

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

March 9, 1993 Hearing Room 343 3:00 p.m. Tapes 31 - 32

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sen. Catherine Webber, Chair Sen. Stan Bunn Sen. Ron
Cease Sen. Shirley Gold Sen. Paul Phillips

STAFF PRESENT: Jan Barga, Committee Administrator Julie Mušiz,
Committee Assistant

MEASURES CONSIDERED: SB 26 - Relating to education service
districts

[--- Unable To Translate Graphic ---]

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

003 CHAIR WEBBER: Calls meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

008 JAN BARGEN, COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATOR: Reviews LC Draft 3557,
(EXHIBIT A).

014 MOTION: CHAIR WEBBER moves introduction of LC Draft 3557.

VOTE: Hearing no objection, so ordered.

(Tape 31, Side A) SB 26 - RELATING TO EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICTS -
PUBLIC HEARING WITNESSES: Frank Ellis, Superintendent, Klamath
County James Redmond, Superintendent, Yamhill ESD Ron Pittman, Yamhill
ESD Steve Johnson, Superintendent, Dayton School District Kieu-Oanh
Nguyen, Portland Public Schools Vickie Dozler-Totten, Oregon School
Boards Association Jerry Bennett, Superintendent, Linn-Benton ESD

022 FRANK ELLIS, SUPERINTENDENT, KLAMATH COUNTY: Not all Eastern
Oregon counties are in opposition to SB 26. Klamath county supports this
bill

which would combine Klamath and Lake counties into one ESD. Supports
bill because of the more comprehensive services it'll provide and its
cost-effectiveness. By combining the students we will have the numbers
to run a regional program without going the distances we currently must
do to provide these services.

053 SEN. CEASE: How many students are in Lake county?

054 Ellis: Approximately 1600. Submits and reviews map, (EXHIBIT B). We currently run a courier service in Klamath county school district that

covers a large area. By combining these services we will be able to decrease costs.

115 JAMES REDMOND, SUPERINTENDENT, YAMHILL ESD: Submits and summarizes proposal report, (EXHIBIT C).

155 SEN. CEASE: What's the significance of a river running through the county?

157 Redmond: Its a difficult drive; you have to go around because there aren't many bridges. Continues testimony against SB 26, (EXHIBIT C).

188 STEVE JOHNSON, SUPERINTENDENT, DAYTON SCHOOL DISTRICT: Summarizes position paper in Yamhill position report, (EXHIBIT C).

208 RON PITTMAN, YAMHILL ESD: Reviews Board Member Input in Yamhill position report, (EXHIBIT C).

257 SEN. BUNN: Gives strong support for Yamhill position. It makes sense to combine Polk and Yamhill county. The combination with Marion county

would be a mistake because of the huge differences between counties.

265 CHAIR WEBBER: In Marion county there are really two distinct school districts: Salem/Keizer public schools and the rural area schools

surrounding them.

275 SEN. BUNN: But the nature of how the process would work wouldn't give equal treatment to Polk, Yamhill and Marion county constituencies.

283 SEN. PHILLIPS: The same argument can be made for Washington county being distinctly bigger. Each area has differences and uniqueness, but

we need to come together and break these boundaries. Otherwise everyone would argue such uniqueness. Where do we draw the line?

302 SEN. BUNN: I have no problem with breaking down barriers. The problem is 10 years from now, what kind of service will Willamina or Dayton

schools get combined to the services they receive now? That outcome needs to be considered.

321 CHAIR WEBBER: Recesses meeting at 3:34 p.m. for afternoon floor session. Re-convenes at 4:49 p.m.

333 KIEU-OANH NGUYEN, PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS: Submits and

summarizes written testimony, (EXHIBIT D).

367 CHAIR WEBBER: What are ESDs doing that couldn't be done by Portland Public Schools? 372 Nguyen: We provide a lot of services that ESDs provide for other districts. The ESDs do provide some services in terms of printing.

387 CHAIR WEBBER: You're not aware of any unique services that ESDs provide that you could not?

389 Nguyen: No. But a lot of our services are very dependent on ESD funding which is facing cuts.

397 CHAIR WEBBER: That money is inter-twined with your own funding?

399 Nguyen: Yes.

405 VICKIE DOZLER-TOTTEN, OREGON SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION: Submits handout on OSB A recommendations, (EXHIBIT E). Supports merger of ESDs but does

not completely support Task Force Report. Boundaries should be decided locally.

433 SEN. CEASE: It's obvious as you listen to people that some are interested in larger boundaries and others aren't. The Task Force was

to reduce the number of ESDs. If we left the boundaries up to the local districts that won't be done. This is a cop out isn't it?

449 TOTTEN: I don't believe so. The four county unit in the northwest is actively moving towards merging. Sherman, Gilliam and Wheeler are

looking at merging with Wasco ESD. Coos may merge with Curry county.

Deschutes and Cook counties are discussing mergers as are Morrow and

Umatilla counties. In Region 13, Union and Grant are holding

discussions. There is a mechanism in the bill that allows the ESDs

interested in merging to present their plan to the State Board. There

are many ESDs interested in merging, even though you haven't heard from them.

Tape 32, Side A

036 Totten: Continues testimony. OSB A has a concern about putting advisory members on the local boards because of the unclarity on where these

people would come from.

050 JERRY BENNETT, SUPERINTENDENT, LINN-BENTON ESD: Oregon needs a comprehensive mission statement for education; SB 26 will move us closer to such a statement. ESDs are cost-effective and are needed

now more

than ever due to budget restrictions. ESDs can make education more efficient. Urges support of Committee to help ESDs and education get organized. (EXHIBIT H) -- ???

168 Bargen: Submits written testimony from Burt Kaplan, Director, Coos County Mental Health Department, (EXHIBIT F).

173 CHAIR WEBBER: I also received testimony from Marion county, (EXHIBIT G) and a request to draft some amendments. Adjourns meeting at 4:57 p.m.

Submitted by:

Reviewed by:

Julie Mušiz
Administrator

Jan Bargen Assistant

EXHIBIT LOG:

A - LC Draft 3557 - Staff - 1 page B - Map - Frank Ellis - 1 page C - Yamhill position on SB 26 - James Redmond - 22 pages D - Testimony on SB 26 - Kieu-Oanh Nguyen - 1 page E - OSB A handout - Vickie Dozler-Totten - 4 pages F - Testimony on SB 26 - Burt Kaplan - 1 page G - Testimony on SB 26 - Marion County - 2 pages H - Testimony on SB 26 - Jerry Bennett - ???