

**MINUTES OF THE  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS INTERIM COMMITTEE**  
Wednesday, May 16, 2012 – 2:00 p.m. – Room 25 House Building

**Members**

Sen. Peter C. Knudson, Senate Chair  
Rep. Kraig Powell, House Chair  
Sen. Margaret Dayton  
Sen. Ross I. Romero  
Rep. Rebecca Chavez-Houck  
Rep. Craig A. Frank  
Rep. Brad J. Galvez  
Rep. Richard A. Greenwood  
Rep. Keith Grover  
Rep. David Litvack

Rep. Curtis Oda  
Rep. Lee B. Perry  
Rep. Douglas Sagers

**Members Absent:**

Rep. Janice M. Fisher

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Arthur L. Hunsaker, Policy Analyst  
Ms. Emily R. Brown, Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Kimberly A. Heiner, 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 Knudson called the meeting to order at 2:34 p.m. Rep. Fisher was excused from the meeting.

Mr. Hunsaker referenced the "Master Study Resolution Items Assigned to Government Operations" that was included in the mailing packet, and asked the committee members to complete the ranking and return to staff if they have not already done so.

**MOTION:** Rep. Galvez moved to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2011 Government Operations and Political Subdivisions Interim Committee meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Greenwood, Rep. Litvak, and Rep. Perry absent for the vote.

**2. Presentations by State Agencies Reporting to the Committee**

Ms. Kimberly Hood, Executive Director, Department of Administrative Services, distributed and discussed a "Department of Administrative Services Overview" handout. She gave an update on 2012 General Session H.B. 80, "Reorganization of Administrative Support Functions in State Agencies." She also discussed items on the Master Study Resolution list that pertained to the Department of Administrative Services. She responded to questions from the committee.

Mr. Jason Knight, Department of Administrative Services, responded to concerns on what the Department of Administrative Services can learn from data breaches that have occurred in other agencies due to consolidations. He said that the Division of Risk Management is conducting a pilot program called Enterprise Risk Management, which helps agencies mitigate threats such as data breaches.

Ms. Debbie Cragun, Human Resource Director, Department of Human Resource Management (DHRM), distributed and discussed the "Department of Human Resource Management" presentation. She explained DHRM's purpose and efficiencies.

Mr. Mark Thomas, Elections Director, Office of the Lieutenant Governor, gave an overview of the Lt. Governor's Office responsibilities and current studies. He said the Lt. Governor's Office has recently

seen an increase in election complaints. He asked the committee if it wanted to consider a statute of limitations on how far back people can file complaints. Chair Knudson asked Mr. Thomas to put together suggestions on what legislation should be considered to help the Lt. Governor's Office. Mr. Thomas responded to questions from the committee.

### **3. Annual Elections Cleanup Recommendations**

Mr. Thomas distributed "Office of the Lieutenant Governor Election Issues for Consideration by the Government Operations Interim Committee" and explained the policy issues addressed in the handout. He also discussed substantive and technical changes to the state's Election Code. He responded to questions from the committee.

Mr. Courtney White, Secretary, Utah Libertarian Party, said that some of the policy suggestions offered by Mr. Thomas would be detrimental to the nomination process of the Libertarian Party. He also said that raising the filing costs would pose a challenge to the party's candidates as well.

Chair Knudson said that the issues raised by Mr. Thomas could possibly be raised through separate legislation.

**MOTION:** Rep. Powell moved to direct committee staff to prepare a report and recommendations on the issues outlined in the Lt. Governor's list of policy issues presented at today's meeting to be presented to the Government Operations Interim Committee in June's interim meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Dayton, Rep. Greenwood, and Rep. Perry absent for the vote.

Mr. Hunsaker distributed and discussed an "Elections Code -- Statutory Cleanup" handout, which provided recommendations from the OLRGC of technical modifications to the Utah Code.

**MOTION:** Rep. Galvez moved to instruct committee staff to prepare a technical amendments bill for a statutory cleanup of the Utah Elections Code. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Dayton, Rep. Greenwood, and Rep. Perry absent for the vote.

### **4. Changing Political Party Affiliation: Reviewing Section 20A-2-107.5**

Ms. Brown discussed a "Designating or Changing Party Affiliation Current Statute" handout, which was mailed to the committee prior to the Government Operations Interim Committee meeting. She responded to questions from the committee.

Mr. Thomas said that the proposed way to change political party affiliation may be difficult to explain to voters.

Mr. Courtney White, Secretary, Utah Libertarian Party, suggested allowing each individual political party the option to choose whether it wants the 30 day requirement for voters to change party affiliation.

### **5. Committee Member Recommendations for Study in 2012**

Mr. Hunsaker gave an overview of the responses he had received from the committee on items they would like the committee discuss during this interim. He responded to questions from the committee.

### **6. Committee Business / Adjourn**

Minutes of the Government Operations Interim Committee

May 16, 2012

Page 3

**MOTION:** Rep. Frank moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Dayton, Rep. Greenwood, Rep. Grover, Rep. Litvack, and Rep. Perry absent for the vote.

Chair Knusdon adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m.