

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, SUBCOMMITTEE ON CIVIL LAW

February 25, 1993 Hearing Room 357 1:00 p.m. Tapes 31 - 32

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Tom Brian, Chair Rep. Tom Mason Rep. Ken Baker
Rep. Jim Edmunson

VISITING MEMBER: Rep. Kate Brown, District 13

STAFF PRESENT: Katy Yetter, Committee Clerk Carole Souvenir,
Legislative Counsel

MEASURES CONSIDERED: HB 2504 - Relating to family court
departments

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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 ---]

TAPE 31, SIDE A

002 CHAIR BRIAN calls the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

INVITED TESTIMONY ON HB 2504

WITNESSES: Rep. Gene Derfler, District 31 Stephen Herrell,
Circuit Judge Multnomah Co. Jeff Kuhn, National Council of Juvenile
and Family Court

Judges Bill Linden, State Court Administrator Terry Soeteber, Director,
Josephine Co. Juvenile Dept. Gerald Neufeld, Presiding Judge, Josephine
Co.

032 REP. GENE DERFLER, DISTRICT 31: Testifies in favor of HB 2504.

071 STEPHEN HERRELL, CIRCUIT JUDGE: Presents testimony on HB 2504
(EXHIBIT A).

190 REP. MASON: Asks how the defending court can avoid being a
"judicial ghetto." 206 HERRELL: Does not want to create a special
court. -May put a purpose clause in this bill.

REP. DERFLER: States that values must be decided and the present system
should be changed.

290 REP. MASON: Comments on importance of well-trained individuals in
this system.

320 BAKER: States that the system needs skilled people in the

system. -Asks Herrell how this can be done.

379 HERRELL: Responds by stating that the system needs to be re-worked. -The bill needs to be worked so that the fiscal impact is minimal.

TAPE 32, SIDE A

078 REP. BAKER: Isn't there inherent authority already within the judge to do what is proposed in the bill?

084 HERRELL: Replies that there is.

130 JEFF KUHN, FAMILY COURT RESOURCE CENTER: Presents testimony on HB 250 4 (EXHIBITS B & C).

272 REP. PARKS: Asks where the Family Court Resource Center is located -is it part of the Judicial College?

280 KUHN: Replies that the Center is in Reno, Nevada, and no, it is not part of the Judicial College.

TAPE 31, SIDE B

BILL LINDEN, STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR: Testifies in favor of HB 250 4.

200 REP. BOB REPINE, DISTRICT 49: Introduces two of the invited witnesses: Terry Soeteber and Gerald Neufeld.

220 TERRY SOETEBER, JOSEPHINE CO. JUVENILE DEPARTMENT: Testifies on HB 2504.

390 REP. BAKER: What process do you use to link the court systems? -Asks how Soeteber deals with obtrusive individuals.

TAPE 32, SIDE B

001 SOETEBER: The obtrusive or passive/aggressive individuals are difficult to deal with. What we do is set up a protocol list and deny service to

those who fail to cooperate.

025 JUDGE GERALD NEUFELD: Testifies on HB 2504. Reviews the court system of Josephine County. -States that with or without the bill, there will be a Family Court in

Josephine County and discusses what kinds of cases will be heard. -Would like to see a Family Court that is acceptable throughout the

state of Oregon.

172 REP. BAKER: Asks Neufeld if a policy statement would be as effective as a mandated law.

175 NEUFELD: Replies that problems may arise, but a pilot process may be worthwhile. 234 LINDEN: Makes point on the success of other courts and the support that can be given to the Family Court idea.

270 CHAIR BRIAN: Asks Linden what governing entity would potentially

be in charge.

275 LINDEN: Indicates that the responsibility would be shared.

290 REP. BAKER: Asks when the consolidation of the courts will take place.

300 LINDEN: Replies that it would happen post-1993 Session.

357 CHAIR BRIAN closes meeting at 2:55 p.m.

Submitted by:

Reviewed by:

Katy Yetter
Committee Assistant

Anne May Committee Clerk

EXHIBIT LOG:

A - Testimony on HB 2504 - Stephen Herrell - 4 pages B - Testimony on
HB 2504 - Jeff Kuhn - 51 pages C - Testimony on HB 2504 - Jeff Kuhn -
6+ pages D - Amendments to HB 2504 (-1) - Legislative Counsel - 3 pages