

**MINUTES OF THE  
QUASI-GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, November 29, 2000 - 9:00 a.m. - Room 405 State Capitol

**Members Present:**

Sen. David H. Steele, Senate Chair  
Rep. Ron Bigelow, House Chair  
Sen. D. Edgar Allen  
Sen. Beverly Evans  
Sen. Pete Suazo  
Sen. John L. Valentine  
Rep. Eli H. Anderson  
Rep. Trisha Beck  
Rep. Judy Ann Buffmire  
Rep. Raymond W. Short  
Rep. A. Lamont Tyler  
Rep. Richard L. Walsh

**Members Absent:**

Rep. Kevin S. Garn  
Rep. David Ure

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Stewart E. Smith,  
Managing Research Analyst  
Mr. Dee S Larsen,  
Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Glenda S. Whitney,  
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 and Committee Business** - Chair Bigelow called the meeting to order at 9:14 a.m.

**2. Draft Legislation Discussion** - Mr. Dee S Larsen distributed draft legislation, "Independent Entities Act," along with amendments that were proposed at the previous meeting on November 28, 2000. He reviewed the changes to the draft and explained the amendments.

Chair Bigelow asked for committee and public comment on the bill.

Mr. Paul Rogers and Mr. Dennis Lloyd, Worker's Compensation Fund of Utah, distributed handouts, "Option 1" and "Option 4" containing proposed amendments to the draft legislation. Mr. Rogers and Mr. Lloyd reviewed the options and answered questions of the committee.

Rep. Short spoke against legislation that would be difficult to regulate different entities with different functions.

Sen. Evans said the procedures of the bill are good but said the conflict lies with the proposed amendments to the bill which makes it confusing and impacts the legislation.

Sen. Steele said the legislation is the first step in putting together a definition and framework for Quasi-governmental Entities.

After committee discussion on the bill, the committee reviewed the proposed amendments to the bill and made the following motions:

**MOTION:** Sen. Evans moved for the working group to meet with Ms. Betsy Ross, Utah State Auditor's Office and work out their issues of concern. Sen. Steele spoke against the motion. After committee discussion, Sen. Evans withdrew her motion.

Rep. Buffmire suggested discussing each of the proposed amendments separately and have staff define the proposals from the handouts.

**MOTION:** Sen. Valentine moved to amend in 63E-(2)(a)-110, line 388 after the word held, to insert "in trust" as proposed in Option 4. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Sen. Valentine moved to amend in 63E-1-102, line 88, to insert language proposed in Option 4 to read, "Monies held in trust" means monies maintained for the benefit of (a) one or more private individuals including public employees: (b) one or more public or private entities; or (c) the owners of a quasi-public corporation." The motion passed unanimously, with Sen. Allen and Rep. Beck absent for the vote.

Rep. Buffmire referred to Subsection (3) 63E-2-103 of the bill, and expressed concern that this criteria was so narrow that other reasonable situations would be prevented from consideration. Sen. Steele asked that Rep. Buffmire's concern be reflected in the minutes.

**MOTION:** Sen. Allen moved to amend on page 11, line 339, to insert after the word subsidiaries, "with no greater powers than the independent corporation itself has." Sen. Evans spoke against the motion. After committee discussion, Sen. Allen withdrew his motion.

**MOTION:** Rep. Buffmire moved on page 10, line 307, after the word purpose, to insert "including one" and after the word performed, to insert "reasonably." The motion failed, with Sen. Allen, Sen. Suazo, Rep. Beck, and Rep. Buffmire voting in favor.

**MOTION:** Rep. Buffmire moved on page 10, line 309, after the word receive, to insert "ongoing" and after the word funding, to insert "for operations." The motion passed unanimously.

The committee broke for lunch at 12:00 p.m. and resumed again at 12:35 p.m.

**MOTION:** Sen. Suazo moved to adopt "Independent Entities Act" as amended, as a committee bill. The motion passed, with Sen. Evans and Rep. Walsh voting in opposition. Sen. Allen, Rep. Short, and Rep. Tyler absent for the vote.

**MOTION:** Sen. Valentine moved to recommend to the legislature that the Workers Compensation Fund of Utah and the Utah Retirement Systems be exempt from the Open Public

Meetings Act and GRAMA. The motion passed unanimously, with Sen. Allen and Rep. Short absent for the vote.

**3. Retirement Office Legislation -** Mr. Dee S Larsen distributed draft legislation, "Retirement Office Amendments," for the committee to review.

Mr. Dan Anderson, and Mr. Kevin Howard, Utah Retirement Systems, distributed two handouts, "Retirement System's Technical Bills," and "Domestic Relations Orders." Mr. Anderson reviewed and explained the recommended proposals to the bill. Mr. Howard addressed concerns from the committee regarding the Utah Retirement Systems recommendations.

**MOTION:** Rep. Tyler moved to instruct the Utah Retirement Board to look at the possibility of dividing benefits and receive qualified domestic relations orders and then for the committee to revisit the issue at a future time. The motion passed unanimously, with Sen. Allen, Rep. Beck, and Rep. Short absent for the vote.

**MOTION:** Rep. Tyler moved to adopt "Retirement Office Amendments" with the Utah Retirement Systems proposed amendments, as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously, with Sen. Allen, Sen. Valentine, Rep. Beck, and Rep. Short absent for the vote.

**4. Adjourn -**

**MOTION:** Sen. Suazo moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:43 p.m. The motion passed unanimously, with Sen. Allen, Sen. Valentine, Rep. Beck, and Rep. Short absent for the vote.

