

Senate Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources March 15, 1991 -  
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statements made during this session. Only text enclosed in quotation  
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report a speaker's exact words. For complete contents of the  
proceedings, please refer to the tapes.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

March 15, 1991Hearing Room C 8:00 a.m.Tape 80 - 83

MEMBERS PRESENT:Sen. Dick Springer, Chair Sen. Joyce Cohen,  
Vice-Chair Sen. Shirley Gold Sen. Bob Kintigh Sen. Tricia Smith Sen.  
Eugene Timms

MEMBERS EXCUSED:Sen. John Brenneman

STAFF PRESENT: Peter Green, Committee Administrator Chris Beck,  
Research Associate Kus Soumie, Committee Assistant

MEASURES CONSIDERED: SB 609(WRK) SB 555(PUB) SB  
1125(PUB)

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TAPE 80 SIDE A

003 CHAIR SPRINGER CALLS THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 8:10 AM

WORK SESSION ON SB 609 AND AMENDMENTS

WITNESSES: Jeff Curtis

017 JEFF CURTIS, Oregon Department of Fish and wildlife, gives testimony  
on SB 609 AMENDMENTS. EXHIBIT A

MOTION: Chair moves the -6 Amendments to SB 609

VOTE: Hearing no objection the motion carries

MOTION: Sen Smith moves SB 609 as Amended to Ways and Means Do Pass  
with Sen Brenneman excused

VOTE: In a Roll Call vote the motion is adopted unanimously with  
Sen Brenneman excused

PUBLIC HEARING ON SENATE BILL 555, SB 1125

WITNESSES: Sen Dick Springer John Talberth John Davis Ray  
Wilkeson Bill Stears Jim Dennison Andy Kerr Dave Moskowitz Richard Chasm

054 SEN. DICK SPRINGER, District 6, gives testimony on and overview of  
SB 555 and presents EXHIBIT B

171 SEN KINTIGH: I take issue with your statement that cutting is  
deforestation. Stopping slash burning in forest practice and is used  
only minimally. Do you know of any study where it is said tourists  
stayed away because of clear cutting?

203 SEN SPRINGER: No, I am not an expert on the subject.

206 SEN BRENNEMAN: The coastal streams have had adverse effects from  
violations of the present Forest Practices act.

248 JOHN TALBERTH, Director of Forest Council, gives testimony on SB 555  
and presents EXHIBIT C.

398 TALBERTH: Continues testimony on SB 555

TAPE 81 SIDE A

003 TALBERTH: - continues testimony. - answers questions from members

223 JOHN DAVIS, Oregon Forest Industry Council, gives testimony on SB  
555 and SB 1125, and presents EXHIBIT D

281 DAVIS: Lists those involved in formulation of proposals by the  
OFIC. Translate public opinions in the legislature.

TAPE 80 SIDE B

009 DAVIS: - continues testimony on SB 1125 and SB 555 In Russia there  
is no regard to supply and demand.

065 CHAIR SPRINGER: Who decides what the rate of harvest is in this  
country?

081 DAVIS: If we had a council that would decide who cuts what when, we  
would be in a world of hurt. It depends on whether or not people build  
houses. It is foolish to force products when there is no demand.

123 SEN KINTIGH: Does topography have bearing on the size of a clear  
cut?

126 DAVIS: Roads are the cause of more erosion and land failures than  
any other activity in logging. Yes, topography does play an important  
part in the size of a clear cut. of paper and 120 acres is the maximum  
size for a harvest.

139 SEN SMITH: What is the average size of clear cuts today and what  
percentage of clear cuts today fall above the 120 acre maximum?

142 DAVIS: I don't know.

154 SEN SMITH: This bill doesn't do anything in terms of clear cuts  
does it? I am trying to determine what kind of impact this bill's  
restriction would have on Oregon's private forest land.

170 DAVIS: We have either spread out or reduced the harvest. The 120 acre limit says that no combination of clear cuts will leave a large area with no trees.

189 SEN SMITH: The maximum amount of buffer between the clear cuts is the most important part of this bill.

208 DAVIS: Continues overview of EXHIBIT D

330 RAY WILKESON, OFIC (Oregon Forest Industries Counsel), gives overview of HB 3396 which gives increased protection on logging sites.

TAPE 81 SIDE B 004 WILKESON: continues testimony Protection for herons and osprey. DEQ response was that Federal Clean Water Act Requires load allocations for forestry. We will be happy to have some legal testimony on that point.

- answers questions from members

050 WILKESON: We would support any staffing increases, and are prepared to change the forest practices

- answers series of questions from Sen Smith.

157 SEN COHEN: How would transferring authority to board of Forestry from DEQ would make any difference?

185 WILKESON: Much of what you mentioned gets into legal issues. There is no such thing as a Federal Water Quality Standard. The state of Oregon can change its water quality standards at any time. - problem with TMDL approach - problems with the current turbidity standards

- answers questions from members

350 BILL STEARS, Forest Manager, gives testimony on SB 555 and SB 1125.

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006 STEARS: - continues testimony

011 STEARS: Gives history of the land held by the company.

042 STEARS: - current rules restrict the harvest

058 DAVIS: gives definition of downed logs.

- answers questions from members on forest practice issues

133 JIM DENNISON, Oregon Small Woodlands Association, gives testimony on the issues in SB 555 AND 1125. 100 acres is the average size for the small forest owners. We have problems with the riparian zones. We must look at what parts of the frontage are scenic highways. It takes some incentive to improve forests. The Oregon Forest Practices act is the best in the nation.

- answers questions from members

260 ANDY KERR, Oregon Natural Resources Council, gives testimony against SB 112 5, and gives overview of the clear cut issue. - Clear cutting - fish and wildlife habitat - dams - scenic buffer is still ugly

- Choosing between salmon habitat and 2,000,000 acres of forest land - forest lands conversion, which agency is best to do that - conflict of interest on the board of Forestry - timber industry regulation - real revisions in the forest practices act

103 DAVE MOSKOVITZ, Northwest Steelheaders Association, gives testimony on protection of the Salmon habitat areas. Class 1 streams will become bass instead of trout and steelhead. We need to protect the natural treasures The Forest Practices Act is meant to cover. Conversion aspects and the effects.

227 RICHARD CHASM, woodsman, gives testimony on SB 555 and presents EXHIBIT E. I believe this is meant to hide what is going on in the ground. SB 265, overall management of the watershed name what a forest is capable of producing. Minor forest products have a market, which need to be identified.

TAPE 83 SIDE A

004 CHASM: continues testimony and overview of EXHIBIT E

044 CHAIR SPRINGER ADJOURNS MEETING AT 11:05

EXHIBIT LOG:

A - Testimony on SB 609 - Jeff Curtis - 1 page B - Testimony on SB 555/1125 - Sen Dick Springer - 4 pages C - Testimony on SB 555/1125 - John Talberth - 24 pages D - Testimony on SB 555/1125 - John Davis - 8 pages E - Testimony on SB 555/1125 - Richard ChaSM- 1 pages

Submitted by: Reviewed by:

Kus Soumie Peter Green Assistant Administrator