

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 HUMAN RESOURCES

February 22, 1991 Hearing Room D 1:30 p.m. Tapes 48 - 49

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Mary Alice Ford, Chair Rep. Beverly Stein, Vice-Chair (arrived 1:34 p.m.) Rep. Jerry Barnes Rep. Cedric Hayden Rep. John Meek Rep. Hedy Rijken (arrived 1:50 p.m.) Rep. Jackie Taylor

STAFF PRESENT: Melanie Zermer, Committee Administrator Pamela Berger, Committee Assistant

MEASURES CONSIDERED: HB 2399 - Regional and Community Child Assessment Centers - Pub Governor's Task Force on Sex Offenses Against Children Report - Informational Citizens' Review Board - Informational

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TAPE 48, SIDE A

010 CHAIR FORD: Calls the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING: REPORT: GOVERNORS TASK FORCE ON SEX OFFENSES AGAINST CHILDREN Witnesses: Mary Hoyt, Children Services Division Rep. Peter Courtney, District 33

020 REP. PETER COURTNEY, DISTRICT 33: Submits and reviews the Governor's Task Force on Sex Offenses Against Children Report (EXHIBIT A). - Tells the horror of stories heard about sex offenses against children. - Was astonished to find out there was a lack of knowledge and training on this subject. - There are not even sexual offenses classes offered in universities. - Sex therapists have no certification process. - The number of sex offenders under the age of 10 has skyrocketed. - The vast majority of sex offenses are done by a person that the family trusts (neighbor, family member, boy scout leader, etc.) - The sooner we get these issues out in open, the sooner we can deal with this issue.

138 REPRESENTATIVE HAYDEN: Many of us do not understand what causes this dichotomy in families.

COURTNEY: There is a lack of knowledge on this issue. We have so much to learn about why these crimes happen. I am not able to answer your question. It may take twenty years before we can honestly understand this issue.

173 MARY HOYT, CHILDREN SERVICES DIVISION, TASK FORCE MEMBER: - Describes the creation of the task force. - Describes recommendations made by the task force (See: pages 2-16 Exhibit A).

246 REPRESENTATIVE MEEK: What led to the recommendation that the police can

remove the alleged perpetrator, by a verbal order of the court, instead of removing the victim?

HOYT: It is devastating for the victim to be removed. The police would need to document cause.

274 COURTNEY: Recommendations will require that judgements be made and errors will happen.

291 HOYT: Continues describing recommendation made by the task force (See: pages 2-16 Exhibit A).

TAPE 49, SIDE A

- Describes testimony from sex offenders regarding life long registration.

024 REPRESENTATIVE STEIN: Is there any correlation between sex abuse and drug and alcohol abuse?

HOYT: Have read reports stating there is a higher incidence of abuse when drugs and alcohol are involved.

034 COURTNEY: There is an increase in sex crimes by the younger population, they probably are not using drugs and alcohol. There is some correlation with drugs and alcohol and also with pornography. Not sure if that is the cause or just accentuates the desire.

HOYT: 30% of victims become perpetrators.

CHAIR FORD: What is the percentage of offenders who have been abused?

HOYT: 90%

REPRESENTATIVE HAYDEN: When is a person branded as a sex offender? When a child sexually abuses another child, is the perpetrator going to be punished and are we going to help him break the pattern? What discussions did you have on this?

COURTNEY: Tells of children who were sex offenders and wanted to become teachers and police officers; and would not be able to if they had that kept on their record. - Because of Measure 5, many of these issues will

not be addressed this session. - We are requesting that all available funds go to helping victims under 10. - We need to maximize efforts to the young.

111 HOYT: Discusses expunction of juvenile records (See: page 3, Exhibit A). - Discusses Morrison Center in Portland.

154 REPRESENTATIVE HAYDEN: Why aren't we doing studies which find out what makes people sexually abuse children? It may be environmental or learned behavior. - We might find out that it may be something we don't legislate but instead we need to educate.

HOYT: We have no major studies going on at DHR. - Knows of one psychologist receiving a federal grant to study intervention. - We have asked for federal funding and have requested grants.

196 COURTNEY: One reason we don't know as much as we should about sex crimes against children is because, in some ways, we don't want to face this issue. - There is a veil of secrecy. - Heard testimony from many who were abused as children and they would not go into any details. Many don't and can't talk about this. - We need to start discussing this issue openly.

HOYT: Westudied this issue for only three months before going to communities to discuss the recommendation. Wish we would have had more time.

264 REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR: We are not a child centered society which may be part of the reason we haven't put more resources into this issue.

REPRESENTATIVE MEEK: Supports the data base concept of trying to find out the reason for these acts. We need to get at the root of the cause. Many victims probably have not come forward.

325 CHAIR FORD: It took DHRa long time to develop a sex offender program at MacLaren. Will there be any cuts in that program because of Measure 5? And the program at St. Mary's Boys Home?

HOYT: Bruce James, Director, MacLaren, worked with the task force. He feels that they have been quite successful and there is a low recidivism rate. - Heard that if there were community resources, many of those could be treated outside of MacLaren. - St. Mary's Boys Homes has quit treatment of sex offenders because of liability and security.

356 COURTNEY: Although there has been data pointing to the success of the sex offenders program at MacLaren, we must remember that the offenders have been released into the community for a very short time. There is no guarantee that they will not (or have not) offended again. We do not have the body of knowledge to determine if this program has been successful.

TAPE 48, SIDE B

002 REPRESENTATIVE STEIN: No state is going to be able to afford a major study like this; states are going to have to link together to develop an on-going study.

012 HOYT: Rep. Bell sponsored a bill that would do just that. - Submits

list of bills dealing with sex crimes against children (EXHIBIT C).

PUBLIC HEARING: HB 2399 - REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY CHILD ASSESSMENT CENTERS Witnesses: Rep. Peter Courtney, District 33 Mary Hoyt, CSD John Collins, Yamhill District Attorney

Staff submits a SMS on HB 2399 (EXHIBIT B). Staff submits proposed amendments to HB 2399 (EXHIBIT D).

042 MARY HOYT, CHILDREN SERVICES DIVISION: Submits and reads written testimony in support of HB 2399 (EXHIBIT J).

REPRESENTATIVE MEEK: Discusses mandates.

REPRESENTATIVE PETER COURTNEY, DISTRICT 33: Testifies in favor of HB 239 9.

CHAIR FORD: Recesses the meeting at 2:43 p.m. - Re-convenes the meeting at 2:54 p.m.

186 JOHN COLLINS, YAMHILL DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Testifies in favor of HB 239 9. - Discusses the need for funding for required added responsibilities. - Need \$30,000, per county; match may be part of these funds. - Some counties need more, some less. - Local government costs are unknown; will provide that information at a later date. - Describes demands on District Attorney's office. - Prosecution in child abuse cases is a high priority.

240 REPRESENTATIVE MEEK: How much money did you budget last year and where did the funding to run the program come from?

COLLINS: Yamhill had this program before it was mandated. - Employ one staff person maybe \$18,000 year is needed. - Will ask Carolyn Norris, District Attorney Association to find figures from other counties.

INFORMATIONAL HEARING: CITIZEN REVIEW BOARD Witnesses: Nancy ASB ury, Citizen Review Board (CRB) Jean Cauthorn, CRB Shary Mason, CRB, Tillamook County

300 NANCY ASB URY, CITIZEN REVIEW BOARD (CRB): Submits and reads a written testimony on the Citizen Review Board (EXHIBIT E) and a fact sheet (EXHIBIT F).

358 JEAN CAUTHORN, CITIZEN REVIEW BOARD: Submits and reads written testimony on the Citizen Review Board (EXHIBIT G).

TAPE 49, SIDE B

033 ACTING CHAIR STEIN: How do you work with CASAs?

CAUTHORN: They are invited to our reviews to provide information; we feel they are quite valuable.

REPRESENTATIVE BARNES: We have gotten off the track of treating families as part of society and the child as a member of the unit. How do you relate treating dysfunctional family?

CAUTHORN: We look at what services are offered to the child and family before and after removal.

057 REPRESENTATIVE BARNES: Do you have statutory authority to track to track those services and require that they be provided?

CAUTHORN: We have the ability to make the recommendation and findings which is submitted to the courts as well as CSD. In many counties, judges give us the clout to do so. - Some states are experimenting with pilot projects in which early review takes place. Some as early as two weeks after removal. The findings are that families are reunified and progress is much quicker when early review takes place.

090 SHARY MASON, CITIZEN REVIEW BOARD: Submits and reads written testimony on the Citizen Review Board (EXHIBIT H).

Submitted for the record testimony from Tom Hatch, Great Start Committee, Clackamas County Children and Youth Coordinating Council (EXHIBIT I).

315 CHAIR FORD: Adjourns the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Submitted by,

Reviewed by,

Pamela Berger

Melanie Zermer

EXHIBIT LOG: A - Gov. Task Force on Sex offenses Against Children Report - Courtney - 76 pp. B - HB 2399 - SMS - Staff 1 p. C - Sex Offenses Against Children Task Force Bills - Hoyt - 2 pp. D - HB 2399 - Proposed amendments - staff - 1 pp. E - CRB - Testimony - ASB ury - 4 pp. F - CRB - Fact Sheet - ASB ury - 1 p. G - CRB - Testimony - Cauthorn - 1 p. H - CRB - Testimony - Mason - 3 pp. I - HB 2399 - Testimony from Hatch - Staff - 2 pp. J - HB 2399- Testimony - Hoyt - 1 p.