



INTERIM HIGHLIGHTS

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel

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2002 General Session Schedule Adjourning for the Winter Olympics

At its April 17 meeting, the Legislative Management Committee considered several options to make the 2002 General Session as productive as usual, while adjourning during the Winter Olympics. The committee adopted a plan that will use the two weeks prior to the opening of the General Session for interim committee and appropriation subcommittee meetings.

The reason for not holding meetings on Monday and Friday is to allow for extended weekends to take care of personal business. However, the committee did reserve the right to meet up to five days each week based on the number of bill filings. The final determination will be made at the Legislative Management Committee meeting in November. We hope that providing you this information will give you time to make the necessary arrangements for your work, lodging, and personal affairs.

President Al Mansell
Speaker Martin R. Stephens

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Tuesday, January 8 Wednesday, January 9 Thursday, January 10	Appropriation Subcommittee Meetings
Tuesday, January 15 Wednesday, January 16 Thursday, January 17	Interim Committee Meetings
Monday, January 21	General Session Begins
Friday, February 8	Adjourn for Winter Olympics
Monday, February 25	Resume General Session
Wednesday, March 6	Adjourn General Session

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INTERIM COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Business and Labor

STUDIES:

- Discussed issues related to mobile home parks, including rulemaking, changes in use of property, and mediation and arbitration options.
- Discussed the permitted uses of and the distribution formula for alcoholic beverage funds, including liquor control profits and proceeds of the beer excise tax that are appropriated annually to municipalities and counties.

ACTION: Moved to further study mobile home issues during the interim. (Vote: 11-5-3)

Chairs: Sen. Dan R. Eastman/Rep. Katherine M. Bryson
Staff: Mary Catherine Perry (analyst)/Patricia Owen (attorney)/Jennifer Markham (secretary)

Education

STUDIES:

- Received public comment on proposed legislation that would change the governance of applied technology education. The committee did not have time to debate the bill.
- Received testimony from Salt Lake City School District administrators and parents of students attending those schools regarding the impact of school closures on school choice opportunities.

Chairs: Sen. Howard A. Stephenson/Rep. Marda Dillree
Staff: Connie Steffen (analyst)/Dee Larsen (attorney)/Wendy Bangerter (secretary)

Government Operations

STUDY: Discussed possible changes to the Utah election law and election processes in light of the 2000 presidential election.

REPORTS:

- Received a report regarding the number, membership, appointment, cost, confirmation, and role of boards and commissions in the state.
- Received a report outlining current laws and rules governing ethics, campaign finance, and lobbyist disclosure.

Chairs: Sen. John W. Hickman/Rep. Craig W. Butters
Staff: John Cannon (analyst)/John Fellows (attorney)/Alicia Gambles (secretary)

Health and Human Services

STUDIES:

- Discussed draft legislation that would change how a municipality applies for a license to provide emergency medical services to a newly annexed area.
- Discussed draft legislation that would appropriate \$495,000 to the Center for Persons With Disabilities at Utah State University for long-term training of personnel who support employees with a disability, interpreters for the deaf, and behavior support specialists.

Chairs: Sen. Terry R. Spencer/Rep. Carl R. Saunders

Staff: Mark Andrews (analyst)/Paul Hess, Catherine Dupont (attorneys)/Sandra Wissa (secretary)

Judiciary

STUDY: Received testimony from legislative staff, Dept. of Human Services, Administrative Office of the Courts, and the Legal Aid Society regarding the statewide problem of the wrongful denial of court-ordered parent visitation. Although the committee acknowledged that mandated sanctions may negatively impact children in some cases, it was concerned that as many as 60% of all non-custodial parents are denied court-ordered visitation.

Chairs: Sen. David L. Gladwell/Rep. Glenn L. Way

Staff: Jerry Howe (analyst)/Esther Chelsea-McCarty (attorney)/Glenda Whitney (secretary)

Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice

STUDY: Received testimony from legislative staff and various state agencies regarding the current problems surrounding the manufacturing and use of methamphetamine and the potential solutions in the areas of prevention, law enforcement, and treatment.

Chairs: Sen. D. Chris Buttars/Rep. DeMar "Bud" Bowman

Staff: Chyleen Arbon (analyst)/Susan Creager Allred (attorney)/Alicia Gambles (secretary)

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment

STUDY: Discussed a proposal to allow fishing licenses to be purchased for a one-year period from the date of purchase, rather than on a calendar-year basis.

REPORTS:

- Received a report from PacifiCorp on an irrigation curtailment program that gives qualifying irrigation customers the option of curtailing electricity load in exchange for payment by PacifiCorp. The program is intended to reduce PacifiCorp's need to purchase power in the wholesale market this summer when prices are expected to be high.
- Received a report from Utah State University regarding a reorganization of the College of Natural Resources.

Continued

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment – Continued

- Received a report from the Div. of Wildlife Resources on the use of hunting and fishing license revenues. The division reported that in FY 2001, approximately 2% of budgeted hunting and fishing license revenues will have been used to fund non-game related expenditures.

Chairs: Sen. Parley G. Hellewell/Rep. Bradley T. Johnson

Staff: Brian Allred (analyst)/Jeanenne Larson (attorney)/Joy Miller (secretary)

Political Subdivisions

STUDIES:

- Received testimony regarding current subdivision and zoning requirements to determine whether a particular type of entity should remain exempt from local land use requirements.
- Received testimony regarding the Utah Quality Growth Commission's mission and accomplishments and discussed its "Principles of Quality Growth" and its recommendations for a net gain in private land.

Chairs: Sen. Carlene M. Walker/Rep. David L. Hogue

Staff: Joseph Wade (analyst)/Keith Woodwell (attorney)/Joy Miller (secretary)

Public Utilities and Technology

ACTIONS:

- Directed staff to draft legislation regarding net metering for the June interim meeting.
- Directed staff to draft a letter to the Speaker, President, and Governor, requesting that an energy tax credit be included in the Special Session.

Chairs: Sen. Leonard M. Blackham/Rep. John E. Swallow

Staff: Richard North (analyst)/Robert Rees (attorney)/Junie Anderson (secretary)

Revenue and Taxation

STUDIES:

- Discussed the various property tax relief programs, including such aspects as eligibility, whether the relief is mandatory or discretionary, deadlines for applications, funding, number of persons claiming relief, and the amount of tax dollars abated. The committee also reviewed state vs. county funding of these programs.
- Received testimony regarding information on the Farmland Assessment Act and administrative problems confronting assessors as they implement this law.
- Discussed current state laws regarding when and how taxing entities may impose judgment levies and received testimony from taxing entities that these levies are appropriate.
- Discussed current state laws that impose a penalty on unpaid property taxes when the value of the property is under appeal.

Chairs: Sen. Curtis S. Bramble/Rep. Wayne A. Harper

Staff: Bryant Howe (analyst)/Rebecca Rockwell (attorney)/Sandra Wissa (secretary)

Transportation

STUDY: Discussed policy choices regarding awarding attorneys' fees in disputed eminent domain cases.

REPORTS:

- Received an update on the construction of the Legacy Parkway from I-215 to Farmington.
- Received a report regarding the renewal of motor vehicle registration and driver licenses on the Internet.

*Chairs: Sen. David H. Steele/Rep. Joseph G. Murray
Staff: Benjamin Christensen (analyst)/Cheryl Felt (attorney)/Junie Anderson (secretary)*

Workforce Services and Community and Economic Development

STUDY: Received testimony from the Travel Council and Olympic-venue cities regarding strategies that could be used to increase tourism.

Continued

Workforce Services and Community and Economic Development – Continued

REPORTS:

- Received a report from the Dept. of Workforce Services regarding remedial actions taken to improve the food stamp payment accuracy rate in Utah. The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture imposed a \$2 million sanction on the state, but is allowing the Dept. of Workforce Services to reinvest the entire sanction amount into a food stamp payment accuracy plan.
- Received a report that the Dept. of Workforce Services and the Office of Rehabilitation exceeded performance levels for implementing the adult education program and are eligible to share an incentive grant award.
- Received a report regarding a performance audit of the tourism promotion fund in Utah.

*Chairs: Sen. Beverly Evans/Rep. Richard M. Siddoway
Staff: Wayne Lewis (analyst)/Jim Wilson (attorney)/Jenifer Markham (secretary)*

REDISTRICTING GUIDELINES AND MEETING SCHEDULE

The Redistricting Committee held its fourth meeting on May 16 and has received public comment at each meeting. The committee adopted redistricting principles and procedural guidelines which will govern the redistricting process until the new districts are enacted by the Legislature later this year. The committee will have held fifteen meetings, eight in cities other than Salt Lake, before completing its work.

REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE SCHEDULE OF FUTURE PUBLIC HEARINGS		
May 30	1:00 p.m.	State Capitol, Room 129
June 7	12:00 p.m.	Tooele
June 7	6:00 p.m.	State Capitol, Room 129
June 28	12:00 p.m.	Richfield
June 28	6:00 p.m.	Cedar City
July 12	12:00 p.m.	Price
July 12	6:00 p.m.	Provo
July 16	6:00 p.m.	Park City
Aug. 9	9:00 a.m.	State Capitol, Room 129
Aug. 30	2:00 p.m.	State Capitol, Room 129
Sept. 6	9:00 a.m.	State Capitol, Room 129
Sept. 20	9:00 a.m.	State Capitol, Room 129

Procedural Guidelines

1. Plan Authorizations – All requests to use staff time and redistricting resources must first be cleared by a member of the committee and by one of the committee chairs.

2. Security of Information – To ensure the security of information and to protect licensing agreements with software manufacturers, access to computer information and the computer system used in the redistricting process will be restricted to redistricting committee staff. With permission from a chair, individual legislators may direct staff in drawing plans.

3. Public Access – Committee meetings will be open to the public.

4. Effect of a Change on the Entire Plan – Every change to a proposed plan by a committee member must also resolve the ripple effect on the entire plan caused by that change.

5. Political Data – Political data will not be included in the redistricting computer system. Political data should not be shown to or discussed with committee staff nor at committee meetings.

Redistricting Principles

1. Equal Population – Congressional districts must be as equal as is practical, with a deviation not greater than $\pm .5\%$. State legislative districts and state school board districts must be equal, with a deviation not greater than $\pm 4\%$.

2. Number of Districts – Plans will be drawn to create three congressional districts, four congressional districts, 29 state Senate districts, 75 state House districts, and 15 state school board districts.

3. Bureau of the Census Figures – In drawing districts, the committee will use the official 2000 U.S. Census data.

4. Single Member Districts – Districts will be single member districts.

5. Contiguity and Compactness – Districts will be contiguous and reasonably compact.

REVENUE PROJECTIONS

The Revenue and Taxation Interim Committee received testimony from the Utah State Tax Commission that major tax revenue collections for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001 are below legislative projections. A slowing economy, sluggish retail sales, and poor stock market performance during the last several months have contributed to this potential revenue shortfall. While there are still two months left in the fiscal year, the Tax Commission's economists were unsure whether individual income and corporate income tax collections would increase to meet the projected revenue amounts. However, they are confident that sales and use tax revenues will rebound to projected levels.

Individual Income Tax Collections	\$42 million below projections
Corporate Income and Franchise Tax Revenues	\$17 million below projections
State Sales and Use Tax Revenues	\$6 million below projections
Transportation Fund Revenues	\$5 million below projections
Severance Tax Revenues	\$11 million over projections
Total Revenues	\$59 million below projections

QUASI-GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

STUDY: Discussed the review process for independent entities in H.B. 28, "Independent Entities Act."

REPORT: Received a report on the progress of the privatization of the Utah Technology Finance Corporation.

ACTION: Directed staff to work with the state retirement system attorneys to create a proposal for a recodification of the Retirement Code.

Chairs: Sen. David H. Steele/Rep. Ron Bigelow

Staff: Benjamin Christensen (analyst)/Dee Larsen (attorney)/Junie Anderson (secretary)

CENSUS 2000 City Rank by Percent Change

Area	1990	2000	Percent Change 1990-2000	Rank
Draper city	7,257	25,220	247.5%	1
South Jordan city	12,220	29,437	140.9%	2
Lehi city	8,475	19,028	124.5%	3
Riverton city	11,261	25,011	122.1%	4
Lindon city	3,818	8,363	119.0%	5
Bluffdale city	2,152	4,700	118.4%	6
Leeds town	254	547	115.4%	7
Hurricane city	3,915	8,250	110.7%	8
Alpine city	3,492	7,146	104.6%	9
Santaquin city	2,386	4,834	102.6%	10

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

CENSUS 2000 City Rank by Absolute Change

Area	1990	2000	Absolute Change 1990-2000	Rank
West Jordan city	42,892	68,336	25,444	1
West Valley City city	86,976	108,896	21,920	2
Salt Lake City city	159,936	181,743	21,807	3
St. George city	28,502	49,663	21,161	4
Provo city	86,835	105,166	18,331	5
Draper city	7,257	25,220	17,963	6
South Jordan city	12,220	29,437	17,217	7
Orem city	67,561	84,324	16,763	8
Layton city	41,784	58,474	16,690	9
Riverton city	11,261	25,011	13,750	10

Source: U.S. Census Bureau



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For more information about legislative activities during the interim,
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