

**MINUTES OF THE  
IMMIGRATION INTERIM COMMITTEE**

Thursday, August 27, 2008 – 5:30 p.m. – Ecker Hill International Middle School, Park City, Utah

**Members Present:**

Sen. Scott K. Jenkins, Senate Chair  
Rep. Brad L. Dee, House Chair  
Sen. John W. Hickman  
Rep. Glenn A. Donnelson  
Rep. Neil A. Hansen  
Rep. Mark A. Wheatley

**Members Absent:**

Sen. Mark B. Madsen  
Sen. Ross I. Romero  
Rep. Stephen D. Clark  
Rep. Ben C. Ferry  
Rep. Michael E. Noel

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Arthur L. Hunsaker, Policy Analyst  
Mr. Thomas Vaughn, Associate General Counsel  
Mr. Christopher R. Parker, 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](http://www.le.utah.gov).

**1. Committee Business**

Chair Jenkins called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Rep. Hansen moved to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2008 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

**2. Federal Immigration Enforcement**

Mr. Eugene Davis, Retired Officer, Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), explained his experiences working with INS. He spoke favorably towards the Committee's bipartisan efforts to study immigration in Utah. Mr. Davis stated that changes in immigration policy must take place on a state level rather than waiting for federal direction.

Mr. Kent Lundgren, President, National Association of Former Patrol Officers, explained the three main objectives of the National Association of Former Patrol Officers. Primarily, the association is responsible for educating the public on immigration policies, secondly, to protect public safety, and lastly, to address national security issues. Mr. Lundgren encouraged the Committee to counsel with federal legislators to work on immigration concerns.

**3. Oklahoma Immigration Law**

Mr. Randy Terrill, Legislator, State of Oklahoma, commented on Rep. Donnelson's and Sen. Hickman's immigration bills in Utah. He encouraged the Committee to use these pieces of legislation to further study legislation on immigration.

Mr. Terrill explained to the Committee that immigration is a growing and serious concern for our country and that each state struggles with the topic. Further, he spoke about the importance of making immigration a state concern, as well as a concern at the federal level. Mr. Terrill explained that each state carries its own responsibility for its immigration concerns. He explained to the Committee the possibility

of resistance from the business community, and advised the Committee to strengthen and monitor the immigration legislation already in effect in Utah.

#### **4. In-State Tuition Eligibility**

Ms. Lee Ling Tjoa, Student, University of Utah, explained her experiences and struggles with in-state tuition eligibility and illegal immigration.

Ms. Rebecca Cowden, Adjunct Instructor of Anthropology, University of Utah, explained the value of receiving an education in the United States. She explained her frustrations with the impacts of illegal immigrants on the in-state tuition system in Utah.

#### **5. Perspectives on Immigration**

Rep. Christopher Herrod distributed various letters and gave a presentation "Perspectives on Immigration." Rep. Herrod explained his background and experience with immigration issues. He explained to the Committee the importance of looking at cost analysis when studying illegal immigration.

#### **6. Illegal Immigration -- Impacts**

Mr. Eli Cawley, Utah Minuteman Project, along with other representatives from the Utah Minuteman project, distributed and presented "Illegal Aliens, Inequality Before the Law and the Derogation of Citizenship." Mr. Cawley explained the importance of legal state documentation and importance of fair in-state tuition. The Utah Minuteman Project presented a video.

#### **7. Identity Theft**

Mr. Ronald Mortensen distributed and presented "Illegal Alien Driven Child Identity Theft." Mr. Mortensen explained common misconceptions, solutions, and possible action the Legislature could take to make a difference with immigration policy.

#### **8. Utah Immigration Fact Book**

Mr. Stan Rasmussen, Public Affairs Manager, Sutherland Institute, discussed the Sutherland Institute's policy concerns. He outlined and distributed "Sutherland Institute Position Statement" and "Utah Citizens and Illegal Immigration: Side-by-Side." Mr. Rasmussen introduced Mr. Derek Monson, Policy Analyst, Sutherland Institute, who helped answer questions from Committee members regarding the institute's position statement.

#### **9. Public Comment**

Mr. Phil Morgan, citizen, spoke about current news articles on immigration policy and his concerns with illegal immigrants in the workplace.

Mr. Bryan Harlig, citizen, spoke about the importance of state involvement with immigration issues.

Mr. Thomas Rodgers, citizen, spoke about his concerns with Utah's immigration legislative policy.

Mr. Lee Gardner, citizen, spoke about his experiences with immigration in California and Utah. He explained the impact of immigration on the business economy.

Mr. Thomas Rogers, citizen, spoke about the living conditions for many illegal immigrants throughout Utah.

Ms. Tina Reed, citizen, spoke about the influence of illegal immigrants on the economy and job market.

Ms. Barbara Jean, citizen, spoke about her experiences with illegal immigration on borders.

Mr. Thaldeus Speed, citizen, spoke in favor of 2008 General Session S.B. 81, "Illegal Immigration."

Mr. Sandra Brenna, Holy Cross Ministry, stated that immigration concerns must be addressed through federal law.

Mr. Jared Green, citizen, addressed the need to look at all sides of the immigration issue.

Mr. Glen Wright, citizen, spoke about immigration legislation proposed in Utah.

Ms. Jackson Stallard, citizen, thanked the Committee for coming to the Park City area and spoke about her experiences living abroad.

#### **10. Committee Business**

The Committee decided to consider a possible date change for the upcoming southern Utah meetings. The Committee will work with staff to decide these dates.

#### **8. Other Items / Adjourn**

Chair Dee reminded the audience and Committee that if anyone would like to participate in future Immigration Interim Committee meetings, to please contact staff who will work with the chairs to create future agendas.

**MOTION:** Rep. Donnelson moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m.