

Senate Government Operations April 10, 1991 Page 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.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

April 10, 1991Hearing Room "B" 3:00 p.m. Tape 61

MEMBERS PRESENT:Sen. Glenn Otto, Chair Sen. Jane Cease, Vice-Chair
Sen. Jim Bunn Sen. Ron Grensky Sen. Tricia Smith Sen. Dick Springer

MEMBERS EXCUSED:Sen. John Kitzhaber

STAFF PRESENT: John Houser, Committee Administrator Jayne
Hamilton, Committee Assistant

MEASURES CONSIDERED:Executive Appointment - Oregon Racing Commission,
George Rankins, PH/WS Executive Appointment - Oregon Racing Commission,
Stephen S. Walters, PH/WS SB 529 - Relating to race track improvements,
WS SB 530 - Relating to off-race course mutuel wagering, WS SB 531 -
Relating to off-race course mutuel wagering, WS SB 532 - Relating to
unclaimed winnings from greyhound racing, WS SB 533 - Relating to
off-race course parimutuel wagering, WS

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

TAPE 61, SIDE A

006 CHAIR OTTO: Called the meeting to order at 3:25 p.m.

(TAPE 61, SIDE A)

PUBLIC HEARING

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS FOR THE OREGON RACING COMMISSION; GEORGE RANKINS
AND STEPHEN S. WALTERS

Witnesses:George Rankins, Racing Commission Stephen S. Walters. Racing
Commission

018 GEORGE RANKINS, RACING COMMISSION: I am from Portland Oregon. I've
been on the Racing Commission for approximately four years. I've lived
in the state for over 22 years after my retirement from 23 years in
military service. I've worked and attended Oregon State University for
2 1/2 years. I'm originally from Greensburg, North Carolina and
Newark, New Jersey. I went into the service from there, and have
traveled all over the country since.

025 OTTO: Do you attend the races at the dog track?

026 RANKINS: Absolutely. I try to make both the greyhound track and
the commercial track whenever possible. I think I've made it to all of
the tracks except for one.

033 MOTION: SEN. CEASE MOVED THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. RANKINS TO THE
FLOOR WITH A DO CONFIRM RECOMMENDATION.

037 VOTE: MOTION CARRIED, 6-0. (EXCUSED SEN. KITZHABER). SEN.
SPRINGER WILL CARRY.

055 STEPHEN S. WALTERS, LAWYER: I am a lawyer practicing in Portland. I
live in Portland in Sen Cease's district. I have practiced in Portland
for about eleven years, and before that I practiced in Washington D.C.,
and in San Francisco. I have roots from Kentucky, and have a life long
interest in the racing industry. I am very gratified with this
nomination. I'm looking forward to working with the Commission, and
people in the racing industry in Oregon, to confront some of the
challenges that are facing the industry now.

064 OTTO: Do you plan on spending very much time out at the tracks?

065 WALTERS: I was out there this morning, learning more about the
process. I do spend a great deal of time at Portland Meadows, and plan
to spend time at Multnomah Kennel Club in the coming weeks, and
throughout my time on the Commission.

070 OTTO: Are you interested in betting on the races?

075 WALTERS: Not as a member of the Commission. I am prohibited by
statute, and members of my family are also prohibited by statute.

081 CEASE: I think of Steve as an activist on all sorts of community
issues.

083 MOTION: SEN. CEASE MOVED THE APPOINTMENT OF STEVEN S. WALTERS TO THE FLOOR WITH A DO CONFIRM RECOMMENDATION.

087 VOTE: MOTION CARRIED, 6-0. (EXCUSED, SEN. KITZHABER). SEN. CEASE WILL CARRY.

(TAPE 61, SIDE A)

WORK SESSION

SB 529 RELATING TO RACE TRACK IMPROVEMENTS

102 MOTION: SEN. GRENSKY MOVED SB 529 TO WAYS AND MEANS WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION.

116 VOTE: MOTION CARRIED, 4-1. VOTING NO, SEN. CEASE. (EXCUSED, SEN. KITZHABER).

(TAPE 61, SIDE A)

WORK SESSION

SB 530 RELATING TO OFF-RACE COURSE MUTUEL WAGERING

124 MOTION: SEN. GRENSKY MOVED SB 530 TO WAY AND MEANS.

128 CEASE: I'd like to note that it does have a reduction to the County Fairs Fund and the General Fund.

134 SMITH: My understanding of the reduction of the fiscal is, it is from the seven percent that would be in effect, if action of the previous legislation was not in effect, not from what exists today.

140 HOUSER: The only difference between the bill and what exists today is, at the present time there is a contribution of .43 of 1% to the County Fair Fund that would be eliminated under the bill. The effect on the General Fund comes from the fact that the Sunset provision would take effect if the bill isn't passed.

147 SMITH: Didn't we receive testimony from the County Fair folks that they did not oppose this bill.

149 HOUSER: That's correct. They did not oppose the bill.

154 VOTE: MOTION CARRIED, 5-0. (EXCUSED, SEN. BUNN AND SEN. KITZHABER).

(TAPE 61, SIDE A)

WORK SESSION

SB 531 RELATING TO OFF-RACE COURSE MUTUEL WAGERING

Witnesses:George Dewey, Representative of the Multnomah Kennel Club

160 HOUSER: Distributed the -3 amendments to the bill, Exhibit A. Reviewed the bill and the amendments for the committee.

190 MOTION: SEN. SMITH MOVED TO ADOPT THE -3 AMENDMENTS TO SB 531 . HEARING NO OBJECTIONS, SO ORDERED.

198 MOTION: SEN. SMITH MOVED SB 531 AS AMENDED TO THE FLOOR WITH A DO PASS RECOMMENDATION.

200 CEASE: It says on the staff report that it has a subsequent referral to Ways and Means.

213 SPRINGER: Is there anything we want to put on the record in terms of how we expect the Racing Commission to exercise that discretion. In other words, are we going to open this up to every race, or only for the significant races.

227 GEORGE DEWEY, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MULTNOMAH KENNEL CLUB: Originally in our testimony, we talked about this new change going on in the industry, which allows a host track to satellite their signal to another state. The amount that is bet in that state would be entered in the host track pool. You have an amendment from Portland Meadows, that we do not object to, which would allow that same thing to be done from Bay Meadows, for example, to Portland Meadows. This has come about because of new technology. What it does for the wagering person is, increase the pool so that they feel more comfortable about the odds not changing. We think it's an excellent idea and a real opportunity for the State of Oregon.

275 CEASE: What kind of activities might have to be done that would have to be funded, in order to implement the bill? Would there be a need to allow expenditures for the Racing Commission?

284 DEWY: At the moment I can't see anything. We are already doing it for the race books in Nevada. We pay for all the satellites, about \$1,800.00 for each performance.

292 HOUSER: The bill does have a referral to Ways and Means, however we received a no fiscal impact notice from the fiscal office on the bill.

305 MOTION: SEN. SMITH MOVED SB 531 TO THE FLOOR AS AMENDED WITH A DO PASS RECOMMENDATION, AND THE SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO WAYS AND MEANS BE RESCINDED.

316 VOTE: MOTION CARRIED, 4-0. (EXCUSED SEN. BUNN, SEN. GRENSKY AND SEN. KITZHABER).

(TAPE 61, SIDE A)

WORK SESSION

SB 532 RELATING TO UNCLAIMED WINNINGS FROM GREYHOUND RACING

331 MOTION: SEN. SPRINGER MOVED SB 532 TO WAYS AND MEANS WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION.

347 VOTE: MOTION CARRIED, 4-1. VOTING NO, SEN. GRENSKY. (EXCUSED, SEN. BUNN AND SEN. KITZHABER).

(TAPE 61, SIDE A)

WORK SESSION

SB 533 RELATING TO OFF-RACE COURSE PARIMUTUEL WAGERING

Witnesses: Rob Douglas, Oregon Thoroughbred Breeders Association

354 HOUSER: Distributed and reviewed the -2 amendments, Exhibit B, for the committee.

372 ROB DOUGLAS, OREGON THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS ASSOCIATION: I want to commend the actions of the Multnomah Kennel Club, (M.K.C.). When the situation arose and there was some uncertainty, M.K.C. was very responsive and ceased their activities in the southern part of the state when it was felt by some, that they may conflict with live racing. However, the problem still exists. As you know, when we pushed for the passage of off-track betting it failed, and subsequently succeeded. There were lots of discussions about the safe-guards of off-track betting, live race meets and smaller race meets being protected, and off-track betting would not damage those race meets. We feel that SB 533 is a step backward, in that regard and we the Oregon Thoroughbred Breeders Association would like to go on record opposed to the bill.

395 SMITH: The testimony that we heard before was that this would not damage the races that were occurring in these locations, and in fact would draw more people to them.

405 DOUGLAS: I understand that theory, however the people who put on those race meets, specifically in southern Oregon, would disagree.

416 SMITH: So they think that if you have off-track betting three or four hours before a live horse race, people will come and spend their money in off-track betting, and then not come back for the live race.

422 DOUGLAS: First of all the facility would not be the same for the two. There's only so many discretionary dollars for this type of activity, and their preference is that those dollars would be spent in the live race meet.

438 MOTION: SEN. GRENSKY MOVED THE -2 AMENDMENTS TO SB 533. HEARING NO OBJECTIONS, SO ORDERED.

448 MOTION: SEN. GRENSKY MOVED SB 533 TO THE FLOOR WITH A DO PASS RECOMMENDATION.

455 VOTE: MOTION CARRIED, 4-1. VOTING NO, SEN. SMITH. (EXCUSED, SEN. BUNN AND SEN. KITZHABER).

Meeting adjourned at 4:10.

Submitted
By:

Reviewed By:

Jayne
Hamilton
Green
Assistant
istant

Joan

Ass

EXHIBIT LOG

A - Proposed amendments to SB 531, staff, 1 page B - Proposed amendments to SB 533, staff, 1 page