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report a speaker's exact words. For complete contents of the proceedings, please refer to the tapes.

House Special Committee on Children's Issues April 3, 1991, Page HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN'S ISSUES

April 3, 1991Hearing Room F 3:00 p.m.Tapes 19 - 20

MEMBERS PRESENT:Rep. Bob Pickard Rep. Vera Katz, Vice-Chair Rep. Mary Alice Ford Rep. Carolyn Oakley Rep. Beverly Stein

VISITING MEMBERSRep. Walt Schroeder Rep. Dave McTeague Rep. Ron Cease

STAFF PRESENT: Melanie Zermer, Administrator Carolynn Gillson, Committee Assistant

ISSUES CONSIDERED: Task Force on Adolescent Pregnancy & Parenthood Pregnancy Prevention through family life education

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TAPE 19, SIDE A

005 REP. BOB PICKARD, CHAIR: Calls the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. Rep. Oakley is delayed.

Task Force on Adolescent Pregnancy & Parenthood Report

007 MELANIE ZERMER, Committee Administrator: Reviews list of provisions in legislation addressing adolescent pregnancy and parenting (EXHIBIT A).

082 BARBARA ROSS, special projects director, DHR, and staff to the Committee on Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenthood: Provides a packet of information (EXHIBIT B). > Reviews recommendations of the Committee on Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenthood. > Talks about family life education as a tool to reduce pregnancy. Refers to model included in packet. > Reads memo explaining that teaching refusal skills related to sexual activity could be an effective strategy in reducing adolescent childbearing. > Reviews background material in packet from Washington state.

230 JEFF KUSHNER, assistant director, Office of Alcohol & Drug Abuse Programs: SB 584 from last session required every school district to have an alcohol and drug abuse prevention policy plan in it's K-12 curriculum. Peer resistance skills seem to be the most effective at reducing a variety of undesired behaviors. > Describes the five step process in teaching resistance skills. > Developing module would be effective way of addressing the teen pregnancy problem. > Talks about project called "Preparing for the Drug Free Years". Suggests getting parents involved in peer resistance of sexual activity. > The Department

of Justice did random sample of both generic families and high-risk families. Found significant knowledge gain and behavior change on part of families as a result of Preparing for the Drug Free Years program.

ROSS: The expectation is that the parents would be involved in the refusal skills training course at the same time as their children.

296 REP. VERA KATZ: You are recommending incorporating this into the existing alcohol and drug abuse prevention programs in the schools?

KUSHNER: We are recommending adding a module to existing programs.

324 WAYNE NEUBERGER, Department of Education: Our attempt is to pull the drug free schools curriculum, HIV-AIDS education and health curriculum into one integrated comprehensive health program for grades K-12. Support putting together curriculum dealing with avoiding sexual abuse.

368 REP. RON CEASE: How eager are teachers to handle this?

NEUBERGER: These are not their favorite topics. Good support materials are available. During at annual standardization visits to schools, the Department looks specifically at that program. School districts are required to involve teachers and local health specialists in the development of curriculum. > Talks about a grant aimed specifically at staff development for teachers in this area.

417 REP. WALT SCHROEDER: Are parents involved in this?

NEUBERGER: Reads the Department's administrative rule listing who is part of curriculum development.

437 ROSS: The proposal calls for training parents at the same time as the youth. The committee's proposal by committee specifically calls for parent involvement.

TAPE 20, SIDE A

022 ZERMER: Refers to excerpt from the Texas Council for Family Values (EXHIBIT C).

032 PEGGY BOES, the Coalition of Family Advocates: We are a group of women concerned about the impact of legislation on the family. > Describes her concerns as a parent. > Talks about the Texas Council for Family Values report (EXHIBIT D). > Statistics prove that the kind of sex education used in the schools is not working. > Should focus on abstinence education. > Expresses support of HB 3411.

132 BOES: Reviews information from the report referred to earlier concerning results of abstinence education in Texas and the reduced number of pregnancies.

177 HOLLY DENMAN, youth program director for Northwest Family Services: Reads her testimony concerning a federally funded project she coordinates (EXHIBIT E). > Talks about traditional sex education programs, family planning programs and school-based clinics. > Uses a overhead projector to review information in charts attached to her testimony.

297 REP. BEVERLY STEIN: Mentions a program conducted by the John Hopkins School of Medicine that is referred to in an editorial from a recent New York Times newspaper (EXHIBIT F).

DENMAN: Notes existing sex education is not increasing sex activity. Refers to chart attached to her testimony showing the Oregon Teen Pregnancy rates of 15-17 year olds from 1985-1989. > Reviews factors that contribute to intentions regarding sexual behavior (see page 10, Exhibit E).

445 REP. STEIN: Refers to page 2 in handout and stresses that the recommendation to eliminate proposals to continue and/or expand funding for school-base clinics will affect students who do not have access to any other kind of health care.

TAPE 19, SIDE B

013 REP. CEASE: Is the issue premarital sex or children involved in sex?

DENMAN: In our federal program, the term premarital sex is used. Adolescents, ages 12-15, should not be involved in that kind of behavior.

REP. CEASE: Is there any indication that abstinence leads to earlier marriages?

DENMAN: I don't have that information with me and will check into it for you.

050 JAMES MANN, Parent Education Program from Bend: Provides handout concerning the Deschutes County Teen Parent Pilot Program in Bend (EXHIBIT G). > Talks about findings from a study of young women who were discharged from a state training school. > Explains how public health, mental health and the schools all work together. > The focus is that teenagers need a reason to believe that parenthood is inappropriate at this point in their lives. > Deschutes county teen parent rates have gone down. > Lists what was discovered as helpful: special classes for pregnant teens away from public school, home visits, positive use of peer group, focus on completing school or getting GED, parenting classes, anger management, counseling availability and prenatal care. > Strong knowledge and use of community resources in the program. > Suggests teaching teen about probability. > Teens who keep their babies stay at the poverty level. > Class distinction is a factor for young women who keep their babies.

189 REP. KATZ: Concerned no one spoke about the partners for these young women. More interested in studies of situations around the relationship of the two young people involved in the situation. Many times teens are looking for a way to satisfy the lack of relationship with parents.

MANN: Talks about demonstration project in California called the Family Protection Act that involved parents.

240 REP. DAVE McTEAGUE: Served on the HB 3114 Committee on Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenthood during the past interim. > The agencies that provide for the multiple needs of teen parents are constantly fighting the funding battle. > Need to target resources up front for intensive case management, counseling, outreach and advocacy before the teen

parents end up on the Children's Services Division's caseload.

305 REP. MARY ALICE FORD: Is the program intervention conducted in the classroom?

MANN: Their education and support services take place in a house which is off campus. > Explains how child care and transportation are provided.

330 CHAIR PICKARD: Adjourns meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Submitted by:      Reviewed by:

Carolynn GillsonMelanie Zermer AssistantAdministrator

EXHIBIT LOG: A - List of bills - Committee staff - 2 pages  
B - Testimony on Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenthood - Barbara Ross - 57 pages  
C - Excerpts from report on teen pregnancy - Committee staff - 5 pages  
D-Testimony on Adolescent Pregnancy - Peggy Boes - 12 pages  
E-Testimony on Adolescent Pregnancy - Holly Denman - 17 pages  
F-Editorial from New York Times - Committee staff - 1 page  
G-Study of Deschutes County Teen Parent Program - Jim Mann - 3 pages