

Tapes84-85, (A\B)

Work Session: SB 814

SENATE COMMITTEE ON REVENUE AND SCHOOL FINANCE

March 25, 1991 1:00 PM Hearing Room A State Capitol Building

Members Present: Senator Jane Cease, Chair

Senator Joan Dukes, Vice Chair (arrived 1:18)

Senator John Brenneman (arrived 1:31, departed 2:20)

Senator Shirley Gold (arrived 1:18)

Senator Ron Grensky (departed 2:48)

Senator Bill McCoy (departed 2:46)

Senator Tricia Smith

Staff Present: Jim Scherzinger, Legislative Revenue Officer

Terry Drake, Legislative Revenue Office

Mary Ann Zimmermann, Committee Assistant

Witnesses Present: Karen Brazeau, Department of Education (DOE)

Lew Keller, Southern Oregon Regional Program

Maureen Casey, Mid Oregon Regional Program

TAPE 84 SIDE A

005 CHAIR CEASE called the meeting to order at 1:14 and conducted administrative business. -

009 JIM SCHERZINGER presented and discussed a research report on the implementation of Measure 5. EXHIBIT 1

058 JIM SCHERZINGER explained the exemptions and special assessments with reference to farm and forest assessment because HB 2550 uses the assessed value of farm land to calculate the limitation which reduces school taxes on farms and forest land by 6 million. EXHIBIT 1, Page 9

064 Discussion and questions follow regarding exemptions and special assessments.

078 JIM SCHERZINGER continued explaining the research report with reference to timber severance tax.

110 CHAIR CEASE discussed the 30 million dollar equity money.

127 JIM SCHERZINGER referred to the figures of the impact of Measure 5 and HB 2550A in the research report with an explanation of why the 30 million dollar equity money is down. EXHIBIT 1, Page 13

190 Discussion follows regarding the offsets and reduction of funds.

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215 SEN. DUKES asked if HB 2550 deals with the tax rate being levied this year or does it refer back to what has already been approved by the voters.

223 JIM SCHERZINGER responded by discussing the State replacement obligation with reference to EXHIBIT 1, Page 12.

240 Discussion and questions follow regarding targeted offsets.

260 SEN. GRENSKY referred to SB 815 envisioning surplus money and asked the position of the bill now that the numbers are down.

275 JIM SCHERZINGER explained the various changes that have come up in HB 2550 which address SB 815.

310 CHAIR CEASE commented on the interaction with the House Revenue Committee on rising issues with regard to SB 815.

330 SEN. GRENSKY pointed out the importance in knowing accurate numbers before making decisions which was the case in SB 815.

356 JIM SCHERZINGER addressed the difficulty because the electorate is asking for decisions when all the data is unknown. It appears that the urban renewal impact could be a factor. To some extent there will never be a hard number to work with.

402 Discussion and questions follow regarding the 30 million dollar value growth. It was pointed out that the replacement costs are down. Value growth is there but the loss of funds is on the other end dealing with replacement.

TAPE 85 SIDE A

023 Discussion follows regarding the unknown in what is going to happen because the issues surrounding Measure 5 are a new experience.

041 JIM SCHERZINGER continued explaining the research report dealing with the implementation of Measure 5. Reference is made to 1990-91 tax levy data being incorporated in the research report. EXHIBIT 1

080 JIM SCHERZINGER presented runs at the end of Exhibit 1 which gives information on the individual taxing districts.

WORK SESSION - SB 814

117 CHAIR CEASE presented the SB 814 agenda schedule. EXHIBIT 2

132 KAREN BRAZEAU presented an historical overview of the regional programs in Oregon which is a mechanism to provide financial relief to districts but also to provide services for all children because of the low incidence of handicaps in a particular area. EXHIBIT 3

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200 KAREN BRAZEAU discussed the varying types of services that the regional programs provide.

210 SEN. GRENSKY questioned how the different regional areas are reached by instruction.

219 KAREN BRAZEAU explained the various regions are contracted by the DOE with various educational agencies which send teachers to the neighboring districts to provide the services.

250 CHAIR CEASE asked if the services are provided based on the needs of the child or the availability of the service. The response was both issues are considered.

270 Discussion follows regarding the term occupational therapy.

280 Discussion deals with the meeting of individual needs on a regular basis with respect to the regional programs.

331 KAREN BRAZEAU continued explaining the services that are included in the regional programs.

378 KAREN BRAZEAU explained the percentage of children receiving regional services are proportionate to the number of ADM (average daily membership). This illustrates the success of the regional program in keeping children in their local school districts.

TAPE 84 SIDE B

006 KAREN BRAZEAU discussed a historical overview of students receiving regional services.

016 SEN. GRENSKY questioned the service of children with orthopedic impairment. Discussion follows regarding the extent of servicing handicapped children.

035 KAREN BRAZEAU addressed funding of the regional programs. Reference was made to the cuts in the Governor's proposed budget.

050 SEN. SMITH asked where the cuts would be made.

052 KAREN BRAZEAU explained final decisions of where to make the cuts have not been decided. Some options were discussed.

071 LEW KELLER presented program facts and figures for the Southern Oregon Regional Program. EXHIBIT 4

112 LEW KELLER continued explaining the information presented in EXHIBIT 4

with discussion of the various services provided in the Southern Oregon Regional Program.

213 SEN. SMITH asked if children with severe health needs are provided by the region or by the local school district. Discussion follows

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regarding the provision of medical needs in the school setting.

240 KAREN BRAZEAU addressed the issue of providing necessary needs through the nurse consultant service.

260 LEW KELLER gave an historical sketch of the Southern Oregon Regional Program.

370 LEW KELLER discussed the continuing rationale of the regional program as explained in Exhibit 4.

311 LEW KELLER discussed funding formulas being successful for 80 percent of special education students but do not work for low incidence disability children.

346 MAUREEN CASEY explained the value of regional services being the best way to address the children and the most equitable and cost efficient method.

386 MAUREEN CASEY presented examples of individual districts meeting the necessity for low incident handicaps which illustrate the justification of the regional services. Discussion and questions are interspersed.

TAPE 85 SIDE

B

025 CHAIR CEASE questioned the relationship of the regional programs with the ESD (Education Service District).

030 MAUREEN CASEY explained there are six regions across the state and four are contracted with the local ESD and two are contracted with the local school districts. Cost efficiency and equity in a district leads to some sort of regional ization.

040 KAREN BRAZEAU addressed the issue of the ESD as being a coordinating agent.

049 CHAIR CEASE pointed out if the direction is to use regional programs for special education then the structure needs to be reviewed.

052 KAREN BRAZEAU explained the cooperation between the local districts, the ESD, and the regional program.

060 SEN. SMITH questioned the flow of funds for continuation of services after the cut in funds from the Governors budget.

077 KAREN BRAZEAU responded with uncertainty of whether the funds will come from Basic or replacement dollars but pointed out that if the state can't come up with the funds then the local districts must.

083 Discussion follows regarding the impact on local school districts.

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086 MAUREEN CASEY explained the additional cost if a regional program site was eliminated using a recent example in Salem/Keizer schools.

103 SEN. DUKES referred to the discussion of special allocations being made for special education in the school finance formula. The question is how the regional programs can fit into a formula.

111 KAREN BRAZEAU reviewed using a weighting mechanism in the funding strategy but those children having the low incidence/high cost situation could be dealt with by the regional program. Currently the regional program is based on children disability but it could be based on a particular type of service.

132 SEN. DUKES discussed a formula providing double weighting for special education and then having a reserved amount set aside with additional expenses for unusual circumstances.

139 KAREN BRAZEAU suggested that a weighting system could take care of the general state responsibility for funding special education but the weighting system is a funding mechanism and does not address the real staffing issues.

153 Discussion and questions follow regarding the services provided by the regional programs.

171 SEN. GOLD pointed out that special education is only one portion of the ESD workload.

181 LEW KELLER addressed the reality of handicap specialist being a scarce commodity and are more willing to work in a group mode offered through a regional program.

200 CHAIR CEASE adjourned the meeting at 2:54 P.M.

Mary Ann Zimmermann, Committee
Assistant
Kimberly Taylor, Office Manager
EXHIBIT SUMMARY

1. Research Report Implementation of Measure 5 House Plan - HB 2550A, LRO, 3/25/91 - HB 2550

2. SB 814 Schedule, LRO, 3/25/91 - SB
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3. Fact Sheet of Regional Services for Students, DOE, 3/25/91 SB 814

4. Testimony, Southern Oregon Regional Program, 3/25/91 SB 814 5. Fact
Sheet, Mid Oregon Regional Program, 3/25/91 SB 814

6. Flyer, Mid Oregon Regional Program, 3/25/91 - SB
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