

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 13, 1991

Hearing Room F 1:30 p.m. Tapes 36-37

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 2653 - Make OMSI science education available to children & teachers, PUB HB 2615 - Community Scholarship Foundation demonstration project, PUB

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TAPE 36, SIDE A

005 REP. CAROLYN OAKLEY, chair: Calls the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

(Tape 36, Side A) HB 2653 - Make OMSI science education available to children and teachers Public Hearing Witnesses: Jeffry Gottfried, OMSI Steven Robertson, OMSI Jerry Campbell, student Wilma Wells, COSA Gregg McMurdo, Department of Education Ruth Hewitt, Board of Education Wayne Neuberger, Department of Education Rep. Margaret Carter, Dist. 18 Dave Barrows, representing OMSI

010 JEFFRY GOTTFRIED, director of outreach programs at OMSI: Reads testimony describing the OMSI Outreach Programs and provides copies of informational materials (EXHIBIT A). > Refers to the \$250,000 grant from the Emergency Board in 1989 and an evaluation of the OMSI Traveling Program (EXHIBIT B). > Shows the committee a video concerning activities of the OMSI outreach program. > OMSI is fulfilling a need and it cannot survive without state funding. > Urges committee to support bill.

136 REP. DELNA JONES: Why are you looking at a general fund appropriation of \$481,000?

GOTTFRIED: The additional funds would go toward other outreach programs with schools that OMSI is paying for. > OMSI is paying approximately 50 percent of the cost and the schools are paying 50 percent of the costs. > In most cases, the costs are covered by fund raising not school funds. > Refers to Table 2 attached to his testimony showing how the grant funds will be used.

CHAIR OAKLEY: Are individual children charged for the traveling

programs or is it prefunded?

181 STEVEN ROBERTSON, manager of traveling science programs, OMSI: Usually, when we go into the schools, it is prepaid.. > On the Super Science Saturdays, the sponsor may charge a flat rate to cover their costs.

198 REP. WALT SCHROEDER: Is the amount you want less than what you got last biennium and do you have programs for high school age students?

ROBERTSON: The amount is more. The high school segment of the traveling programs are geared more for the summer than during the school year.

REP. SCHROEDER: Do you pay minimum wage to the people that work at your camps?

ROBERTSON: We could not afford to operate the camps if we did that. OMSI is classified as a nonprofit organization.

248 JERRY CAMPBELL, student at South Albany High School: Talks about his experiences with the OMSI programs.

REP. BOB PICKARD: Have your experiences had impact on what you want to do in college?

CAMPBELL: I learned what classes to focus on for certain vocations.

341 WILMA WELLS, COSA: I don't think anyone can find fault with the OMSI programs. > Priorities ought to be with how to educate youngsters in science. The limited funds should be spent on training teachers to do a better job teaching and on classroom materials. > Our priorities need to be with doing all we can with the entire state. > Why do we need legislation to require one state agency to work with another?

400 REP. VERA KATZ: Is it more expensive than what we pay science teachers for spending a day in the classroom?

WELLS: It is an expensive program in light of our current funding.

425 REP. KATZ: Talks about allowing individual schools to make decisions on how they want to allocate their resources.

430 WELLS: Explains how parent clubs often hold fundraisers to pay for extra programs.

TAPE 37, SIDE A

035 REP. JONES: Through the distance learning program, are there some science opportunities?

WELLS: I do not know.

045 GREGG McMURDO, Department of Education: Explains why the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Board of Education took this appropriation out of the Department's budget. We are negotiating over everything these days.

063 RUTH HEWITT, State Board of Education: In its discussion, the Board

wondered what would happen if the grant was funded and further funding is available at another Legislative session. The expectation would be built to deliver a program that would not be there. > The program is excellent. > There is a major concern about science being available in the classroom. It is difficult to take money out of someplace else.

100 WAYNE NEUBERGER, Department of Education: OMSI has done an excellent job to promote the common curriculum goals. The state has some excellent resources in the area of science. Our goal is to make those resources accessible to as many kids in this state as possible. > Talks about an Ed-Net program that is available. > Need to have kids more in touch with science. To make it happen you need resources and we are not in a position right now to use general fund money.

144 REP. KATZ: Have you thought of doing a live long-distance piece?

GOTTFRIED: We have done two Ed-Net programs already. It does not take the place of a live visit to the classroom.

174 REP. SCHROEDER: Does OMSI receive any other state money?

GOTTFRIED: No. Talks about their funding and the number of contact hours.

197 McMURDO: If this bill becomes law, the requested funding will be counted against the amount of money appropriated to the Department for education. > State monies going to a private entity constitute a state-aided institution. This bill would render OMSI to be audited by the Secretary of State and it would have to pay for the costs of the audit.

REP. KATZ: Is it the same with lottery funds?

McMURDO: I don't know.

245 REP. MARGARET CARTER: I understand the funding constraints. > Talks about the value of external learning.

283 GOTTFRIED: Explains how OMSI is playing a role in the education of teachers in this state. More activities are taking place in the school after OMSI has finished their presentation.

310 DAVE BARROWS: Half the cost of these programs is funded locally outside of the local school district. The fundraising involves the community. The whole program is voluntary and the demand has increased.

(Tape 37, Side A) HB 2615 - Community scholarship foundation demonstration project Public Hearing Witnesses: Rep. Margaret Carter, bill co-sponsor Gary Andeen, Oregon Independent College Association (OICA) Bill Nelson, Citizen's Scholarship Foundation of America Jim Beyer, Oregon State Scholarship Commission

337 REP. CARTER: I am sponsoring this bill with Rep. Delna Jones because I believe very seriously in being able to form partnerships. I feel deep concern for funding higher education. The Dollars for Scholars program would bring government and private donors together in an investment opportunity. By using government money, we can leverage dollars through private investments to help kids pay for college. > It is self-help for the students who are involved. > This program fits in with the human investment strategy of the future.

410 REP. JONES: We are looking at matching investments for the kids of tomorrow. The human investment process requires cooperative effort and coordination of activity.

430 GARY ANDEEN, OICA: Reads testimony in support of the bill (EXHIBIT D). > Reviews information in a chart showing the various financial aid programs in Oregon over the past 20 years.

TAPE 36, SIDE B

020 ANDEEN: Continues reading his testimony concerning financing higher education. > Refers to the Citizen's Scholarship Foundation of America, a national nonprofit organization that has been priming community-based private student aid resources throughout the country.

083 BILL NELSON, Citizen's Scholarship Foundation of America: Our focus is on impact of community-based, locally governed, volunteer operated scholarship foundations on local students. > Also focus on how the State of Oregon, through a relatively small investment, can foster the creation and development of local scholarship foundations and produce significant short-term and long-term return on its investment. Turn a small amount of state money and turn it into a tremendous amount of private sector money. > Reviews information on a fact sheet about the organization. Refers to pamphlet describing the dollars for scholars program (EXHIBIT E). > Explains how the program works and refers to a list of Dollar for Scholars chapters in approximately 33 states throughout the country (included in handout). > Explains how the programs get started. > Found communities continue existing local scholarship programs. > Dollars for Scholars Chapters are raising anywhere from \$4,000 to over \$200,000 in local communities throughout the country. They touch the lives of many students at public and private institutions. > Refers to a list of advantages of the programs (included in handout). > Describes two ways to get the program started: we provide local communities services to assist in making it happen or use the challenge grant idea (HB 2615). > Talks about program in Washington state (EXHIBIT F). > Trying to turn loose the energies of people at the local level.

242 REP. HUGO: Speaks in support of the program.

REP. SCHROEDER: Why don't we use some of the existing scholarship funds for seed money to get this program going?

NELSON: The need is so great this program is usually in addition to local scholarship funding.

REP. JONES: We cannot afford not to do this. There is not going to be a time more important than this biennium and the next for kids to have the opportunity to get scholarships. The costs of education are not decreasing. I know there are dollars available in this state.

306 JIM BEYER, director of grant programs, Oregon State Scholarship Commission: We support this legislation. > We are currently involved with 70 scholarship programs, and we will be giving away over \$700,000 this year through those programs. > Seeing an increased interest in private award programs - averaging almost one new program a month.

333 CHAIR OAKLEY: Adjourns the meeting at 2:55 p.m.

Submitted by:    Reviewed by:

Carolynn GillsonLee Penny Assistant            Administrator

EXHIBIT LOG: A -            Testimony on HB 2653 - OMSI - 67 pages  
B-Testimony on HB 2653 - OMSI - 14 pages C            -            Fiscal analysis on HB  
2653 - Legislative Fiscal - 1 page D-Testimony on HB 2615 - Gary Andeen  
- 4 pages E-Testimony on HB 2615 - Bill Nelson - 8 pages F-Testimony on  
HB 2615 - Bill Nelson - 4 pages