

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND REORGANIZATION

February 17, 1993 Hearing Room E 1:30 p.m. Tapes 31 - 32

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. John Watt, Chair Rep. Lonnie Roberts, Vice-Chair
Rep. Dave McTeague Rep. Cedric Hayden Rep. Michael Payne Rep. Eldon
Johnson Rep. Fred Girod Rep. Avel Gordly

MEMBER EXCUSED: Rep. Delna Jones

STAFF PRESENT: Adrienne Sexton, Committee Administrator Kenneth
Brady, Committee Clerk

MEASURES CONSIDERED: HB 2496 - Executive Dept. directing out of
state travel HB 2376 - Reduces allotments to state agencies

WITNESSES: Mike Marsh, Exec. Budget, HB 2376 Cindy Becker,
Exec. Dept., HB 2496 Ann Vecchi, Away Travel, HB 2496 Larry Large,
Higher Education, HB 2496 Melinda Grier, Higher Education, HB 2496 Ralph
Groener, A.F.S.C.M.E., HB 2496 Mari Anne Gest, O.P.E.U., HB 2496

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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

006 REPRESENTATIVE JOHN WATT, COMMITTEE CHAIR: Convenes meeting at 1:33
p.m. as a subcommittee. -Rep. Jones is excused.

(Tape 31, Side A) HB 2376 - Reduction in allotments.

038 ADRIENNE SEXTON, COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATOR: Explains HB 2376.

071 MIKE MARSH, EXEC. BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT: Submits written
testimony (EXHIBIT A) in opposition to HB 2376. -Points out his problems
with the bill.

113 WATT: Closes hearing on HB 2376. -Opens hearing on HB 2496.

(Tape 31, Side A) HB 2496 - Out of State Travel

116 SEXTON: Explains HB 2496. -Submits information (EXHIBITS B & C).

166 CINDY BECKER, EXEC. DEPT.: Submits proposed amendments and
handouts (EXHIBITS D & E) about HB 2496. -Explains handouts. -Notes
frequent flyer information.

220 WATT: Why wouldn't we be successful in negotiating for that?

223 BECKER: The state isn't a big enough customer. -Two airlines are willing to work with us.

239 WATT: This information says four airlines will work with us. -If we were to only allow flying on airlines that allowed the state to get the frequent flyer

benefits, what would happen?

268 BECKER: We might not be able to get the lowest fares.

282 ANN VECCHI, AWAY TRAVEL: United is the most used carrier. At least 80% of the time.

291 REPRESENTATIVE CEDRIC HAYDEN: How long are frequent flyer vouchers good for?

296 VECCHI: A couple years.

320 WATT: Why aren't proposed sanctions in these amendments?

325 BECKER: Responds.

334 REPRESENTATIVE MICHAEL PAYNE: Will employees be compensated when they have to spend weekends away, etc.?

345 BECKER: Responds.

357 HAYDEN: Are the employees authorized hotel rooms and per diem, etc.?

365 BECKER: Yes.

377 PAYNE: Will they be forced to stay over weekends?

388 BECKER: Not to my knowledge.

394 REPRESENTATIVE FRED GIROD: Will anything in these amendments change priorities on out of state travel?

400 BECKER: Responds.

435 LARRY LARGE, HIGHER EDUCATION: Submits handout (EXHIBIT F) on HB 249 6.

TAPE 32, SIDE A

033 LARGE: Explains handout. -Explains planning. -Explains B.A.R.C.

080 REPRESENTATIVE LONNIE ROBERTS, COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIR: Who is ultimately responsible?

085 LARGE: The Chancellor. -Speaks about frequent flyer miles.

135 MELINDA GRIER: Federal government says that any benefits must be used by the people that received the grant (for the grant).

150 WATT: Does the federal government outline what the sanctions would be for defaulting on that?

165 GRIER: No.

170 LARGE: Continues. -There's not as big a gain from frequent flyer miles as assumed.

200 GIROD: Why do you go on out of state trips at all?

210 LARGE: Submits additional handout (EXHIBIT G). -Details what out of state travel is done.

260 WATT: Notes that the reason for this legislation is to reduce costs and to make sure agencies are accountable for costs.

292 PAYNE: Shouldn't we spend money on education instead of travel?

310 LARGE: Responds.

352 RALPH GROENER: In support of HB 2496. -Gives examples of the benefits. -Cut as much as possible and use it elsewhere.

TAPE 31, SIDE B

058 WATT: Responds when asked that the committee could conceivably eliminate out of state travel. -The more information we get, the better.

072 GIROD: Any solution will require decentralization.

080 MARI ANNE GEST, O.P.E.U.: In support of reducing out of state travel. -Some people need to travel, though. -Submits written testimony (EXHIBIT H). -HB 2496 needs an amendment that compensates employees for weekends and other lost time.

130 SEXTON: Asks for clarification.

135 GEST: Responds.

138 WATT: Closes hearing on HB 2496. -Opens work session on HB 2496.

(Tape 31, Side B) WORK SESSION - HB 2496

150 WATT: Asks about the additional workloads that HB 2496 would cause and maintaining accountability.

157 LARGE: Informally suggests changes: -Page 2, line 5 after the 3rd word, insert "paid for by state dollars."

175 BECKER: Should say "it's a policy of the state that travel awards earned while conducting state business, notwithstanding any other contracts with the federal government or anybody else, go to the state . . ."

189 LARGE: Clarifies expectations of management. Is an honor system acceptable?

196 BECKER: We'd make sure the agencies are complying. Some sort of internal policy. Need to act professionally.

217 WATT: The honor system shouldn't be a problem, but you say it will

just cause another level of bureaucracy.

222 LARGE: We'd like to figure out a way to do this, and there would be penalties for violations. We don't want to spend more money than can be recovered, though.

259 GIROD: It doesn't go far enough into restricting out of state travel.

267 JOHNSON: We should ask the Chair to go to Ways & Means and ask that all general fund out of state travel be restricted unless with proven need (responsibility of their job).

291 WATT: Notes page 1, line 23.

295 JOHNSON: We need to say "don't send anybody." 315 BECKER: Out of state travel should be a last resort. -Notes telecommunications is more advantageous as is bringing someone in instead of sending lots of people out.

333 WATT: Notes sub. 5, page 2, line 18. -Addresses sub 2.

360 LARGE: Notes concern in language.

378 KATHLEEN BEAUFAIT: Asks for clarification. -Put in something to the effect of "except as required by specific contractual provisions, condition precedent to the receipt of federal or other grant."

388 LARGE: Fine.

389 WATT: Where would we insert that?

393 BECKER: It would say: "Except as otherwise required as a prerequisite to receive federal or other funds."

427 PAYNE: All out of state travel paid for by the state should be prohibited. That would eliminate general fund payments for it. -Under 1-A.

463 REPRESENTATIVE DAVE MCTEAGUE: That's basically what this amendment already says.

487 WATT: I agree.

TAPE 32, SIDE B

031 WATT: I'd like to recommend the committee consider these amendments as they are now and come back next legislative session for a progress report.

035 GIROD: I think we should go forward with the bill. -I also favor sending a letter to Ways & Means.

044 WATT: Calls attention to page 2, lines 3 and 4. -Add a sub D that would state: "Each agency shall make every effort possible to minimize employee's time spent on out of state travel." -Sub 2, line 7 : "Except as otherwise required as a prerequisite to receive federal or other funds." -I would like to move this. It would go to LC and to fiscal and then

come back.

061 HAYDEN: When you say federal or other funds is "Other funds" capitalized with a big "O"? That means non-general funds.

065 WATT: That's the intent, but I don't know if it needs to be capitalized.

070 MOTION: REP. ROBERTS moves to accept amendments to LC 1868.

074 PAYNE: Could there be a friendly amendment to minimize employee time spent on out of state travel?

078 WATT: I added that as a sub D, under section 1, page 2, line 3 and 4. -Will you withdraw your friendly motion?

086 PAYNE: I'd rather have it in #5, but that's okay. -Withdraws friendly motion.

088 VOTE: In a roll call vote, majority votes AYE. AYE: Rep. Girod, Gordly, Johnson, McTeague, Hayden, Vice-Chair Roberts, Chair Watt. NAY: Rep. Payne. ABS: Rep. Jones.

095 WATT: Declares passed. -Closes work session on HB 2496. -Notes a policy change in the committee, with the naming of two subcommittees. -Adjourns meeting at 3:04 p.m.

Submitted by

Reviewed by

Ken Brady

Administrator

Adrienne Sexton Clerk

EXHIBIT LOG:

A - Testimony on HB 2376 - Mike Marsh - 2 pages B - Information on HB 2496 - Staff - 3 pages C - Information on HB 2496 - Staff - 6 pages D - Proposed amendments to HB 2496 - Cindy Becker - 3 pages E - Testimony on HB 2496 - Cindy Becker - 2 pages F - Testimony on HB 2496 - Larry Large - 3 pages G - Testimony on HB 2496 - Larry Large - 2 pages H - Testimony on HB 2496 - Mari Anne Gest - 2 pages