

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.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

March 11, 1991
33-35

Hearing Room F 1:30 p.m. Tapes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Carolyn Oakley, Chair Rep. Vera Katz,
Vice-Chair Rep. Bruce Hugo Rep. Delna Jones Rep. Mike Nelson Rep. Bob
Pickard Rep. Walt Schroeder

STAFF PRESENT: Lee Penny, Committee Administrator Carolynn Gillson,
Committee Assistant

MEASURES CONSIDERED: HB 2422 - TAG programs, PUB HB 2104 - Team
small group model schools, PUB HB 2613 - ESD promote Planetarium events,
PAW HB 2564 - Requires higher ed institutions to establish housing
committees, PUB

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TAPE 33, SIDE A NOTE: The recording equipment malfunctioned and the beginning of the meeting was not recorded.

005 REP. CAROLYN OAKLEY, CHAIR: Calls the meeting to order at 1:36 p.m.

(Tape 33, Side A) HB 2422 - School districts offer TAG education programs to certain students Public Hearing Witnesses: Karen Brazeau, Department of Education Bob Siewart, Department of Education Betsy Shepard, Oregon Association for Talented and Gifted (OATAG) Susan Kaltwasser, OATAG Christy Folsom, Tigard School District Jennifer Jasaitis, parent of TAG children Dr. Deborah Weiner, Yamhill County TAG Program Sandy Howell, State Advisory Committee on Talented and Gifted Charlene Balzer, West Union School District Alan Tressider, Oregon School Boards Association (OSB A) Wilma Wells, Confederation of School Districts (COSA)

002 KAREN BRAZEAU, Department of Education: Reviews why the Superintendent of Public Education requested HB 2422. > Department's attempt to maintain some kind of program for these children.

011 BOB SIEWART, Department of Education: Talks about the categories of students served.

021 REP. BRUCE HUGO: Is there anything in existing law that prohibits the provisions in this bill from occurring?

BRAZEAU: Explains the confusion there has been in existing law about what school districts are required to do.

044 BETSY SHEPARD, president-elect of OATAG: Reads her testimony in support of HB 2422 because it is an effort to protect the TAG mandate passed in 1987 (EXHIBIT A).

074 SUSAN KALTWASSER, vice-president of OATAG: Reads her testimony in

support of HB 242 2 (EXHIBIT B) and describes her efforts to organize a state-wide parent network. > Reviews two points in her testimony: equity and promises made.

150 CHRISTY FOLSUM, representative of the OATAG Board and program development coordinator, Tigard-Tualatin School District: Reads testimony concerning the importance of identifying academically and intellectually gifted students and supporting HB 2422 (EXHIBIT C).

213 REP. HUGO: Would anyone like to address the bill?

FOLSUM: I support the bill because the academic and intellectual children would be addressed without delay.

224 REP. HUGO: Ms. Kaltwasser, what did you mean in your prepared testimony that parents would not get what they had hoped for? What are parents hoping for?

KALTWASSER: The law currently addresses five areas: intellectual, academic, creative, visual and performing arts and leadership. This bill would limit TAG programs to only the last two areas. Many children are talented and gifted in all the areas. The parents are concerned that the needs of the whole child would not be addressed.

257 REP. HUGO: You are saying your kids deserve something that goes beyond basic education when many other kids in the state are not getting an adequate education. We need to establish a norm for every kid before talking about extraordinary programs for extraordinary kids.

KALTWASSER: Parents are also concerned about an appropriate level of instruction. It is frustrating for the children and the parents.

SHEPARD: There is a diversity of opinions about this particular bill. OATAG reluctantly supports the bill. Our intent is not to offend the committee.

KALTWASSER: Parents understand about the limited resources. They are willing to work to bring those resources to the school district. The parents want the opportunity to work within the system to help meet the needs of their children.

328 REP. HUGO: What you are saying does not require a law. > Concerned that someday you are going to say the state is not following through with its commitment.

KALTWASSER: The law is the impetus for TAG programs to continue.

352 REP. BOB PICKARD: TAG students are the ones that have fallen through the cracks in this country and this state. We should not be listening to anything that would weaken the intent of the body that passed the mandate.

403 JENNIFER JASAITIS, TAG parent: Refers to written testimony and explains why talented and gifted children have different needs (EXHIBIT D).

TAPE 34, SIDE A

024 JASAITIS: I am unwilling to support any weakening of this mandate. If this bill is a way to save the mandate, then put a sunset provision on it.

056 REP. WALT SCHROEDER: If this program is cut, would you prefer putting the money into training of teachers to work in TAG programs.

JASAITIS: Talks about a federal grant the Department has that runs out the end of the biennium. > Talks about a hardship waiver for the

implementation of the TAG mandate in Portland Public Schools.

126 DR. DEBORAH WEINER, coordinator of Yamhill County Cooperative Gifted Education Project: Reads testimony concerning the five school districts in Yamhill county that were awarded TAG grants (EXHIBIT E). > Believes the bill is vital.

175 REP. DELNA JONES: I don't think children need to be categorized to receive the kind of education they deserve. > Concerned that labeling kids does not allow them to develop to their full potential.

REP. HUGO: Why are you supporting the bill? Why not oppose the bill and leave the law the way it is?

WEINER: We believe there will be attempts to destroy the mandate in existing law. > We are not able to meet all the needs of all those categories of children in the mandate now. > We believe this is important legislation.

226 REP. JONES: Are you concerned the Department is going to remove the TAG requirement?

WEINER: I am concerned with the way it stands now.

REP. JONES: What caused you to come and express support for this bill?

WEINER: Some people believe that mandates without money are not a good idea and the TAG mandate should be repealed. > We don't want to lose what we have gained.

270 REP. VERA KATZ: Is there a bill to repeal the TAG mandate?

WEINER: We know there are bills being discussed to repeal mandates that do not have money attached to them. One bill is SB 362.

REP. JONES: Encourages witnesses to continue to support getting children into the appropriate educational programs for the level they are capable of.

314 REP. KATZ: I believe if you tell every child they are exceptional and talented they will succeed. > Our system needs a major overhaul. If legislation passes to do that, we can then repeal the talented and gifted program because it will not be necessary. > Personally, that is a goal.

356 REP. PICKARD: As a strategy in your school district, are you discussing developmentally appropriate practices?

WEINER: Absolutely.

385 NEW RECORDER INSTALLED, TAPE STOPPED.

TAPE 33, SIDE B

005 WEINER: I think there are some different terms that approach the same things. > Wants developmentally appropriate practices. > Explains everyone has gifts and talents and can develop their creativity.

REP. JONES: SB 362 deals with units of local government and relates to new programs where the state is responsible for the full costs. It does not deal with school districts or current programs.

032 SANDY HOWELL, chair of the State Advisory Committee on Talented and Gifted: > When we brought the proposed mandate before the 1987 session, we wanted to serve only academically gifted and intellectually gifted. The categories were then broadened because of other laws that existed. > HB 2422 simply returns to what we intended in the first place. Tried to

do it first without legislation.

105 REP. WALT SCHROEDER: Are any school districts identifying talented and gifted students without any state money and very little local money and the parents are helping?

HOWELL: Talks about some of the programs. > Explains the mandate is necessary so assessments are done and gifted children are not lost in the system.

140 REP. HUGO: Have any parents brought civil action because the mandate has not been enforced?

HOWELL: The parents who feel their child is not being appropriately served do not have the case law to back them up.

REP. KATZ: Do you think following the mandate will lead to long-term ability grouping?

HOWELL: When long-term ability grouping was originally in place, there was not enough information available about its effects. Teacher expectation plays an important role in groups. We want people to find a way to deliver the service to the TAG student or have the student go to the service to avoid long-term ability groups. > Reviews information in her testimony about the advisory committee (EXHIBIT F).

240 CHARLENE BALZER, TAG Coordinator, West Union School District: We reluctantly support the bill because of reasons already stated. > We really believe this law is good for all children. Teachers are changing what they are doing in the classroom and individual children are getting their needs met. > Reviews parts of her testimony (EXHIBIT G).

275 REP. NELSON: Do you support this bill out of fear?

BALZER: It will be difficult for most school districts to implement the mandate. HB 2422 clarifies what categories we need to focus on. This will be a major change from what most districts are already doing.

REP. NELSON: We have been told someone wants to eliminate the mandate totally.

BALZER: Some of the school districts would like to have this go away.

REP. HUGO: I want everything to stay as it is and don't want this bill to pass.

332 BALZER: This bill is wonderful for those who support TAG. We are attempting to keep TAG programs from going away all together.

358 ALAN TRESSIDER, OSB A: Testifies in support of HB 2422. > OSB A is opposed to the 1987 mandate. > We should be able to design programs based upon individual learning styles for all the children in public schools in Oregon. > Money is not available to fully fund TAG. > HB 2422 is in keeping with the spirit and intent of 1987 legislation. > Talks about the TAG program in Yamhill county.

TAPE 34, SIDE B

008 WILMA WELLS, COSA: Expresses support for the bill. > Felt the bill passed in 1987 would serve the intellectually and academically gifted. > Agrees the more able the teacher, the more likely they are to serve children at all levels.

050 REP. NELSON: Was there a reason this bill was not introduced during the 1989 session?

TRESSIDER: The development of Department of Education rules has taken

some time.

Testimony in support of the bill was submitted by Ellen Todras, co-chair of the Eugene TAG Parents Council (EXHIBIT H); Maureen Barnhart, West Union High School (EXHIBIT I); and Robin Olsen, member of the TAG Advisory Committee (EXHIBIT J).

062 Committee takes 5 min. break at 3:10

(Tape 34, Side B) HB 2104 - Team-small group model schools Public Hearing Witnesses: Deanna Woods, Oregon Federation of Teachers (OFT) John Danielson, Oregon Education Association (OEA) Marv Evans, Confederation of Oregon School Districts (COSA)

064 DEANNA WOODS, OFT: Reviews her testimony concerning school improvement and reform (EXHIBIT K). > Reviews information included with her handout on the Team-Small Group model schools. > Refers to information concerning cooperative small group learning. > Explains why state leadership is needed for restructuring schools, hence HB 2104 which sunsets in 1993.

257 REP. SCHROEDER: Is this going to be a pilot program, or will it be for any school that wants it? How long has this program been in the U.S.A.?

WOODS: Explains how it can be accomplished. Talks about the possibilities. > It has been in the U.S.A. for about three and one-half years.

307 REP. HUGO: With HB 2001, do we need this bill?

WOODS: OFT believes it is necessary because there is a lack of knowledge of good models.

REP. HUGO: You are putting so many constraints in the bill, and in my opinion you are defeating the purpose of HB 2001.

WOODS: It is necessary to give school districts some kind of framework for a workable model.

374 JOHN DANIELSON, OEA: I am opposing HB 2104. Education reform is a product from the last ten years and in Oregon it is a project of the past four years. Education is not as bad as it is pointed out to be. The record of Oregon educators is good when compared nationally. > Points out problems in the bill: model in the bill has not be determined to be the best; constraints in bill are inflexible and tend to be to the advantage of larger districts; and is it really the job of the Legislature to determine what the best model is. > Funding is important to make the programs successful. > We believe this whole subject will be discussed in greater detail at a later time with another bill.

TAPE 35, SIDE A

HB 2564 - Higher Education institutions establish housing committees Public Hearing Witnesses: Scott Bartlett, Rep. Dwyer's staff Roger Bassett, Oregon System of Higher Education (OSSHE)

040 SCOTT BARTLETT, legislative assistant to Rep. Bill Dwyer: Rep. Dwyer is chief sponsor of this bill. > Explains the bill was introduced because of lack of student housing at the U of O in Eugene. > There are 11,000 students taking up existing rental housing in the nearby Springfield area. > Talks about the lack of interest by the U of O to address the problem. > Explains how HB 2564 was constructed not to have revenue consequences. Surprised to see the legislative fiscal analysis on the bill (EXHIBIT L). > The state system has proposed to promulgate an administrative rule to address the situation. > Information is needed

to justify the continuing crises. > Requests another hearing on April 29, if the State Board does not promulgate a rule at its next board meeting on April 26.

101 ROGER BASSETT, director of Government Relations, OSSHE: The State Board of Higher Education did not seek central responsibility for matters of campus housing. Upon reviewing the situation, it seemed appropriate it look at the situation. We would prefer finding a remedy other than statutory.

REP. KATZ: Requests that OSSHE not be compared with the Pack 10 on various issues.

125 REP. HUGO: Student housing costs are part of the costs of an education. We should have a handle on what is going on. I hate to see the need for the bill. > Requests the committee chair to write a letter of behalf of the committee to the Board of Higher Education urging it to investigate administrative rule making in this area.

135 BARTLETT: Explains the necessity for introducing the bill. > We did ask the U of O to comment on the academic comparison of Oregon with the Pack 10 Conference. A letter was sent to the Trade and Economic Development Committee to answer relevant questions.

Testimony expressing no position on the bill was provided by the Oregon Student Lobby (EXHIBIT M).

(Tape 35, Side A) HB 2613 - Permits ESD to promote planetarium events
Public Hearing Rep. Carl Hosticka, District Carol Clemens, Friends of the Planetarium Hahn Neimand, Friends of the Planetarium

164 REP. CARL HOSTICKA, District 40: The proposed bill would allow the Lane ESD to provide services that already exist. > Friends of the Planetarium are requesting help from the Legislature to make it possible for the ESD to provide the services. > This will not cost any money; it just grants authority.

197 CAROL CLEMENS, member, Friends of the Planetarium: Talks about the group that meets monthly. > Explains why the weekly planetarium shows were curtailed and how there is a public service restriction in ORS 334.175.

200 HAHN NEIMAND, member, Friends of the Planetarium: Explains the process the group has been going through to continue use of the planetarium.

Testimony was provided by the Lane ESD taking no position on the bill (EXHIBIT N).

(Tape 35, Side A) HB 2613 - Permits ESD to promote planetarium events
Work Session

243 CHAIR OAKLEY: Could have an amendment drafted to also include museum and theaters.

REP. HUGO: Suggests adding language in the Senate.

MOTION: Rep. Hugo moves HB 2613 to the floor with a do pass recommendation.

VOTE: In a roll call vote, the motion carries with all members present voting AYE. Reps. Jones and Nelson were excused. Carrier: Rep. Hosticka

(Tape 35, Side A) HB 2104 - Team-small group model schools Public Hearing (Cont.) Marv Evans, Confederation of School Administrators (COSA)

279 MARV EVANS, COSA: This bill would be restrictive on a grant program designed to identify and encourage innovative kinds of programs.

REP. PICKARD: The language on lines 4 and 5, "shall give priority" provides a focus to the issue and provides a model for others.

REP. KATZ: Talks about 2020 programs and explains how the bill encourages people to take a look at a model be creative.

336 REP. SCHROEDER: I need a definition of priority.

REP. HUGO: The Department should look at these kinds of things with a favorable eye. My problem is that this would put a number of small schools at a disadvantage. You are structuring a program to the point that it is bureaucratic. Get rid of the numbers in the bill.

EVANS: Explains how the word "priority" implies restriction to certain programs.

392 WOODS: This bill would not eliminate consideration of anything unless it is not a good proposal.

409 REP. KATZ: Refers to a list of a variety of things the advisory committee would take a look at that may never be funded.

429 CHAIR OAKLEY: Adjourns the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Submitted by: Reviewed by:

Carolynn GillsonLee Penny Assistant Administrator

EXHIBIT LOG:

A - Testimony on HB 2422 - Betsy Shepard - 3 pages
B - Testimony on HB 2422 - Susann Kaltwasser - 2 pages
C - Testimony on HB 2422 - Christy Folsom - 4 pages D-Testimony on
HB 2422 - Jennifer Jasaitis - 5 pages E-Testimony on HB 2422 - Dr.
Deborah Weiner - 1 page F-Testimony on HB 2422 - Sandy Howell - 1 page
G-Testimony on HB 2422 - Charlene Balzer - 3 pages H-Testimony on HB
2422 - Ellen Todras - 1 page I-Testimony on HB 2422 - Maureen Barnhart -
1 page J-Testimony on HB 2422 - Robin Olson - 1 page K-Testimony on HB
2104 - Deanna Woods - 21 pages L-Fiscal Analysis on HB 2564 -
Legislative Fiscal - 1 page M-Testimony on HB 2564 - Oregon Student
Lobby - 1 page N-Testimony on HB 2613 - Lane ESD - 1 page