6 better. -He would like more information on caseworkers spending 40% of their time with kids rather than 20%.

273 SEYMOUR: Has talked to CSD workers about overlap of the forms. -Perhaps the caseworkers themselves could come up with ideas on consolidation of the forms. -Automation would help. -We have a question about where we put the resources. -Do we allow professionals to use their discretion or do we use a matrix? -A matrix only makes sense on paper, but not out on the streets with kids.

317 REP. MILNE: CSD is a last resort. What can we do to get our local communities and families to take responsibility?

330 SEYMOUR: The Children's Care Team legislation allows the communities to respond to their own needs.

366 REP. MILNE: Shares her concerns.

391 LARRY OGLESB Y, Juvenile Director, Marion County: Presents some historical background. -Dealing in prevention is an investment.

TAPE 30, SIDE A

020 OGLESB Y: Presents testimony in opposition to HB 2141 for Edward Schmidt (EXHIBIT F).

057 JIM DYER, Foster Parent: The Legislature needs to address revenue this session. -He hopes Danielle's testimony makes a difference. -He's had children in his home who have been ignored for various reasons. They are very difficult to deal with. -The programs need to be coordinated. -He discusses the volumes of paperwork that's needed. -He urges the committee to pay attention to Danielle and others like her.

120 REP. NAITO: Was moved by Danielle's testimony. -We care for kids and want each child to get all of the care they deserve.

136 REP. MILNE: Would you explain what you mean when you say that kids don't get into the system?

144 DYER: So many children need to be helped up-front. -He doesn't want to see any group ignored. -HB 2141 purposely ignores a group of our population.

171 CHAIRMAN MEEK: This is an excellent start.

174 REP. ADAMS: Mr. Carey, after hearing the testimony, would you change

anything in the bill?

179 CAREY: Didn't hear anything he didn't expect to hear. -This is a resource issue as much as anything else. -This is a system that is under-funded and overloaded and if something

doesn't happen, the whole thing is going to blow. -We've invested heavily in automation and will continue to do so to reduce the amount of paperwork. -The branches develop more forms than the state mandates. -We're concerned about paperwork.

216 REP. SHIBLEY: Supports state agencies going after federal dollars. -With the dollars come a lot of strings, which adds to CSD's burden.

232 CAREY: Responds.

REP. SHIBLEY: That also hurts any ratio of span of control. -By having revenue officers or grant administrators you're adding administrative overhead, but you're freeing up field workers to do actual field work.

243 CAREY: We didn't make a management position, so we expanded the span of control.

245 CHAIRMAN MEEK: We will hold an open hearing on HB 2141 on Wednesday. -You have received testimony which goes with HB 2008. -He adjourns at 4:17 p.m.

Submitted by,

Reviewed by,

Edward C. Klein,

Annette Price, Committee Assistant
Committee Administrator

EXHIBIT LOG:

A - Testimony on HB 2141 - Bill Carey - 8 pages B - Preliminary SMS on
HB 2141 and other background information - Staff - 13 pages C -
Testimony on HB 2141 - Muriel Goldman - 3 pages D - Testimony on HB
2141 - Chris Krenk - 4 pages E - Testimony on HB 2141 - Allen Hunt - 2
pages F - Testimony on HB 2141 - James Seymour - 2 pages G - Testimony
on HB 2141 - Larry OgleSB y 2 pages