

**MINUTES OF THE
STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR PUBLIC AND HIGHER
EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, September 24, 2001 - 1:00 p.m.- Room 303 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. David H. Steele, Senate Chair
Rep. David L. Hogue, House Chair
Sen. Millie Peterson
Sen. Howard Stephenson
Rep. Patrice Arent
Rep. Marda Dillree
Mr. Kim Burningham
Mr. Val Finlayson
Dr. Joyce Gray
Dr. David Greene
Ms. Mary Kay Kirkland
Mr. Steven O. Laing
Dr. Anthony Morgan
Mr. Stephen Ronnenkamp
Mr. Richard Kendall

Members Absent:

Ms. Aileen Clyde
Ms. Maria Farrington
Ms. Sal Jansson
Ms. Phyllis Sorensen
Mr. Paul Sybrowsky

Members Excused:

Ms. Jan Ferre'
Ms. Ceclia Foxley
Ms. Dolores Riley

Staff Present:

Mr. James L. Wilson, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Constance Steffen, Research Analyst
Ms. Wendy L. Bangerter, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present and a copy of materials can be found at <http://www.image.le.state.ut.us/imaging/history.asp> or contact the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.

1. Call to Order

Sen. Steele called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Steven Laing moved to approve the minutes of June 11, 2001. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Peterson absent for the vote.

2. Adult Education

Sen. Steele emphasized the importance of lifelong learning for adults and the need for adults to have opportunities for learning, including adults whose primary language is not English. Sen. Steele and Ms. Sandra Grant, USOE (Utah State Office of Education), introduced and explained draft legislation, "Adult Lifelong Learning and Literacy Resolution." The resolution designates the week of January 14, 2002 as Adult Lifelong Learning and Literacy week in the state of Utah. It also recognizes and encourages Utah adults in their efforts to pursue learning, promotes literacy, and expresses support for financial efforts aimed at aiding adults in the quest for literacy. Following discussion of the resolution, Sen. Steele stated he would consider the committee's suggestions in a revision of the resolution that he hoped to introduce in the 2002 General Session.

Sen. Steele proposed that the GED, a nationally renowned assessment, be a substitute for the Basic Skills Competency Test.

MOTION: Sen. Steele moved that the committee support the proposal to recognize the GED as an alternative to the Basic Skills Competency Test for adults enrolled in Utah's adult education programs. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Arent absent for the vote.

Sen. Steele further proposed that adults who become involved in adult education before 2003 should be exempt from the Basic Skills Competency Test.

3. Public and Higher Education Population Projections and State Revenue Forecasts

Ms. Andrea Wilko and Mr. Mike Kjar, Legislative Fiscal Analyst Office, distributed and explained information on state revenue growth, spending for education, and public and high education enrollment projections. Ms. Wilko reviewed the sources of revenue, noting that income tax is the major source of revenue for education. She also reviewed factors driving enrollment growth for both public and higher education, education funding needs, and compensation cost estimates.

The committee discussed the possibility of separating insurance costs from the WPU (Weighted Pupil Unit).

4. Other Business

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, November 12, 2001 at 1:00 p.m.

5. Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. Peterson moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Hogue adjourned the meeting at 3:28 p.m.