

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND REORGANIZATION Subcommittee on
Reorganization

March 24, 1993 Hearing Room E 1:30 p.m. Tapes 14 - 16

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. John Watt, Chair Rep. Delna Jones Rep. Michael
Payne Rep. Eldon Johnson Rep. Avel Gordly

VISITING MEMBER: Rep. Dave McTeague

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

MEASURES CONSIDERED: HB 2640 - Freezes salaries of state
employees.

HJR 62 - Constitutional amendment to reorganize
legislative assembly into two sessions

WITNESSES: Rep. Larry Campbell, Speaker of the House Mike
Marsh, Exec. Dept. Rep. Mary Alice Ford Ramona Kenady, Chief Clerk Susan
Wilson, Administrator Donna Merrill, Sec. of Senate John Lattimer,
Legislative Fiscal Jim Scherzinger, Legislative Revenue Rep. Sharon
Wylie Mari Anne Gest, O.P.E.U. Alice Dale, O.P.E.U. Karen Roach, Exec.
Dept. Brian DeLashmutt, Oregon Nurses Association

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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
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TAPE 14, SIDE A

007 REPRESENTATIVE JOHN WATT, SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR: Convenes meeting at
1:34 p.m. -Opens public hearing on HJR 62. PUBLIC HEARING - HJR 62

009 ADRIENNE SEXTON, COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATOR: Explains HJR 62. -It
will relate to HB 3614 and HB 3615.

039 REPRESENTATIVE LARRY CAMPBELL, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: In support
of HJR 62. -Explains the concept behind HJR 62. -Submits written
testimony (EXHIBIT B).

093 MIKE MARSH, EXECUTIVE DEPT.: In support of HJR 62. -Notes that
the governor encourages change.

149 REPRESENTATIVE DAVE MCTEAGUE: How do you adjust for budget if we
change to two sessions?

155 MARSH: Responds.

161 MCTEAGUE: When would it be on the ballot?

169 WATT: Could be as early as this June.

192 REPRESENTATIVE MARY ALICE FORD: Presents proposals (EXHIBITS C, D, E, & F). -Explains budget process changes. -Elections would stay the same. -Explains legislative changes. -The plan is training for the governor and legislators.

296 REPRESENTATIVE MICHAEL PAYNE: Commends Rep. Ford for her plan.

315 REPRESENTATIVE DELNA JONES: Asks for a clarification of the plan.

326 FORD: Responds. -Would like a one-year budget.

347 JONES: We would meet every year?

354 FORD: No, biannually. -Explains.

370 WATT: Is there anything that would limit the organizational year's session from continuing on?

377 FORD: Responds.

383 WATT: In HJR 36, is there specificity for dates? Or is it in the other bills?

397 FORD: Responds.

400 WATT: Needs to address that it doesn't meet every year. 409
JONES: Have you worked with any groups on this?

413 FORD: No. -Presented to many groups afterward.

460 WATT: Asks staff to give opinions on Rep. Ford's plan.

TAPE 15, SIDE A

042 WATT: Closes public hearing on HJR 62. -Opens work session on HJR 62.

WORK SESSION - HJR 62

050 WATT: How would HJR 36 affect what you do?

060 RAMONA KENADY, CHIEF CLERK: We looked at this proposal. -Would have been our second choice. -In comparison between HJR 36 and HJR 62, HJR 62 would work either way you do this. -HJR 62 limits organizational session to certain actions.

093 SUSAN WILSON, ADMINISTRATOR: Discusses the concepts discussed. -We did look at these options. -Submits charts (EXHIBITS G & H).

113 JONES: Did you talk about the budget process in relation to it?

117 WILSON: Yes.

117 DONNA MERRILL, SECRETARY OF THE SENATE: We decided upon HJR 62 instead of HJR 36 because of efficiencies, deadlines, cost-savings,

etc.

138 WATT: Asks Merrill to speak about support staff. If we meet in an organizational session then an intense interim, will we need more staff?

148 MERRILL: The committees could be compacted more. -Explains. -I don't believe it would increase.

165 WATT: What about the difference between the January proposal and the September proposal?

168 MERRILL: I don't think there would be a substantial difference.

171 JONES: This would make us more of a "part-time" legislature. Was that part of your considerations?

179 MERRILL: Yes.

194 JONES: Are we looking at a legislative session that doesn't look at actual bills until September? 202 KENADY: They would come to us as LC drafts, go to interim committees as drafts, then to bills in September. -Would save printing substantially.

225 JONES: Asks for a clarification of the process.

228 KENADY: There would be pre-session filings, and member filings. -Explains member filings.

235 REPRESENTATIVE ELDON JOHNSON: Could any other committees be consolidated?

243 KENADY: I don't see where any other consolidations could be made, but we may need to look at it.

256 JOHNSON: The consolidation system has an immense time-saving potential.

310 WATT: We would have committee work during the September session?

316 KENADY: Yes. This would still require three readings.

321 WATT: More work sessions than public hearings?

322 KENADY: Yes.

324 PAYNE: Can we combine this with Rep. Ford's proposals? Do we have to keep with that date?

330 KENADY: It could be done. There's nothing to disallow it.

340 JONES: Why are we keeping the phrase "the second Monday in September."

345 KENADY: That's how it reads in statute.

370 WATT: Could a change in the budgeting cycle be instituted in HJR 62?

386 JOHN LATTIMER, LEGISLATIVE FISCAL: It would be the same cycle, just a different year.

400 JOHNSON: Would there be a problem changing?

419 JIM SCHERZINGER, LEGISLATIVE REVENUE: The problem is that the state works on a different fiscal year than local government, but it could be worked out.

433 WATT: Could you take Rep. Ford's plan into account, and report back to us?

442 SCHERZINGER: Yes. It may even be easier.

452 WATT: What were the thoughts on going to a calendar fiscal year?

458 SCHERZINGER: There's a decision cycle and then a justification cycle, and those overlap now. These proposals could solve that.

TAPE 14, SIDE B

033 SCHERZINGER: The main difference between the proposals is that the January date would have a longer decision time and shorter campaign time.

060 WATT: Would it be acceptable to accept contributions during the legislative session? It would shorten the length of time for fund raising.

077 JONES: Now we have interim committees that go on for a year and a half.

085 WATT: During the interim under these plans, we'd be working bills . . . should we accept contributions?

095 JOHNSON: I don't see any difference this way. It wouldn't be a problem.

125 WATT: Closes work session on HJR 62. -Opens work session on HB 2640 A.

WORK SESSION - HB 2640 A

130 WATT: Explains why it has been referred back to committee.

140 SEXTON: Explains A engrossed HB 2640 A and -12 amendments. -Explains the differences.

158 WATT: There is another amendment that is in Legislative Counsel as we speak that would essentially do the same thing with different language. -We've done research from the 1985 session as well.

207 REPRESENTATIVE SHARON WYLIE: The methods of a temporary freeze do not answer "how do we compensate people in the long run?"

230 WATT: Recesses for fire alarm. -Reconvenes work session at 2:53 p.m.

245 WYLIE: We must preserve the collaborative process. -We need to do

a better job of setting priorities. -Notes that her own legislation would work with this.

325 WATT: We will be addressing these things.

340 JOHNSON: Is it possible to restructure in the time frame we have?

349 WYLIE: The process of freezes is a short-term response. Setting priorities is something we've been ineffective with so far. -That's our job: to come to a collective agreement.

378 JOHNSON: Can we break down the segments of government in the time we have to do so?

402 WYLIE: I think we can do better than we have been doing. -We need to invest extra effort in the legislative business.

431 MCTEAGUE: The impact on state employee morale has gone unreported . . . since the governor's plans and this salary freeze, etc. -What can you tell us about the relationship between morale and performance?

TAPE 15, SIDE B

040 WYLIE: We tend to avoid [as legislators] the things that are really important.

079 JOHNSON: If we negotiate a pay freeze, do you think the employees understand what we're doing and why?

086 WYLIE: They are as diversely opinioned as the general public.

103 MARI ANNE GEST, O.P.E.U.: Introduces self and Alice Dale.

107 ALICE DALE, O.P.E.U.: It's difficult to ask employees to do more work with less staff. -HB 2640, even with amendments, is a kick in the teeth.

140 WATT: Asks for a clarification. -Ways & Means had a specific subcommittee and fund that dealt with salaries only.

150 DALE: There was a subcommittee, and it approved or disapproved a settlement. But the agency still had some say in it. -Notes the current revision . . . that puts the Executive Dept. in a difficult position to bargain.

206 WATT: Earlier, you said you could live with this proposal.

211 DALE: But with the provision that pre-1985 didn't have, the agency doesn't have a say.

240 WATT: This bill is back here because it may interfere with the collective bargaining process. That's what should be addressed.

313 WATT: Do you have an active role in the bargaining for the Executive Dept. & how many contracts are we bargaining now?

315 KAREN ROACH, EXECUTIVE DEPT.: Some for the Unions of
A.S.M.E., and A.E.E.

330 WATT: There were benefit baragainings?

333 ROACH: Based on bargaining issues.

342 JONES: They tried a wage freeze but added another step?

346 ROACH: Yes. The people at the top get 2% increase. 350 JONES:
Is that a wage freeze?

359 ROACH: Not in my opinion. -Explains. -Association of Engineering
Employees.

375 JONES: We bargained an additional step, how much did this cost?

381 ROACH: Not exact, but I believe [three of the agencies]
around \$6 million.

396 JOHNSON: We need to be straight with the people. If it's not a
wage increase or step increase, then
tell me what it is. Tell the voters the honest truth.

422 WATT: Do these proceedings on HB 2640A influence or inhibit
your bargaining with these people?

433 ROACH: In my opinion, we go to the table with the governor's
plans as our basis, so the legislation does not guide our proposals
until it becomes law.

461 WATT: My question is do these introduced bills and hearings
influence you as to your decisions?

469 ROACH: It depends on what we think will happen to the bill.

TAPE 16, SIDE A

040 JONES: Is this \$6 million you talked about in the governor's
budget?

051 ROACH: Yes.

053 JONES: If we didn't give that step increase to the top people,
would we have to lay off as
many people?

057 ROACH: There's a variety of ways that could have been used
in the budget.

062 MCTEAGUE: What role does the state salary survey play in
negotiations?

066 ROACH: No direct role. -Explains use of state salary survey.

074 MCTEAGUE: What is it telling us? Comparability? Are we paying 25%
more than the private sector or what?

080 ROACH: The state salary package on average are within +/- 5%.

090 MCTEAGUE: Does it take into account all, including benefits?
093 ROACH: Yes.
095 MCTEAGUE: How does this compare with years ago. 097 ROACH:
Much better. -Explains.
101 JOHNSON: Are we finished with the comparable work issue?
104 ROACH: That is kept as a consideration as we bargain.
112 JOHNSON: Is it basically done, implemented?
114 ROACH: Yes.
123 WATT: Alice, when making political contributions, does your
organization support the idea that
the elected representative should 'go with their friends'?
134 DALE: Responds that they interview and endorse who best
fits our qualifications. -Speaks on the pay-equity THINGY.
170 BRIAN DELASHMUTT, OREGON NURSES ASSOCIATION: You can't assume
that an
employee only costs money. -Can generate revenue.
200 WATT: Do you negotiate with Higher Education or the Executive
Dept.?
202 DELASHMUTT: Executive Dept.
204 JONES: Do you want privatization?
210 DELASHMUTT: We have no position on that. -Notes revenue of
hospital. -No revenue without employees.
230 WATT: Closes work session on HB 2640 A. -Adjourns meeting at 3:50
p.m.

Submitted by:

Reveiwed by:

Kenneth Brady
Administrator

Adrienne Sexton Clerk

EXHIBIT LOG:

A - Report on HJR 62 - Staff - 2 pages B - Testimony on HJR 62 -
Larry Campbell - 2 pages C - Testimony on HJR 62 - Mary Alice Ford -
1 page D - HJR 36 - Mary Alice Ford - 1 page E - HB 3132 - Mary
Alice Ford - 49 pages F - HB 3133 - Mary Alice Ford - 42 pages G -
Chart on HJR 62 - Susan Wilson - 1 page H - Chart on HJR 62 - Susan
Wilson - 1 page I - HB 2640, A engrossed - Staff - 1 page J -
Proposed Amendments to HB 2640 - John Watt - 1 page K - Information on
HB 2640 - John Watt - 1 page