

**MINUTES OF THE
IMMIGRATION INTERIM COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, May 22, 2008 – 1:00 p.m. – Room C450 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Scott K. Jenkins, Senate Chair
Rep. Brad L. Dee, House Chair
Sen. John W. Hickman
Sen. Mark B. Madsen
Sen. Ross I. Romero
Rep. Stephen D. Clark
Rep. Glenn A. Donnelson
Rep. Ben C. Ferry
Rep. Neil A. Hansen
Rep. Michael E. Noel
Rep. Mark A. Wheatley

Members Absent:

Staff Present:

Mr. Arthur L. Hunsaker, Policy Analyst
Mr. James L. Wilson, Associate General Counsel
Mr. Christopher R. Parker, Associate General Counsel
Mr. Thomas R. Vaughn, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Chelsea Barrett, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Jenkins called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Chair Jenkins noted that the document entitled "How Many Illegal Aliens Are in the United States?" was distributed to Committee members with permission granted to a constituent. He noted that the document "ICE Investigations" was distributed by Mr. Hunsaker prior to the meeting. Chair Jenkins encouraged committee members to familiarize themselves with "Immigration Committee Chairs - Some Business Issues", which outlined potential future meeting dates and locations.

Mr. Hunsaker reviewed the Committee responsibilities established by the Legislative Management Committee.

Chair Dee reviewed the responsibilities and guidelines for the Committee and the audience. He explained that public audience members must contact Mr. Hunsaker prior to the meeting if they wish to comment.

2. Utah Attorney General's Office

Mr. Mark Shurtleff, Attorney General, introduced Mr. Kirk Torgensen, Chief Deputy, Criminal Divisions and Mr. Wade Faraway, Assistant Attorney General, Legislative Affairs. Mr. Shurtleff commented on his jurisdiction within the issues surrounding illegal immigration. He explained the importance of working with federal agencies and obtaining as many resources as possible.

Mr. Shurtleff answered questions from committee members.

3. United States Attorney's Office

Mr. Brett L. Tolman, United States Attorney, District of Utah, introduced Brett Parkinson, Assistant US Attorney and noted his experience with illegal immigration issues. Mr. Tolman explained that action should be taken at the national and state levels to be productive with illegal immigration. He noted that state and federal entities must work together to be successful. He explained the good working

relationship between the state of Utah, the US Attorney's Office, and other federal agencies. Mr. Tolman noted that Utah is aggressive in being aware and involved in immigration concerns. He complimented the efforts of the Committee and expressed the value of insightful conversation on this subject.

Mr. Tolman addressed issues concerning Immigration and Custom Enforcement (ICE) and noted that efforts should be directed towards encouraging discussion with the agency and the Legislature. He commented on the importance of relevant and accurate information when discussing the issues of immigrants and immigration.

Mr. Tolman answered questions from the Committee.

4. Federal Immigration Law, State Regulation, and 50-state Experience

Ms. Ann Morse, Program Director, Immigrant Policy Project, National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), distributed and presented "Federal Immigration Law and State Immigrant Policy." The presentation included information on state and federal roles, state legislation passed, and other statistical data throughout the United States relevant to immigration policy.

Ms. Morse answered questions from the Committee.

Sen. Hickman requested that staff prepare a review of the Arizona legislation regarding immigration and have a summary relating to Utah's 2008 General Session SB 81, "Illegal Immigration."

6. Other Items / Adjourn

Chair Jenkins requested that if the public would like to comment in any meeting to contact Art Hunsaker through email.

The Committee set its next meeting for Thursday, June 19, 2008 at Utah State University.

MOTION: Sen. Romero moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Noel and Rep. Wheatley absent for the vote.

Chair Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.