

**MINUTES OF THE  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS INTERIM COMMITTEE**  
Wednesday, June 15, 2016 – 1:15 p.m. – Room 20 House Building

**Members Present:**

Rep. Jack R. Draxler, House Chair  
Sen. Lyle W. Hillyard  
Sen. Jani Iwamoto  
Sen. Alvin B. Jackson  
Sen. Scott K. Jenkins  
Rep. Patrice M. Arent  
Rep. Fred C. Cox  
Rep. Brad M. Daw  
Rep. Sophia M. DiCaro  
Rep. Brian M. Greene  
Rep. Brian S. King  
Rep. Merrill F. Nelson

Rep. Curtis Oda  
Rep. Lee B. Perry  
Rep. Jeremy A. Peterson  
Rep. Dean Sanpei

**Members Absent:**

Sen. Margaret Dayton, Senate Chair

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Brian J. Bean, Policy Analyst  
Mr. Thomas R. Vaughn, Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Katie LeFevre, Legislative Assistant

**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 Draxler called the meeting to order at 1:27 p.m. and excused Sen. Dayton from the meeting.

**MOTION:** Sen. Hillyard moved to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2016, meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Jackson and Rep. Peterson absent for the vote.

**2. Report on Unmanned Aircraft**

Ms. Kim Gibb, Legislative Liaison, Department of Public Safety, reported on the government use of unmanned aircraft in the state. She responded to questions from the committee regarding the purpose of the report. The committee discussed whether the statute requiring the report accomplishes a meaningful objective.

**3. Report from the Government Records Ombudsman**

Ms. Rosemary Cundiff, Government Records Ombudsman, Department of Administrative Services, distributed the "2016 Ombudsman Report." She presented facts and statistics regarding the work she performed over the last year and identified issues with the Government Records Access and Management Act that may be appropriate for legislative consideration. She responded to questions from the committee.

Rep. Perry encouraged Ms. Cundiff to provide legislators with suggested amendments to the Government Records Access and Management Act.

**4. Draft Legislation "Joint Rules Resolution and Redistricting Standards"**

Rep. Nelson presented draft legislation "Joint Rules Resolution and Redistricting Standards" (FL2017-081/007) and distributed "Redistricting Flier." He explained that the draft legislation enacts principles and procedures to guide the Legislature during redistricting.

The committee received public comment. Ms. Gigi Brandt, Utah League of Women Voters, expressed the League's commitment to redistricting standards.

Chair Draxler announced that the committee will consider a motion to adopt draft legislation "Joint Rules and Redistricting Standards" as a committee bill at the July interim meeting.

#### **5. Draft Legislation "Amendments to Election Law"**

Mr. Vaughn presented and outlined the changes in draft legislation "Amendments to Election Law" (2017FL-0148/009). He explained that the draft legislation makes changes to the Election Code as suggested by the committee and the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

Mr. Justin Lee, Deputy Director of Elections, Office of the Lieutenant Governor, responded to questions from the committee.

Chair Draxler announced that the committee will consider a motion to adopt draft legislation "Amendments to Election Law" as a committee bill at the July interim meeting.

#### **6. Draft Legislation "Nomination Petition Amendments"**

Mr. Vaughn presented the committee's draft legislation "Nomination Petition Amendments" (FL2017-0287/007). He explained that the draft legislation amends provisions of the Election Code relating to a petition to nominate a candidate for office.

The committee discussed administrative and ethical issues regarding the collection of petition signatures.

Mr. Lee responded to questions from the committee regarding election-related deadlines.

#### **7. Veterans' and Military Affairs**

Mr. Gary Harter, Executive Director, Department of Veterans' and Military Affairs, distributed "Veterans Voice May 2016" and "Department of Veterans' and Military Affairs Fact Sheet." He shared annual facts and statistics regarding the department. He noted that veterans are well supported in Utah, and the Department of Veterans' and Military Affairs appreciates the support of the Legislature.

Mr. Dennis McFall, Deputy Director, Department of Veterans' and Military Affairs, reported on the state's veterans' homes and veterans' cemetery. He explained that the veterans' cemetery is reaching capacity, and the department will be seeking a federal grant to acquire more burial sites. He informed the committee that the department will need legislative approval to apply for the grant.

#### **8. Public-Private Partnerships**

Chair Draxler invited the committee members to share their thoughts and experiences on public-private partnerships.

Sen. Iwamoto described her experience with the Mount Olympus Garden and suggested that the success of public-private partnerships depends on community involvement.

Rep. DiCaro offered the Utah Aerospace Pathways Program as an example of a successful public-private partnership and described its success in creating a skilled workforce for the aerospace industry.

Chair Draxler encouraged the committee to continue evaluating public-private partnerships.

**9. Other Items/Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Rep. DiCaro moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Hillyard, Sen. Jenkins, Rep. Daw, Rep. Greene, Rep. Oda, and Rep. Sanpei absent for the vote.

Chair Draxler adjourned the meeting at 3:39 p.m.