

2001 HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES

HCR 3069

#### 2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

#### BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3069

House Human Services Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date February 21, 2001

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
Tape I	X		3560 to 5450
Tape 3	X		0 to 150
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Committee Clerk Signati	are Counn	e Caston	

#### Minutes:

Chairman Price, Vice Chairman Devlin, Rep. Dosch, Rep. Galvin, Rep. Klein, Rep. Pollert, Rep. Porter, Rep. Tieman, Rep. Weiler, Rep. Weisz, Rep. Cleary, Rep. Metcalf, Rep. Niemeier, Rep. Sandvig

Chairman Price: Open hearing on HCR 3069.

Rep. Niemcier: Presented bill. (See written testimony - charts attached.) Children are our most important resource. Our state's healthy future depends on health children. Despite important efforts to best serve their health care needs, there remains significant issues to be addressed, continued, and reemphasized. This study seeks to provide evidence to support legislation in that regard. Please be referred to the enclosures on these subjects. (Pointed out youth and tobacco use.) Eating disorders is another issue you see on the resolution and that is something that has largely been ignored in our concern over children's health issues.

Page 2 House Human Services Committee Bill/Resolution Number HCR 3069 Hearing Date February 21, 2001

Chairman Price: The charts on tobacco that you sent out first it is all states, then North Dakota overall, then goes down to men, women, and education - are those national figures or North Dakota figures?

Rep. Niemeier: I really can't say.

<u>Chairman Price</u>: I find it really interesting that less than 12 years education has the lowest smoking rate. That the higher education goes up.

Rep. Niemeier: That is interesting.

Senator Fischer: Supported resolution. When Rep. Niemeier approached me with this resolution I spotted something that I have a concern with and that is the use of Ritalin. There are certain cases in which it needs to be used, but over the past couple of years in visiting with people one of the things is they are shortening recesses, they are shortening new hours, and shortening all of the activities that kids do in school and what is happening kids are coming home from school with many living in apartments. The kids are bouncing off the wall and the first thing they do is put them on Ritalin or some other medication to calm them down and not let kids be kids. What shocked me was a small community southeast of Fargo that in the 5th grade of the school in this community over 50% of the kids are on Ritalin. I really feel that part of the study, as well as the rest of the study, needs to be looked at. To find out from the schools exactly what the usage is, and there should be some appropriate changes made so that these kids can be kids. So I support this resolution on all issues.

Rep. Galvin: Doesn't Ritalin have to be prescribed by a physician?

Senator Fischer: Yes it does.

Rep. Galvin: What do they do, randomly prescribe it then?

Page 3 House Human Services Committee Bill/Resolution Number HCR 3069 Hearing Date February 21, 2001

<u>Senator Fischer</u>: It is very popular. I can't speak for the physicians and why they do. I do know the use of it is very, very high.

Rep. Weisz: Senator Fischer, just a comment - we have 10 times the rate of Ritalin use per child than Europe does - western Europe.

Senator Fischer: Maybe it's because they aren't getting enough exercise during the day. In order to go outside they are wearing their coats to lunch so they can go outside because the noon hours are so short.

<u>Linda Isakson</u>: Executive Director of the North Dakota Children's Caucus. Many of these resolutions that you have talked about today certainly relate to children. We do support taking a look at the very important children's issues, but most important is the health of our children. One of the caucus's main concern is getting the uninsured children insured. For a variety of reasons we know that health children are better educated, and health children make health adults. We also know that healthy children under the care of a regular pediatrician reduce the at risk life styles that we talked about earlier. Obesity, eating disorders, and inactivity. We need to look at some other things such as chemical exposures. We need to look at active children who are suffering injuries in sports. We need to take a look at the stress levels in our children. The suicide rate in North Dakota are extremely high. We have to start addressing why children don't have a way to relieve themselves of stress. You talk about inactivity amount children - a lot of parents are fearful of sending their kids to the playgrounds because the equipment is not well taken care of and unsupervised. We need to talk about all of these things when we talk about children. This is a good study and a good place to begin. We ask for a DO PASS of this resolution.

Page 4
House Human Services Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HCR 3069
Hearing Date February 21, 2001

Sandra Anseth: Maternal and Child Health Division Director for the Department of Health. (See written testimony.) I am here to present testimony on HCR 3069 relating to study methods to better protect the health of the children in the state. Vital record information collected by the N.D. Department of Health for unmarried teens for the past four years are (see testimony). The MCH Division has applied for federal funds the past three years for abstinence-only education. These funds are awarded to local communities to conduct community-based abstinence-only education activities. Some communities have conducted public service announcements and others provided this education through the schools.

Chairman Price: Close hearing on HCR 3069.

#### **COMMITTEE WORK:**

CHAIRMAN PRICE: HCR 3069.

REP. WEISZ: I would like to move an amendment on 3069 on line 5, it would say "the high incidents of uninsured children may result in untreated illness" and delete "is".

REP. PORTER: Second.

CHAIRMAN PRICE: All those in favor signify by saying Aye (12 Yes, 0 No., 2 Abs.nt). We have an amended resolution in front of us.

REP. PORTER: I move a Do Pass as amended.

REP. KLEIN: Second.

CHAIRMAN PRICE: A DO PASS as amended and placed on the Consent Calendar. All in favor signify by saying Aye.

12 YES 0 NO 2 ABSENT CARRIED BY REP. NIEMEIER

13126.0101 Title.0200

### Adopted by the Human Services Committee 2/22/01

HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO HCR 3069

HOUSE HS

2-22-01

Page 1, line 5, replace "is resulting" with "may result"

Renumber accordingly

Date: 2-3/-0/ Roll Call Vote #: |

#### 2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3 069

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Date: 2-21-01
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REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410) February 22, 2001 11:51 a.m.

Module No: HR-33-4378 Carrier: Niemeier

Insert LC: 13126.0101 Title: .0200

#### REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HCR 3069: Human Services Committee (Rep. Price, Chairman) recommends AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS and when so amended, recommends DO PASS and BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR (12 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3069 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 5, replace "is resulting" with "may result"

Renumber accordingly

2001 SENATE HUMAN SERVICES

HCR 3069

#### 2001 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

#### BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3069

Senate	Human	Services	Comm	ittee
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☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date March 14, 2001

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#### Minutes:

The hearing was opened on HCR 3069.

REPRESENTATIVE CAROL NIEMEIER, Sponsor, introduced bill. (Written testimony)

Students from Rita Murphy school were welcomed to the Human Services committee. Senator

Kilzer explained the bill process and what the committee was in the process of doing.

There was no other testimony. The hearing was closed.

Discussion of the resolution ensued. SENATOR MATHERN moved a DO PASS on 3068.

SENATOR FISHCER seconded the motion. Roll call vote carried 5-1-0. SENATOR

POLOVITZ will carry the bill.

Date: 3/14/01

Roll Call Vote #: /

#### 2001 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 30 69

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#### REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410) March 16, 2001 2:47 p.m.

Module No: SR-46-5935 Carrier: Polovitz Insert LC: . Title: .

#### REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HCR 3069, as engrossed: Human Services Committee (Sen. Lee, Chairman) recommends DO PASS (5 YEAS, 1 NAY, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed HCR 3069 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

2001 TESTIMONY

HCR 3069

#### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3069

Rep. Carol A. Niemeier, Buxton, Dist. 20

Children are our most important resource. Our State's healthy furture depends on healthy children. Despite important efforts to best serve their health care needs, there remain significant issues to be addressed, continued and re-emphasised. This study seeks to provide evidence to support legislation in that regard.

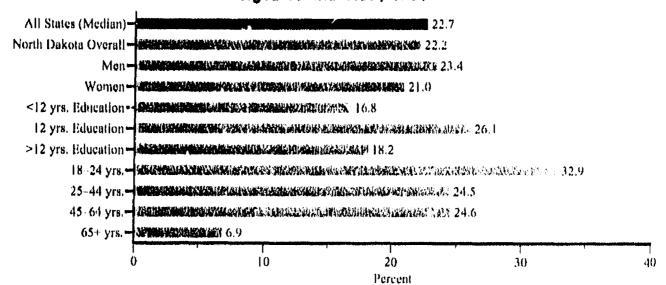
Please be referred to the enclosures on these several subjects.

I will be pleased to answer questions from the committee. Thank you.

Number of North Dakota youth projected to die prematurely from their smoking:

#### Adult Tobacco Use in North Dakota

#### **Current Cigarette Smoking Among Adults** Aged 18 and Older, 1999



#### Youth Tobacco Use

****	GRADES	6-8	GRADES	912
Current C Smol		Current Any Tobacco Use	Current Cigarette Smoking	Current Any Tobacco Use
National.	9.2%	12.8%	28.5%	34.8%
ND† Boyst Girls†	Data	are not available	40.6% 40.2% 41.0%	Data are not available

Current Cigarette Smoking = smoked cigarettes on ≥1 of the 30 days preceding the survey

Current Any Tobacco Use = current use of eigarettes or smokeless tobacco or pipes or bidis or eigars or kreteks on ≥1 of the 30 days preced by the survey \*Source: National Youth Tobacco Survey, 1999.

†Source: North Dakola Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 1999.

#### **Health Impact and Costs**

AVERAGE ANNUAL DEATHS RELATED	AVERAGE ANNUAL YEARS OF	Medical Costs		
TO SMOKING, 1990–1994	POTENTIAL LIFE LOST, * 19901994	Related to Smoking, 1993		
Overall 968 Men 721 Women 247 Death Rate 280/100,000 Rank 3 (No. 1 is lowest death rate)	12,032 years or an average of 12.4 years for each death due to smoking.  *Calculated to life expectancy	Ambulatory Hospital Nursing Homet Drug Other Total	\$28,050,000 \$39,360,000 \$52,630,000 \$6,540,000 \$13,500,000 \$140,080,000	

Smoking-attributable Medicaid expenditures; North Dakota, fiscal year 1993: \$19,056,000

†Preliminary estimates

#### **Lung Cancer Death Rate\***



\*1997 deaths per 100,000 population, adjusted to the 1970 total U.S. population.



## Testimony on HCR 3069 Information Provided by the Department of Health Regarding Study Methods to Better Protect the Health of Children in the State Before the House Human Services Committee by Sandra Anseth, Department of Health February 21, 2001

Good morning, Madam Chairwoman and members of the Committee. I am Sandra Anseth, Maternal and Child Health Division Director for the Department of Health. I am here to present testimony on HCR 3069 relating to study methods to better protect the health of children in the state.

Vital record information collected by the ND Department of Health for unmarried teens for the past four years are as follows:

1999 had 603 out-of-wedlock births of the 711 live births to teens or 85%. 1998 had 644 out-of-wedlock births of the 781 live births to teens or 82% 1997 had 631 out-of-wedlock births of the 759 teen births in teens or 83%.

The MCH Division has applied for federal funds the past three years for abstinence-only education. These funds are awarded to local communities to conduct community-based abstinence-only education activities. Some communities have conducted public service announcements and others provided this education through the schools.

Thank you.

#### TESTIMONY ON HCR 3069 Senate Human Services Committee, Sen. Judy Lee, Chr. March 14, 2001

For the record, I am Rep. Carol A. Niemeier, Buxton, District 20.

Children are our most important resource. Our state's healthy future depends on healthy children. Despite important efforts to best serve their health care needs, there remain significant issues to be addressed, continued and —emphasized. This study seeks to provide evidence to support legislation in that regard.

Please refer to enclosures on these subjects:

Uninsured Children
Underage alcohol usage
Underage tobacco usage
Ritalin use for ADD
Unmarried teen pregnancies
Sexual abstinence in minors

The category of eating disorders has not received attention to the extent of collecting data. The national average of girls ages 10 to 18 (and those affected are 95% girls) suffering from diagnosed anorexia, bulimia and similar disorders is 10%; there is reason to believe that North Dakota numbers are similar. Size-predjudice is said to be an increasing factor in adolescent adjustment and school discipline problems. Other issues of concern are hazardous weight loss, fasting, use of diuretics, undernourished youth, reproductive problems, diet pill abuse and potential deaths.

I ask the Committee to make a favorable recommendation on HCR 3069 and I will be pleased to respond to your questions. Thank you.



# Debunking myths about underage drinking

criticized community authorities for their crackdown of letters and commentaries in which writers have In recent weeks The Forum has published a number piece of evidence that I have seen on underage felters and commentaries in which writers have drinking. As a result of years of reviewing juvenile

on underage drinking. Because I have been professionally involved in studying youth drinking in this community and have taken a proactive stance in addressing these behaviors, I feel compelled to respond by delineating and debunking several myths of underage alcohol consumption.

## it's just alcohol

of persons still consider alcohol to be a victimless offense. This myth has been perpetuated repeatedly in letters and commentaries to The Forum. In one, a father reprimanded the police for curbing underage drinking at the expense of reducing crime, as if the two were mutually exclusive.

have teetered on death row from alcohol

poisoning.

In that letter, the writer reprimands the police for not enforcing laws then turns around and berates them for enforcing laws. Am I missing something? In another, a father accuses the Fargo Police of enforcing a law that officers are sworn under oath to uphold.

These responses and others like them are guided by the assumption that drinking by 11- to 20-year-sids has no lic health consequences. This of course interfer because it is contrary to any

piece of evidence that I have seen on underage drinking. As a result of years of reviewing juvenile court files, I can attest that anywhere between 40 percent to 85 percent of all delinquency implicates alcohol, depending on the offense. More evidence of this can be found in criminological data which clearly demonstrates that the causes of delinquency and alcohol consumption are precisely the same because they are behaviors found in the same person.

## Consider your daughter

KEVIN M

Fargo

One commentary writer complained that he did not get the police to readily attend to the break-in of his daughter's car because they were too busy busting parties. In all likelihood, the thieves who broke into his daughter's car were too intoxicated to care about the consequences of their behavior. This of course is minor compared to the number of juveniles in this community in the past few years who have teetered on death row from alcohol poisoning.

*luveniles* 

Fathers critical of police concern for their daughters' welfare could also benefit by knowing that in drinking, their girls greatly increase their chance of falling victim to a host of negative outcomes. My own data show that compared to nondrinking girls, binge drinking girls are five times more likely to attempt suicide, 14 times more likely to use meth, and 14 times more likely to be beaten in a dating situation.

### Same effect

If there is anyone in this unity who hon-

estly feels that a 14-year-old can handle eight to nine beers, please step forward. How about three to four beers? Still, I am struck by how often adults dismiss this behavior as a rite of passage. One of the crucial distinctions between the brain structure of adolescents and adults lies in the portion of the brain responsible for emotions. This part of the brain is largest and most active in adolescence and doesn't reach its full stage of development until the age of 20 or 21. It is no coincidence therefore, that we have established a 21-year-old drinking age.

Alcohol of course exacerbates the emotional highs and lows experienced by adolescents and makes it difficult for adolescents to control impulses. Recently The Forum ran a piece on how an adolescent's brain differs from that of an adult. While I am reticent to attach much significance to animal studies, the article went on to cite research at the University of North Carolina which found significantly more brain damage in adolescent rats following excessive alcohol consumption than that of adult rats.

It is intriguing that during the gang menace six years ago that citizens in this cornunity were encouraging and applauding the police to enact preventive and proactive postures. Yet compared to underage drinking, the public health threats posed by gang involvement in this community are miniscule. We need citizens in this community to switch gears and adopt a similar attitude toward underage drinking. After all, they're only our kids.

(Thompson is an associate professor of sociology at North Dalota State University and is active in the Mayor's Task Force on Alcohol Abuse.)

# Ritalin criticism balances what 'establishment' says

who confuse the messenger with the have become the target of those

Two columns ago, I reviewed 'Ritalin is Not the Auswer' (\$15, Jossey Bass), a book by professor and clinical psychologist David Seein. He presents not only a stimulant medications (such as Ritalin) well-rescarched indicament of the use of ADHD), but also a nonmedical treat-ment plan called the Caregiver Skills deficit (hyperactivity) disorder (ADD or in the treatment of childhood attention

the feathers of a number of mental Not surprisingly, the column ruffled

nearm professionals

ing ADD. Right. It was my intention to The most common complaint was that I did not present a "balanced" view balanced but rather balances what to Steam, consists of reisanformation. telling the American public for more professionals who constitute what I call than 20 years, much of which, according the ADD Establishment have been

For example, Stein maintains that ADD does not qualify as a disease. This Health Conference on ADHD, so he is paints at the 1998 National Institute of was affirmed by a consensus of particiraudy abone in this opinion.



that the symptoms of ADHD result from physiological dysfunction or are There is, to date, no convincing proof

then it is not appropriate to treat it as such, as with drugs. Furthermore, he Stein simply proposes what is logical and rational: If ADD is not a disease, says, the drugs in question are potentially dangerous to a child's health.

toms for a period of hours, there is no ication will indeed relieve ADD sympresponds that while a dose of such medbeen "helped" by these drugs. He ignores the fact that many children have these drugs for years produces lasting reliable evidence that taking one of A good many professionals said Stein

improvement, parents and teachers often come to rely exclusively on them produce "instant" (albeit temporary) furthermore, because these drugs

doesn't think this qualifies as truly helpthat will produce enduring gain. Stein instead of employing remedial methods

nately, many if not most ADD children short-term use of these drugs. Uniortutake them for several years or more. He does not have a problem with

of professionals. Again, Stein is dead on. administer any tests to diagnose ADD. Stein says it is unnecessary, even manipulative, for a professional to is not being forthright. make no mention of test data. If a prolatest Diagnostic and Statistical Manual The diagnostic criteria presented in the That raised the hackles of a fair number is necessary to make a diagnosis, he/she fessional even implies that such testing

essary to developing a comprehensive treatment plan, that is another matter, but all too often these very expensive procedures are presented in the former If he/she presents these tests as nec

preventing parents from seeking appropriate treatment for children with ADD. Stein (and by association, myself) is Finally, some professionals claimed

Au contraire.

presenting a viable aliernative to the use of drugs, and trying to prevent parents at the full range of treatment opnons, Stein is encouraging parents to look

money on inappropriate diagnostic and from spending their hard-earned treatment procedures.

sionals retorted that if a child does not works to the long-term advantage of parent and ADD child. Some profesgram, when employed conscientiously his claim that the Caregiver Skills Proneed medication, he does not truly have apoplectic over the next one. as yet untitled, due out in the fall of 2001. He told me, "Anyone upset by sort Stein will address in his next book. ADD. This is circular reasoning of the Ritalin is Not the Answer is going to be Stein has plenty of evidence to back

You may not agree with everything Stein has to say. Then again, you may simply not want to even consider that

he has something of value to say.
In any case, his iconoclasm is thought-provoking and, for some,

tact him may do so at dstein@long-wood.lwc.edu. That's called intellectual refreshing.
Oh, he also asked me to inform my readers that anyone who wants to con-

gist. Questions of general interest may be sent to him at Affirmative Parenting, 9247 N. Meridian, Indianapolis, Ind., 46260 and at his Web site: www.rosemond.com) (John Rosemond is a family psycholo-