

KEEPING UTAH COMPETITIVE:

ADDRESSING THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND LONGTERM REPERCUSSIONS OF OUR POOR AIR QUALITY

2013 LEGISLATIVE ACTION SUMMARY FROM THE UTAH STATE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUSES

2013 LEGISLATION RELATED TO AIR QUALITY

Utah's air quality issues are complex, therefore our approach must be strategic and deliberate. We must address all areas which contribute to the larger problem of our state's poor air quality. This year Utah House and Senate Democratic Caucuses will be introducing legislation which focuses on several areas which have been identified as top contributors to Utah air pollution.

- **Representative Patrice Arent** will introduce legislation that would require all state agencies to develop a plan to reduce activities that cause air pollution. Each department would also report what they have done so far to lessen their contribution to air pollution.
- **Representative Joel Briscoe** will introduce an appropriation bill to pay for free UTA passes during the months of January and July – the two months of the year when air quality in Utah is the poorest.
- **Representatives Briscoe & Arent** sponsor legislation which creates a dedicated transportation account to support the operation and expansion of mass transit.
- **Representative Rebecca Chavez-Houck** will introduce legislation which will lift restrictions on Utah environmental regulations in order to require more stringent rules and regulations than the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), when applicable.
- **Representative Lynn Hemingway** has introduced legislation that requires industry to use the best available technology and equipment to scrub emissions from air.
- **Representative Marie Poulson** has introduced legislation which will provide individual income tax credits for the purchase of certain UTA passes.