

**WOMEN IN THE ECONOMY COMMISSION**

2014 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Jennifer M. Seelig**

Senate Sponsor: Curtis S. Bramble

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill modifies the Utah Workforce Services Code to enact the Women in the Economy Commission Act.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

▶ enacts the Women in the Economy Commission Act, including:

- defining terms;
- creating the commission;
- establishing the purposes, powers, and duties of the commission; and
- requiring reporting; and

▶ provides a sunset date.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**63I-1-235**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2013, Chapter 278

ENACTS:

**35A-11-101**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



- 28 [35A-11-102](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 29 [35A-11-201](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 30 [35A-11-202](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 31 [35A-11-203](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953

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33 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

34 Section 1. Section **35A-11-101** is enacted to read:

35 **CHAPTER 11. WOMEN IN THE ECONOMY COMMISSION ACT**

36 **Part 1. General Provisions**

37 **35A-11-101. Title.**

38 This chapter is known as the "Women in the Economy Commission Act."

39 Section 2. Section **35A-11-102** is enacted to read:

40 **35A-11-102. Definitions.**

41 As used in this chapter:

42 (1) "Commission" means the Women in the Economy Commission created in Section  
43 [35A-11-201](#).

44 (2) "State institution of higher education" is as defined in Section [53B-3-102](#).

45 Section 3. Section **35A-11-201** is enacted to read:

46 **Part 2. Commission**

47 **35A-11-201. Women in the Economy Commission created.**

48 (1) There is created within the department a commission known as the "Women in the  
49 Economy Commission."

50 (2) The commission shall consist of 11 members as follows:

51 (a) one senator appointed by the president of the Senate;

52 (b) one senator appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

53 (c) one representative appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

54 (d) one representative appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
55 Representatives;

56 (e) the executive director of the department, or the executive director's designee; and

57 (f) six members appointed by the governor as follows:

58 (i) a representative of a business with fewer than 50 employees that has been awarded

59 for work flexibility or work-life balance;

60 (ii) a representative of a business with 50 or more employees, but fewer than 500  
61 employees, that has been awarded for work flexibility or work-life balance;

62 (iii) a representative of a business with 500 or more employees that has been awarded  
63 for work flexibility or work-life balance;

64 (iv) an individual who has experience in demographic work and is employed by a state  
65 institution of higher education;

66 (v) one individual from a nonprofit organization that addresses issues related to  
67 domestic violence; and

68 (vi) one individual with managerial experience with labor unions.

69 (3) (a) A member appointed under Subsection (2)(f) shall serve for a four-year term.

70 (b) Notwithstanding the term requirements of Subsection (3)(a), the governor may  
71 adjust the length of the commission members' terms to ensure that the terms are staggered so  
72 that approximately one-half of the members are appointed under Subsection (2)(f) each year.

73 (c) When a vacancy occurs in a position appointed by the governor under Subsection  
74 (2)(f), the governor shall appoint a person to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term of the  
75 commission member being replaced.

76 (d) Members appointed under Subsection (2)(f) may be removed by the governor for  
77 cause.

78 (e) A member appointed under Subsection (2)(f) shall be removed from the  
79 commission and replaced by the governor if the member is absent for three consecutive  
80 meetings of the commission without being excused by the chair of the commission.

81 (f) A member serves until the member's successor is appointed and qualified.

82 (4) In appointing the members under Subsection (2)(f), the governor shall:

83 (a) take into account the geographical makeup of the commission; and

84 (b) strive to appoint members who are knowledgeable or have an interest in issues  
85 related to women in the economy.

86 (5) (a) The commission shall select two members to serve as cochaurs:

87 (i) one cochair shall be from the public sector; and

88 (ii) one cochair shall be from the private sector.

89 (b) Subject to the other provisions of this Subsection (5), the cochaurs are responsible

90 for the call and conduct of meetings.

91 (c) The cochairs shall call and hold meetings of the commission at least every two  
92 months.

93 (d) One of the bimonthly meetings described in Subsection (5)(c) shall be held while  
94 the Legislature is convened in its annual general session.

95 (e) One or more additional meetings may be called upon request by a majority of the  
96 commission's members.

97 (6) (a) A majority of the members of the commission constitutes a quorum.

98 (b) The action of a majority of a quorum constitutes the action of the commission.

99 (7) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but  
100 may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:

101 (a) Section [63A-3-106](#);

102 (b) Section [63A-3-107](#); and

103 (c) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections [63A-3-106](#) and  
104 [63A-3-107](#).

105 (8) The department shall provide staff support to the commission.

106 Section 4. Section **35A-11-202** is enacted to read:

107 **35A-11-202. Purpose -- Powers and duties of the commission.**

108 (1) The commission's purpose is to:

109 (a) increase public and government understanding of the current and future impact and  
110 needs of the state's women in the economy and how those needs may be most effectively and  
111 efficiently met;

112 (b) identify and recommend implementation of specific policies, procedures, and  
113 programs to respond to the rights, needs, and impact of women in the economy; and

114 (c) facilitate coordination of the functions of public and private entities concerned with  
115 women in the economy.

116 (2) The commission shall:

117 (a) facilitate the communication and coordination of public and private entities that  
118 provide services to women or protect the rights of women;

119 (b) study, evaluate, and report on the status and effectiveness of policies, procedures,  
120 and programs that provide services to women or protect the rights of women;

- 121 (c) study and evaluate the policies, procedures, and programs implemented by other  
122 states that address the needs of women in the economy or protect the rights of women;
- 123 (d) facilitate and conduct the research and study of issues related to women in the  
124 economy;
- 125 (e) provide a forum for public comment on issues related to women in the economy;
- 126 (f) provide public information on women in the economy and the services available to  
127 women; and
- 128 (g) encourage state and local governments to analyze, plan, and prepare for the impact  
129 of women in the economy on services and operations.
- 130 (3) To accomplish its duties, the commission may:
- 131 (a) request and receive from a state or local government agency or institution summary  
132 information relating to women in the economy, including:
- 133 (i) reports;
- 134 (ii) audits;
- 135 (iii) projections; and
- 136 (iv) statistics;
- 137 (b) apply for and accept grants or donations for uses consistent with the duties of the  
138 commission from public or private sources; and
- 139 (c) appoint one or more special committees to advise and assist the commission.
- 140 (4) Money received under Subsection (3)(b) shall be:
- 141 (a) accounted for and expended in compliance with the requirements of federal and  
142 state law; and
- 143 (b) continuously available to the commission to carry out the commission's duties.
- 144 (5) (a) A member of a special committee described in Subsection (3)(c):
- 145 (i) shall be appointed by the commission;
- 146 (ii) may be:
- 147 (A) a member of the commission; or
- 148 (B) an individual from the private or public sector; and
- 149 (iii) notwithstanding Section 35A-11-201, may not receive reimbursement or pay for  
150 any work done in relation to the special committee.
- 151 (b) A special committee described in Subsection (3)(c) shall report to the commission

152 on the progress of the special committee.

153 Section 5. Section **35A-11-203** is enacted to read:

154 **35A-11-203. Annual report.**

155 (1) The commission shall annually prepare and publish a report directed to the:

156 (a) governor;

157 (b) Education Interim Committee;

158 (c) Economic Development and Workforce Services Interim Committee;

159 (d) Executive Appropriations Committee;

160 (e) Legislative Management Committee;

161 (f) Business, Economic Development, and Labor Appropriations Subcommittee; and

162 (g) State Council on Workforce Services.

163 (2) The report described in Subsection (1) shall:

164 (a) describe how the commission fulfilled its statutory purposes and duties during the  
165 year; and

166 (b) contain recommendations on how the state should act to address issues relating to  
167 women in the economy.

168 Section 6. Section **63I-1-235** is amended to read:

169 **63I-1-235. Repeal dates, Title 35A.**

170 (1) Title 35A, Utah Workforce Services Code, is repealed July 1, 2015.

171 (2) Title 35A, Chapter 8, Part 7, Utah Housing Corporation Act, is repealed July 1,  
172 2016.

173 (3) Title 35A, Chapter 8, Part 18, Transitional Housing and Community Development  
174 Advisory Council, is repealed July 1, 2014.

175 (4) Title 35A, Chapter 11, Women in the Economy Commission Act, is repealed July  
176 1, 2016.

**Legislative Review Note**  
**as of 1-29-14 9:58 AM**

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**