

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

March 30, 1993 Hearing Room 343 3:00 p.m. Tapes 44 - 45

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sen. Catherine Webber, Chair Sen. Stan Bunn,
Vice-Chair Sen. Ron Cease Sen. Shirley Gold

MEMBER EXCUSED: Sen. Paul Phillips

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

MEASURES CONSIDERED: SB 496 - Relating to home schooling SB
121 - Relating to Department of Workforce
Development and Community Colleges; declaring an

emergency SB 172 - Relating to the Trustees of
the State Library; appropriating money SB 26 - Relating to education
service districts

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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 44, SIDE A

005 CHAIR WEBBER: Calls meeting to order at 3:25 p.m.

(Tape 44, Side A) SB 496 - RELATING TO HOME SCHOOLING - PUBLIC HEARING
WITNESSES: Sharon Smith, Coos County ESD Greg McMurdo, Department of
Education Dennis Tuuri, Parents Education Association Mike Shearer,
Citizen Kim Gordon, Oregon Home Education Network Richard Karman, Oregon
Christian Education Association

Jeanne Hodgson, Salem Area Christian Home Schoolers

020 SHARON SMITH, COOS COUNTY ESD: Testifies in support of SB 496.
Submits her letter of request to Sen. Bradbury, charts and letters in
support of bill, (EXHIBITS A & B). Home schooling is being misused as
a dumping

ground for attendance and discipline problems. By setting a cut-off
date at October 31, the attendance problems will be prevented and
protect the rights of the dedicated, home schooling parents.

047 CHAIR WEBBER: Describe the problem that you see.

048 Smith: Parents of children with terrible attendance records are given the choice of going to court of applying for home schooling.

058 CHAIR WEBBER: Does testing take place routinely?

060 Smith: Testing is to take place every eight weeks, but most don't get the testing done. We then have to go after them to get the testing

done, and the children eventually are returned to school. Then they just continue the cycle of non-attendance and behavioral problems. I believe having this cut-off date will alleviate some of this.

070 CHAIR WEBBER: When do most parents decide to home school?

076 Smith: About 40% apply on or before October 31. The rest apply after that date. I can't say how many of the latter applicants are attendance problems, but I would guess that many of them are.

085 SEN. BUNN: Isn't there a potential need for two notification dates -- one at the beginning of the school year and one at the Christmas break

for the parents who decide to home school the second half of the year.

096 Smith: Yes. That is a possibility.

101 SEN. BUNN: Aren't there parents who wish to take advantage of the mid-year break to decide about home schooling that would be foreclosed

by the current wording in the bill?

105 Smith: Yes, there are some. The biggest problem is seen from March through June. I hope the schools could work with these parents.

111 SEN. BUNN: If we were to create a second notice date, what would be the logical date to choose?

114 Smith: At the beginning of second semester around February 1.

116 CHAIR WEBBER: How far reaching is this problem?

118 Smith: I've gotten responses and letters of support from people that also have this problem, particularly around the Medford area, (EXHIBIT

A).

130 GREG MCMURDO, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION: We are opposed to SB 496. Most of the proponents of this bill are concerned with truants, not home

schooling. This bill doesn't solve for these problems. Presents history of State Board relationship to home schoolers; new cooperation

recently established. Submits Home School Advisory Committee membership roster, (EXHIBIT C). Most counties will not act on a truancy citation.

This does not put home school children on an equal status as the public school students. We've established a good system. 255 DENNIS TUURI, PARENTS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION: Submits and reviews written testimony opposed to SB 496, (EXHIBIT D). Suggests sensitivity

training for people who need to work with home school parents.

350 MIKE SHEARER, CITIZEN: Supports SB 496. Advocates and parents of home schooling don't see the negative aspects of home schooling. The most

glaring problem of home schooling is the socialization problem -- the children don't have the opportunity to develop strong relationships.

Supports any bill that would restrict this practice.

405 KIM GORDON, OREGON HOME EDUCATION NETWORK: Opposes SB 496. We recommend to parents to remove their children in the middle of the

school year if they are thinking of home schooling. It gives them several months to decide if home schooling will work for them before committing to it for a whole year.

Tape 45, Side A

023 RICHARD KARMAN, OREGON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION: Opposes SB 496 . The problem Sharon Smith discussed is real, but it is not addressed in

this legislation. Parents who decide to home school need the freedom to decide when they want to home school.

057 CHAIR WEBBER: Submits letter from Roy Burkett in opposition to SB 496 , (EXHIBIT E).

060 JEANNE HODGSON, SALEM AREA CHRISTIAN HOME SCHOOLERS: Opposes SB 496 . Parents should be able to decide what's best for their children. Thomas Edison was home schooled.

(Tape 45, Side A) SB 121 - RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY - WORK SESSION WITNESSES: Debbie Lincoln, Deputy Commissioner of Community Colleges

107 CHAIR WEBBER: Summarizes bill. Reviews reasons to send it to the Trade and Economic Development Committee. There have been some conversations

with the requestors of the bill, the Committee and Sen. Cohen on how to strengthen the Work Force Quality Council without creating a separate department.

119 SEN. GOLD: Where does the do not pass recommendation come from?

120 CHAIR WEBBER: This is a bill that probably wouldn't pass out of Committee. The Senate President requested we send these bills to the

Trade and Economic Development Committee.

124 SEN. GOLD: I would rather pass it out without a recommendation.

126 SEN. BUNN: That creates a different dynamic. I have some strong opinions on several of these bills. I think creating a new Work Force

Department will be a disservice to the workforce. I would only send this bill out of committee if I knew that it would not pass. If we send it out with no recommendation, we don't know what may happen to it in the future.

145 SEN. GOLD: I'm surprised at this action.

155 CHAIR WEBBER: We could hold this over until Thursday if you want more discussion on it.

159 SEN. GOLD: Is this bill at the Governor's request?

163 CHAIR WEBBER: Yes.

168 SEN. GOLD: Do the people who requested this bill still want it?

176 DEBBIE LINCOLN, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES: This bill is part of the Governor's workforce package. We have since realized the

lack of support for this bill. There may be other ways to achieve these goals.

191 SEN. GOLD: Bills dealing with re-organization that are subsequently referred to another committee should be worked out in that committee

before being sent onto Trade and Economic Development. I'm surprised we're not making an effort to work with these other possibilities.

207 CHAIR WEBBER: The bill would have died. Roger Bassett has some other alternatives in a separate bill. So instead of having this bill just

sit in committee while the other bill is amended, we thought it should be moved onto the Trade Committee.

224 SEN. GOLD: You don't want to work with the education aspects of workforce development?

225 CHAIR WEBBER: We could, if you're concerned.

234 SEN. BUNN: There may be more agreement on SB 172. Maybe we should let this set for a while.

(Tape 45, Side A) SB 172 - RELATING TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE STATE LIBRARY; APPROPRIATING MONEY - WORK SESSION

247 MOTION: SEN. BUNN move SB 172 to Trade and Economic Development with a do not pass recommendation.

252 SEN. CEASE: We should send a cover memo to the Trade Committee explaining the reason for the recommendation. The only positive outcome of this bill would be the possibility of the State Library getting more attention in the Secretary of State's office. I'm not convinced about

the argument dealing with the archives. There is an active Board of Trustees currently. I don't see the need to down-grade it.

285 VOTE: Motion passes (4-0). Sen. Phillips is excused.

(Tape 45, Side A) SB 26 - RELATING TO EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICTS - PUBLIC HEARING WITNESSES: Wes Vollmer, Linn-Benton ESD Jerry Bennett, Linn-Benton ESD Pat Dooling, Multnomah ESD Jerry Shiveley, Multnomah ESD John Young, Washington ESD

315 JERRY BENNETT, LINN-BENTON ESD: Urges support of SB 26.

352 WES VOLLMER, LINN-BENTON, ESD: Submits and reviews blue report and brochure, (EXHIBITS F & G).

422 PAT DOOLING, MULTNOMAH ESD: Urges support of SB 26.

Tape 44, Side B

017 JERRY SHIVELEY, MULTNOMAH ESD: Submits and reviews written testimony from James Jacobson, Superintendent of Multnomah ESD, (EXHIBIT H).

049 JOHN YOUNG, WASHINGTON ESD: Urges passage of SB 26.

064 JAN BARGEN, COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATOR: Submits other written testimony in support of SB 26, (EXHIBITS J & K).

(Tape 44, Side B) SB 26 - RELATING TO EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICTS - WORK SESSION WITNESSES: Rose Otte, Sen. Eugene Timms' Office Wilma Wells, Confederation of Oregon School Administrators

078 BARGEN: Reviews package of proposed amendments, (EXHIBIT I). Reviews amendments proposed at previous meeting, (Parts A & B of 3/25/93

meeting, EXHIBIT D).

238 CHAIR WEBBER: When we got Sen. Timms' amendment, the way it was drafted left Klamath without any authority to tax. Klamath must be annexed

somewhere. I spoke to Sen. Timms this morning. It was his request that

Klamath county be allowed to stay with Lake county.

253 MOTION: SEN. BUNN moves the LC -8 amendments.

257 SEN. CEASE: Please explain to me what that does.

262 CHAIR WEBBER: It's my suggestion that we refer this bill to Revenue. There are two timing issues in terms of funding. The first allows

Revenue to just amend the bill and fill in the funding amount when they pass it out. The other addresses the philosophy of the equalization of future funding.

273 VOTE: Hearing no objection, so ordered.

274 MOTION: SEN. BUNN moves the LC -10 amendments.

277 VOTE: Hearing no objection, so ordered.

279 MOTION: SEN. BUNN moves his amendment (Part 1 of Exhibit I).

288 VOTE: Hearing no objection, so ordered.

300 SEN. BUNN: Suggests we keep Klamath and Lake county together.

305 SEN. GOLD: I acquiesced with Sen. Bunn's request. I would have preferred to have left the map as it is in SB 26. The question now is

do we consider Lake county's request and what do we do with Klamath.

351 SEN. CEASE: If you don't annex Klamath to Lake county, you'll have to annex it somewhere else. The other options are not acceptable.

370 SEN. GOLD: Lake's afraid they would be "eaten up" by Klamath.

401 ROSE OTTE, SEN. EUGENE TIMMS' OFFICE: I think the Lake County people would be very disappointed if they're put together with Klamath. They

wouldn't be well represented in the resolution process. Could Klamath stand alone?

419 CHAIR WEBBER: No.

426 Otte: We have no problem with Klamath joining with Jackson and Josephine county. Klamath currently contract with Jackson county for

these services.

431 SEN. CEASE: It doesn't make sense to put Klamath and Josephine counties together and leave such a small county as Lake by itself. The other

option would be to combined it with Deschutes. I think it's better off

than in the original bill.

442 SEN. GOLD: Whom does Klamath now contract with?

445 Otte: Jackson ESD.

459 WILMA WELLS, CONFEDERATION OF OREGON SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS:
Klamath asked to consolidate with Lake because of the closeness with the
courier service. When they are consolidated in Lake County, there will
be only

two school districts. They are concerned that will need to go over the
mountains to get those services.

Tape 45, Side B

035 SEN. BUNN: My understanding that Sen. Timms preference was that
Klamath should be paired with Lake county. You're saying that it
would be

better to put Klamath with Jackson county instead?

043 Otte: I understood Sen. Timms preferred that Klamath county be
left alone. Since that is not possible, he would defer to whatever
the

Committee thought was appropriate.

062 Bargaen: The easiest transportation routes would be to connect
to the north with Deschutes county, but Klamath currently gets services
from

Jackson county? 067 Otte: Correct. Ms. Wells is correct -- it is
difficult for Klamath to get some of those special services.

071 SEN. CEASE: If we leave Harney and Malheur alone, what would we do
with Huntington School District? Suggests we hold this until Thursday
to

clarify Sen. Timms' amendment.

096 Bargaen: LC will draft a version of the bill that includes the
adopted amendments.

100 CHAIR WEBBER: Adjourns meeting at 4:55 p.m.

Submitted by:

Reviewed by:

Julie MuSiz
Administrator

Jan Bargaen Assistant

EXHIBIT LOG:

A - Testimony on SB 496 - Sharon Smith - 8 pages B - Testimony on SB
496 - Sharon Smith - 4 pages C - Home School Advisory Committee roster

- Greg McMurdo - 1 page D - Testimony on SB 496 - Dennis Tuuri - 2
pages E - Testimony on SB 496 - Roy Burkett - 2 pages F - School
Improvement Services - Wes Vollmer - 7 pages G - Pamphlet - Wes Vollmer
- 2 pages H - Testimony on SB 26 - James Jacobson - 1 page I -
Proposed amendments for SB 26 - Staff - 11 pages J - Testimony on SB 26
- Wilma Wells - 3 pages K - Testimony on SB 26 - Bruce Anderson - 4
pages