

April 25, 2002

Dear Senators and Representatives:

As you know, the Legislature will convene Monday, April 29, 2002, to consider making changes to election processes for this year because of the possibility of Utah gaining a fourth seat in the United States House of Representatives. As sponsor and co-sponsor of S.B. 3001, *Election Law Revisions*, we are providing a summary of the major provisions of this legislation. It does the following:

- provides that the primary election for all races except Congress will proceed as scheduled on June 25, 2002, to minimize disruption for candidates;
- postpones the primary election for Congressional races if the United States Supreme Court has not issued its ruling by May 15, 2002, to preclude the possibility of having two primary elections for Congress;
- sets the date of the primary election for Congressional races for September 10, 2002, if the United States Supreme Court has not issued its ruling by August 1, 2002, to ensure completion of primary elections in a timely manner before November's general election;
- provides that if the United States Supreme Court issues its ruling after May 15, 2002, and before August 1, 2002, the primary election date will be set in subsequent legislation (in special session), with the intent of setting the primary election at the earliest date practicable;
- extends the date for designating or changing party affiliation at the primary election to January 1, 2003, to allow designating or changing party affiliation at both the June 25, 2002 primary and an additional primary, if needed;
- makes an exception, for 2002 only, to allow candidates who have already filed for another office to resign their candidacy and file a declaration of candidacy for the United States House of Representatives;
- makes an exception, for 2002 only, to allow political parties to certify the name of another candidate to fill a vacancy created because a candidate resigns to run for Congress; and
- appropriates \$600,000, if necessary, to pay for the cost of an additional primary election.

We hope this summary is helpful in your preparations for the special session on Monday. We look forward to further discussion on this important legislation.

Respectfully,

Senator Curtis S. Bramble

Senator John L. Valentine