

**MINUTES OF THE
BUSINESS AND LABOR INTERIM COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, April 20, 2005 – 8:00 a.m. – Room W125 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. Scott K. Jenkins, Senate Chair
Rep. Stephen D. Clark, House Chair
Sen. Gene Davis
Sen. Thomas V. Hatch
Sen. John W. Hickman
Sen. Ed Mayne
Sen. Michael G. Waddoups
Rep. J. Stuart Adams
Rep. Jackie Biskupski
Rep. Carl W. Duckworth
Rep. James A. Dunnigan
Rep. Craig A. Frank
Rep. Neil A. Hansen

Rep. Todd E. Kiser
Rep. Curtis Oda
Rep. Gordon E. Snow
Rep. Scott L. Wyatt

Members Absent:

Rep. David Clark
Rep. Michael T. Morley

Staff Present:

Mr. Mark B. Steinagel, Policy Analyst
Ms. Patricia Owen, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Tracey Fredman, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present and a copy of related materials can be found at www.leg.utah.gov or by contacting the committee secretary, Tracey Fredman, at 538-1032. A recording of the meeting is available from the committee secretary.

1. Committee Business

Chair Jenkins called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

MOTION: Rep. Biskupski moved to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2004 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Priorities for 2005 Interim and 2006 General Session

Mr. Larry Lunt, Commission Chair, Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission, and Mr. Earl Dorius, Deputy Director, Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, distributed the pamphlet, "New Research Shows Alcohol Harms a Teen's Developing Brain," and discussed commission and department priorities for the coming year.

Rep. Oda asked the Department to report on the different types of revenue collected by the Department. Mr. Dorius committed to provide the information to the Committee.

Rep. Kiser asked the Department about restrictions on when alcoholic beverages may be sold.

Mr. Russell Skousen, Executive Director, and Mr. Jason Perry, Deputy Director, Department of Commerce, discussed department initiatives and goals for the coming year. Mr. Skousen also informed the Committee that the state construction registry will be ready on May 1, 2005 as planned with some improvements scheduled for the first part of July.

Mr. Ed Leary, Commissioner, Department of Financial Institutions, spoke briefly about priorities for the 2006 General Session, including issues raised by S.B. 172 "Division of Real Estate Amendments," 2005 General Session related to the regulation of mortgages by both the Division of Real Estate within the Department of Commerce, and the Department of Financial Institutions.

Mr. Kent Michie, Commissioner, Insurance Department, said that there are no foreseeable legislative issues concerning the Department this year. Mr. Michie commented on a Health Summit scheduled for May 3, 2005, which will address health insurance coverage in the state. He also spoke in support of the task force created by S.B. 61 "Privately Owned Health Care Organization Task Force," 2005 General Session.

3. Review of Potential Study Plan for the 2005 Interim Period

Chair Jenkins introduced the "2005 Potential Study Items" document distributed in the mailing packet, and invited comments from Committee members on issues they would like to have considered during the 2005 Interim.

Sen. Mayne spoke in support of item #32, "Minimum Wage," and item #34, "Noncompetition Contracts," as listed in H.J.R. 20 "Master Study Resolution," 2005 General Session.

Rep. Dunnigan commented on the requirement in Section 36-12-5 that the Business and Labor Interim Committee and the Health and Human Services Interim Committee study the provisions of Title 31A, regarding health insurance coverage, benefits, and providers. Although currently the committees have agreed to have the Health and Human Services Interim Committee study the items and then report its findings to the Business and Labor Interim Committee, he suggested that, because these issues impact the business community, the chairs consider allowing the study to be done by the Business and Labor Interim Committee which would then report findings to the Health and Human Services Interim Committee.

Rep. Kiser spoke in support of item #20, "Consumer Rights Related to Vehicle Repairs."

Mr. George Neckel, Utah Jobs with Justice, spoke in favor of the Committee studying minimum wage.

Ms. Pamela Silverman, Utah Issues, spoke in favor of the Committee studying minimum wage.

Mr. Gary Thorup, Attorney, Reinsurance Association of America, asked for Committee support during the interim on the review of reinsurance issues raised by H.B. 263 "Insurers Rehabilitation and Liquidation," 2005 General Session.

Chair Jenkins asked committee members to complete and return the "Prioritization Survey of 2005 Potential Study Topics" included in the mailing packet before leaving for their next meeting.

4. Other Items/Adjourn

MOTION: Chair Clark moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

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Chair Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 9:15 a.m.