

Senate Government Operations May 24, 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

May 24, 1991Hearing Room "B" 3:00 p.m. Tapes 99

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

MEMBERS EXCUSED:Sen. Jim Bunn Sen. John Kitzhaber Sen. Dick Springer

STAFF PRESENT: John Houser, Committee Administrator Joan Green,  
Committee Assistant

MEASURES CONSIDERED: HB 2854 - Relating to forest fire  
suppression, PH/WS HB 3297 - Relating to public contracts, PH/WS

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TAPE 99, SIDE A

004 CHAIR OTTO: Called the meeting to order at 3:14 p.m.

(TAPE 99, SIDE A)

PUBLIC HEARING

HB 2854 RELATING TO FOREST FIRE SUPPRESSION

Witnesses:Denis Dowd, Department of Corrections, Assistant Director

012 DENIS DOWD, DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: Reviews testimony, Exhibit B.

024 SMITH: What did the House amendments do?

026 DOWD: The first three sections cleaned up errors. The amendments added \$4 in response to concerns of Representatives on the eastern side of the state. They were concerned about inmates from other states being substituted for available labor.

034 HOUSER: Distributes staff measure summary, Exhibit A.

035 OTTO: What kind of training do the fire fighters from the institutions receive?

037 DOWD: They are trained by the Forestry Department, like any other fire fighting crew.

039 OTTO: Is it a one day training?

040 DOWD: It is a week long training program, I believe.

042 OTTO: It is strictly voluntary?

043 DOWD: It is voluntary, however if the inmates are assigned to the forest camp they anticipate being a member of the fire crew. They are minimum security inmates.

045 OTTO: They receive \$3/day in compensation?

046 DOWD: Yes, for a 24 hour day.

048 CEASE: It is my view that departments should do legislative packages in conjunction with the Executive. Those should have the Governor's approval. When I see bills introduced by individual legislators, at the request of departments, I wonder if it is an end run around a Governor's policy decision. Why was this bill introduced in this manner, instead of through the normal process?

060 DOWD: This bill, in draft form, was introduced after the Executive Departments deadline for the submission of bills for review, by individual departments. This is an exception, and it was because we had trouble working out a draft that was acceptable to all involved states.

069 CEASE: What kind of security measures are necessary when using a trained inmate fire fighter?

073 DOWD: We provide the same security for these inmates as is provided

for any minimum security inmate work crew. Correction officers are assigned to the fire crew and they stay with the fire crew. In addition they are directly supervised by Forestry Department staff.

079 CEASE: What is the incidence of inmate escape from this?

081 DOWD: There has been none in the last 13 months from the fire line.

083 CEASE: There have not been many fire lines in 13 months have there?

085 DOWD: I think we spent 37 days last summer on the fire lines. One of those was 17 days in a row at the Bear Creek fire.

WORK SESSION

100 MOTION: SEN. GRENSKY MOVED HB 2854 A-ENGROSSED TO THE FLOOR WITH A DO PASS RECOMMENDATION.

105 VOTE: MOTION CARRIED, 4-0. EXCUSED: SEN. BUNN, SEN. KITZHABER, SEN. SPRINGER. SEN. GRENSKY WILL LEAD THE FLOOR DISCUSSION.

(TAPE 99, SIDE A)

PUBLIC HEARING

HB 3287 RELATING TO PUBLIC CONTRACTS

113 No witnesses, goes into a work session.

114 HOUSER: Distributes staff measure summary, Exhibit C.

WORK SESSION

115 CEASE: I don't understand this bill.

116 OTTO: Neither do I.

125 CEASE: I need to have someone explain what it does and why it is needed before I can do anything.

128 SMITH: Concurr.

129 OTTO: Would you like to table it?

130 MOTION: SEN. SMITH MOVED TO TABLE HB 3287.

131 VOTE: MOTION CARRIED, 4-0. EXCUSED: SEN. BUNN, SEN. KITZHABER, SEN. SPRINGER.

137 Meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Submitted  
By:

Reviewed By:

Joan Green  
Muñiz  
Assistant  
nt

Julie

Assista

EXHIBIT LOG

A - Staff measure summary, Staff, 1 pg. B - Testimony, Dowd, 1 pg. C - Staff measure summary, Staff, 1 pg.