

**MINUTES OF THE
WORKFORCE SERVICES AND COMMUNITY
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INTERIM COMMITTEE**
Wednesday, April 16, 2003 – 2:00 p.m. – Room 131 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Scott K. Jenkins, Senate Chair
Rep. David N. Cox, House Chair
Sen. David L. Thomas
Sen. Carlene Walker
Rep. Brent H. Goodfellow
Rep. Gregory H. Hughes
Rep. Dana C. Love
Rep. Steven R. Mascaro
Rep. Karen W. Morgan
Rep. LaWanna "Lou" Shurtliff
Rep. Peggy Wallace

Members Absent:

Sen. Karen Hale
Rep. Jeff Alexander

Staff Present:

Mr. Arthur L. Hunsaker, Policy Analyst
Mr. James L. Wilson, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Glenda S. Whitney, 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 by contacting the committee secretary, Glenda Whitney, at 538-1032.

1. Committee Business

Chair Jenkins called the meeting to order at 2:18 p.m. He introduced the committee members and staff for the 2003 Interim. Sen. Hale was excused from the meeting.

MOTION: Rep. Cox moved to approve the minutes of November 20, 2002. The motion passed unanimously, with Rep. Goodfellow, Rep. Hughes, and Rep. Morgan absent for the vote.

2. 2003 General Session Review

Mr. James Wilson, Associate General Counsel, presented a report concerning the actions on Workforce Services and Community and Economic Development-related legislation during the 2003 General Session, including committee bills from the 2002 Interim.

3. Department Introductions and Reports

Mr. David Harmer, Executive Director, (DCED) Department of Community and Economic Development, reported on the DCED responsibilities that were distributed in the Interim mailing packet. He presented an overview on the progress and activities of DCED and explained its focus for the coming year.

Ms. Raylene Ireland, Executive Director, Department of Workforce Services, presented an overview on the history and creation of the Department of Workforce Services. She discussed the emerging issues for the 2003 Interim and explained the projects and activities on the department's agenda.

4. TANF Reauthorization Update

Ms. Sarah Brenna, Legislative Liaison, Department of Workforce Services, presented a report and distributed a handout "Utah Department of Workforce Services Annual Report 2002." She referred to the handout from the Interim mailing packet "Utah's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) State Plan," and briefed the Committee on the status and progress of TANF reauthorization. She explained the basic objectives of the department are to simplify programs, to operate more efficiently to improve services, and to provide a vehicle for true welfare reform.

Mr. John Nixon, Department of Workforce Services, explained the block grant and investment funds for TANF services.

Ms. Brenna discussed funding problems and changes that should take place to transition the state's child care programs. She noted the number of people served in the TANF program is between 5,800 to 6,000 per month.

Ms. Karen Silver, Advocate with Salt Lake Community Action Program, expressed concern with the welfare reform proposal that Congress is currently considering. She indicated that it would take \$3.4 billion to \$3.8 billion over the next 5 years to maintain the current national child care program.

5. Review of Potential Study Items for the 2003 Interim

The Committee reviewed proposed study items listed in H.J.R.20, "Master Study Resolution" and discussed priorities for the 2003 Interim. Committee members completed a survey and prioritized the items to be studied for the Interim.

6. Other Items /Adjourn

Mr. Peter Corroon, Chair, Office of Child Care Advisory Committee, said the Committee should have received in the mail a list of dates where the Office of Child Care is sponsoring a legislative visit to tour child care facilities. He invited committee members to attend.

Ms. Connie Millicam, ABC Preschools, expressed concern with child care centers going out of business and indicated it was because the state-funded reimbursement system is not working.

MOTION: Rep. Cox moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 3:58 p.m.