

**MINUTES OF THE SENATE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS  
STANDING COMMITTEE  
JANUARY 30, 2004, 8:00 A.M.  
ROOM 403, STATE CAPITOL BUILDING**

Members Present:            Sen. Carlene M. Walker, Chair  
                                  Sen. Patrice Arent  
                                  Sen. Dan Eastman  
                                  Sen. Beverly Evans  
                                  Sen. Bill Hickman  
                                  Sen. Peter Knudson

Members Excused:         Sen. Karen Hale

Staff Present:             Richard North, Policy Analyst  
                                  Saundra Maeser, Secretary

Public Speakers Present:   John Fellows, Associate General Counsel, Legislative Research  
                                  Mark Towner, Chair, Utahns for Legislative Reform  
                                  Candace Daly, Secretary, State Republican Party  
                                  Linda Burton, Secretary, Davis County Republican Party  
                                  Fraser Nelson, Executive Director, Disability Law Center

A list of visitors is filed with the committee minutes.

Committee Chair Walker called the meeting to order at 8:16 a.m.

**1. H.B. 40 Filling Midterm Vacancies in the Legislature (C. Frank)**

Rep. Craig Frank introduced the bill.

John Fellows, Assoc. General Counsel, Legislative Research, clarified questions concerning the bill.

Mark Towner, Chair, Utahns for Legislative Reform, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Candace Daly, Secretary, State Republican Party, spoke in support of the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Hickman moved to pass H.B. 40 out with a favorable recommendation.

The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Arent absent at the time of voting.

**2. S.B. 116 County Recorder Amendments (T. Hatch)**

Sen. Thomas Hatch introduced the bill.

Sen. Eastman moved to pass S.B. 116 out with a favorable recommendation.

The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Arent absent at the time of voting.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION:** Sen. Hickman moved to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2004 meeting.

The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Arent absent at the time of voting.

**4. H.B. 9 Absentee Ballot Amendments (D. Aagard)**

Rep. Douglas Aagard introduced the bill.

Mark Towner, Chair, Utahns for Legislative Reform; Candace Daly, Secretary, State Republican Party; and Fraser Nelson, Executive Director, Disability Law Center, spoke in support of the bill.

Linda Burton, Secretary, Davis County Republican Party, spoke in opposition to the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Knudson moved to pass H.B. 9 out with a favorable recommendation.

The motion passed unanimously.

**5. H.B. 175 Process for Filling Midterm Vacancies in the Legislature (W. Harper)**

Rep. Wayne Harper introduced the bill.

Candace Daly, Secretary, State Republican Party, stated that the State Republican Party takes a neutral position on the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Eastman moved to take no action on the bill and move to the next item on the agenda.

The motion passed unanimously.

6. **H.B. 57 Amendments to Budgetary Procedures Act** (*J. Seitz*)

Rep. Jack Seitz introduced the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Knudson moved to pass H.B. 57 out with a favorable recommendation.

The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Sen. Arent moved to adjourn.

The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Chair Walker adjourned the meeting at 8:55 a.m.

Minutes reported by Sandra Maeser, Secretary

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Sen. Carlene Walker, Committee Chair

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