

**MINUTES OF THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY INTERIM COMMITTEE**
Wednesday, November 15, 2000 – 2:00 p.m. – Room 129 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Lorin V. Jones, Co-Chair
Rep. Sheryl L. Allen, Co-Chair
Sen. Leonard M. Blackham
Sen. Howard C. Nielson
Rep. Doug Aagard
Rep. Ralph Becker
Rep. Chad E. Bennion
Rep. Gary F. Cox
Rep. Brent H. Goodfellow
Rep. David M. Jones
Rep. J. Morgan Philpot
Rep. Gordon E. Snow
Rep. John E. Swallow
Rep. David Ure

Members Absent:

Sen. Mike Dmitrich
Rep. David N. Cox
Rep. Kevin S. Garn
Rep. Tom Hatch
Rep. Martin R. Stephens

Members Excused:

Sen. Joseph L. Hull

Staff Present:

Mr. Richard North,
Research Analyst
Ms. Patricia Owen,
Associate General Counsel
Ms. Junie G. Anderson,
Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present and a copy of materials distributed in the meeting are on file in the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.

1. Call to Order - Chair Jones called the meeting to order at 2:18 p.m.

MOTION: Rep. Allen moved to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2000 meeting. The motion passed unanimously, with Rep. Ure absent for the vote.

2. Unauthorized Charges on Utilities - Cramming Amendments - Rep. Sheryl Allen distributed draft legislation “Unauthorized Charges on Utilities - Cramming Amendments.” She expressed the need to amend the current cramming law and explained the amendments.

Mr. Paul Morris, Attorney, West Valley City, discussed the need for the proposed legislation.

3. Information Technology Draft Legislation (7) - A report titled “State of Utah – Annual Technology Report” was distributed to committee members for information purposes.

Rep. Siddoway, Co-Chair, Information Technology Commission, distributed draft legislation items (1) through (7) below, which were recommended by the Information Technology Commission, and explained the bills.

- (1) **Information Technology Commission Amendments**
- (2) **Filing Employee Tax Information Electronically**
- (3) **Utah Technology Infrastructure Innovation Program Amendments**

Electronic Government Services Amendments:

- (4) **Administrative Rules and Procedures**
- (5) **Drivers License**
- (6) **Department of Natural Resources**
- (7) **Environmental Quality**

MOTION: Rep. Snow moved to approve draft legislation titled “Unauthorized Charges on Utilities - Cramming Amendments,” “Information Technology Commission Amendments,” “Filing Employee Tax Information Electronically,” “Utah Technology Infrastructure Innovation Program Amendments,” “Electronic Government Services Amendments - Administrative Rules and Procedures,” “Electronic Government Services Amendments - Drivers License,” “Electronic Government Services Amendments - Department of Natural Resources,” and “Electronic Government Services Amendments - Environmental Quality” as committee bills. The motion passed unanimously, with Rep. Ure absent for the vote.

4. Electrical Deregulation & Customer Choice Task Force - Sen. Blackham, Taskforce Co-Chair, distributed a report titled “2000 Overview – Electrical Deregulation and Customer Choice Task Force” and reviewed the report with committee members.

5. H.B. 320 Draft Legislation - Rep. Ure distributed several items as follows: Draft legislation titled “Public Utility Regulation and Related State Government Amendments,” a summary titled “Status of the Draft Legislation,” a chart titled “Public Utility Regulation and Related State Government Amendments (2000) and HB 320 - Public Utility Amendments (2000),” and a chart titled “Structure of PSC in 11/15 Draft.” He said the draft was prepared for discussion purposes only and he briefed the committee on the proposed changes.

Ms. Claire Geddes, Utah Legislative Watch, expressed concern over the affiliate section and the conflicting language “reasonable” and “not reasonable.” She said she would prefer to leave the language as is in H.B. 320 – (2000 General Session).

Mr. Dee Jay Hammond, Chair - Committee of Consumer Services, said he will provide input to Rep. Ure prior to the session regarding substantial changes in the bill.

Mr. Scott Gutting, Utah Industrial Energy Users, commended Rep. Ure for his work on this issue.

Rep. Jones complimented Rep. Ure, committee staff, and the advocates who have attended the meetings and provided input. He commented that H.B. 320 was passed prematurely and should be rewritten.

Mr. Jeff Fox, Crossroads Urban Center, expressed concern over the financial aspects of the amendments to H.B. 320.

Mr. Charles Johnson, Ph.d, Utah Legislative Watch, recommended that a definition of "executive director" be included in the legislation.

Rep. Allen complimented those responsible for the hard work done in this committee.

6. Adjournment -

MOTION: Rep. Jones moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:31 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

