

**MINUTES OF THE
WORKFORCE SERVICES AND COMMUNITY
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INTERIM COMMITTEE**
Wednesday, September 15, 2010 – 10:00 a.m. – Room 450 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Mark B. Madsen, Senate Chair
Rep. Steven R. Mascaró, House Chair
Sen. Patricia W. Jones
Sen. Daniel R. Liljenquist
Sen. Ralph Okerlund
Sen. Luz Robles
Rep. Laura Black
Rep. James A. Dunnigan
Rep. Neil A. Hansen
Rep. Christopher N. Herrod
Rep. Kenneth W. Sumsion
Rep. Christine F. Watkins

Members Absent:

Rep. Paul Ray

Staff Present:

Mr. Arthur L. Hunsaker, Policy Analyst
Mr. James L. Wilson, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Glenda S. Whitney, 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 Mascaró called the meeting to order at 10:13 a.m.

MOTION: Sen. Jones moved to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2010 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Robles, Rep. Dunnigan, Rep. Herrod, and Rep. Sumsion were absent for the vote.

2. Sharing Department Information with Government Agencies

Ms. Kristen Cox, Executive Director, Department of Workforce Services (DWS), gave an overview on: 1) laws governing information sharing by DWS; and 2) DWS protocols for determining eligibility for compensation, services, and assistance. She said she would email Committee members a summary of her presentation.

Ms. Cox also distributed handouts, "Utah Department of Workforce Services 10 Year History by State Fiscal Year (SFY)," "Expenditure and Program Dashboard SFY 2010," "Authority and Responsibility Regarding Customer Social Security Numbers," "Alien Status Verification Processes," and "Utah Moves to Protect its Own Against Identity Theft."

Ms. Shauna Havey, Program Manager, DWS, responded to questions regarding applicants being eligible for Medicaid benefits.

Mr. Geoffrey Lanward, General Council, DWS, responded to legal questions regarding the process for conducting investigations on eligibility for compensation, services, or assistance.

Committee discussion followed.

3. Draft Legislation, "Department of Workforce Services' Regional Workforce Service Areas Amendments"

Sen. Jones, sponsor of proposed 2011 General Session draft legislation, "Department of Workforce Services' Regional Workforce Service Areas Amendments" (2011FL-0293/006) and Ms. Cox presented the draft to the Committee for its consideration.

Ms. Cox distributed a handout, "Situational Brief" and commented on the focus of the bill.

Ms. Ally Isom, Government Affairs Director, DWS, further reviewed several of the proposed provisions of the draft legislation.

Ms. Melissa Smith, Community Action Partnership of Utah, expressed concern with the proposed legislation.

Ms. Karen Silver, Advocate, Salt Lake Community Action, identified areas of the proposed legislation that she believed needed further clarification.

Sen. Jones summarized the key components of the draft legislation and asked for a formal vote by the Committee on the proposed legislation.

MOTION: Sen. Jones moved to adopt the 2011 General Session draft legislation, "Department of Workforce Services' Regional Workforce Service Areas Amendments" (2011FL-0293/006) as a committee bill.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Rep. Dunnigan moved to amend the draft legislation, on line 487, by deleting "regional" and inserting "economic service area." The substitute motion passed unanimously.

The Committee returned to Sen. Jones' original motion to adopt the draft legislation, as amended, as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Other Items /Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. Watkins moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Mascaro adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.