



# INTERIM HIGHLIGHTS

Office of Legislative Research  
and General Counsel

Office of the Legislative  
Fiscal Analyst

Office of the Legislative  
Auditor General

## INTERIM COMMITTEE ACTIONS

### Business and Labor

**STUDIES:**

- Received an update on two recent court cases that raise constitutional concerns with Utah statutes regulating trust deeds and advertising of alcoholic beverages.
- Discussed industry practices of marketing and distributing prescription drugs.
- Discussed national and local business recruiting in Utah, including the Department of Community and Economic Development's plans to increase recruiting efforts in light of the 2002 Olympic Winter Games.

*Chairs: Sen. Dan R. Eastman/Rep. Katherine M. Bryson  
Staff: Mary Catherine Perry (analyst)/Patricia Owen (attorney)/Jennifer Markham (secretary)*

### Education

**REPORTS:**

- Received a report on teacher supply and demand.
- Received a report on a program to award scholarships to teachers to obtain reading endorsements.

**ACTIONS:**

- Recommended draft legislation "School Uniform Amendments."
- Directed staff to send a letter to agencies and committees responsible for devising budgets for Utah Correctional Industries, urging them to assure that the Computers for Schools Program can be sustained.
- Authorized the chairs to develop draft legislation modifying requirements for the submission of annual reports to the committee.

*Chairs: Sen. Howard A. Stephenson/Rep. Marda Dillree  
Staff: Connie Steffen (analyst)/Dee Larsen (attorney)/Wendy Bangeter (secretary)*

### Government Operations

**REPORTS:**

- Received a progress report regarding the effort to implement one-stop shopping for commercial vehicle registration in the state.
- Received an audit report regarding the needs of the Utah Veterans' Nursing Home.

**ACTION:**

- Directed staff to work with the Elections Office to draft legislation to facilitate voting by secret ballot for persons with disabilities.
- Directed staff to draft legislation to repeal certain advisory boards and commissions in the state.

*Chairs: Sen. John W. Hickman/Rep. Craig W. Butters  
Staff: John Cannon (analyst)/John Fellows (attorney)/Alicia Gambles (secretary)*

### Health and Human Services

**REPORTS:** Received reports from the Tobacco Subcommittee and the Physical Activity and Nutrition Subcommittee.

**STUDY:** Discussed draft legislation that recodifies the adult protective services function within the Department of Human Services.

**ACTION:** Recommended draft legislation "Technical Amendments to Tobacco Settlement Trust Fund."

*Chairs: Sen. Terry R. Spencer/Rep. Carl R. Saunders  
Staff: Mark Andrews (analyst)/Paul Hess, Catherine Dupont (attorneys)/Sandra Wissa (secretary)*

### Judiciary

**STUDY:** Received information regarding the wrongful denial of child visitation and discussed the Legislature's authority to regulate the Utah State Bar.

**ACTION:**

- Directed staff to draft a bill repealing section 76-3-203.3.
- Recommended that the issue of creating a drug-free workforce program would be more appropriately studied by the Revenue and Taxation Interim Committee or the Business Labor Interim Committee because the program's primary focus is to provide a tax incentive for business.

*Chairs: Sen. David L. Gladwell/Rep. Glenn L. Way  
Staff: Jerry Howe (analyst)/Es ther Chelsea-McCarty (attorney)/Glenda Whitney (secretary)*

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## Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice

### REPORTS:

- Received a report regarding the status of housing prison inmates in county jails.
- Received a report from the Division of Substance Abuse that providing treatment for women who have dependent children would be the most cost-effective way for the Legislature to address the methamphetamine problem.

**ACTION:** Directed staff to place the following three potential committee bills on the October agenda for further discussion: "Prohibiting Intimacy with Youth Receiving State Services," "Transfer of Youth Services Oversight," and "Substantiated Child Abuse List Amendments."

*Chairs: Sen. D. Chris Butters/Rep. DeMar "Bud" Bowman  
Staff: Chyleen Arbon (analyst)/Susan Creager Allred (attorney)/Wendy Bangertner (secretary)*

## Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment

*(Joint Meeting with the Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee)*

### STUDIES:

- Discussed the report of the Private Land and Public Wildlife Discussion Group regarding issues related to cooperative wildlife management units.
- Visited the 2002 Olympic Winter Games cross-country and biathlon venue at Soldier Hollow in Wasatch Mountain State Park.

**REPORT:** Received a report from the Division of Parks and Recreation on the planning process for closure of existing parks or incorporation of new parks into the state system.

*Chairs: Sen. Parley G. Hellewell/Rep. Bradley T. Johnson  
Staff: Brian Allred (analyst)/Jeanette Larson (attorney)/Joy Miller (secretary)*

## Political Subdivisions

**STUDY:** Discussed recommendations of the Utah Quality Growth Commission.

### ACTIONS:

- Recommended draft legislation "Prohibiting Residential Lots From Crossing County Lines."
- Recommended draft legislation "Voter Residence Where Lot is Bisected by County Boundaries."

*Chairs: Sen. Carlene M. Walker/Rep. David L. Hogue  
Staff: Joseph Wade (analyst)/Keith Woodwell (attorney)/Joy Miller (secretary)*

## Public Utilities and Technology

**STUDY:** Received information from Sen. Blackham on providing rural Utah greater access to broadband service.

### ACTIONS:

- Recommended the following draft legislation: "Resolution Encouraging Research and Development," "Grants for Clean Coal," and "Net Metering of Electricity."
- Directed staff to work with stakeholders and legislators to develop legislation to expand access to the telephone Universal Service Fund for committee review in October.

*Chairs: Sen. Leonard M. Blackham/Rep. John E. Swallow  
Staff: Richard North (analyst)/Robert Rees (attorney)/Junie Anderson (secretary)*

## Revenue and Taxation

**STUDY:** Reviewed the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 and its effects on Utah.

### ACTIONS:

- Directed staff to draft legislation allowing taxpayers to pay all state taxes, both current and delinquent, by credit card.
- Voted to continue to study several changes to the state's individual income tax system.

*Chairs: Sen. Curtis S. Bramble/Rep. Wayne A. Harper  
Staff: Bryant Howe (analyst)/Rebecca Rockwell (attorney)/Sandra Wissa (secretary)*

## Transportation

### REPORTS:

- Received an update on Olympic transportation issues.
- Received a report on the implementation of the "511" traveler information system for the state which is expected to be available in November.
- Received a report on pavement smoothness on the I-15 Reconstruction Project.

**STUDY:** Discussed draft legislation which allows municipalities and counties served by justice courts to use administrative traffic proceedings and gives justice court judges authority to conduct them.

*Chairs: Sen. David H. Steele/Rep. Joseph G. Murray  
Staff: Benjamin Christensen (analyst)/Cheryl Felt (attorney)/Junie Anderson (secretary)*

## Workforce Services and Community and Economic Development

**REPORT:** Received a report on the February 2001 "Performance Audit of the Office of Child Care" from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General.

**ACTION:** Directed staff to work with the Department of Workforce Services to draft legislation that will address modifications to the responsibilities of the Office of Child Care and its advisory committee.

*Chairs: Sen. Beverly Evans/Rep. Richard M. Siddoway  
Staff: Jamie Momberger (analyst)/Jim Wilson (attorney)/Jennifer Markham (secretary)*

## APPROPRIATION SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS AND SITE VISITS

### Commerce and Revenue

**REPORTS:** Received reports on the Office of Child Care in-depth budget review; the Child Care Resource and Referral Program; the Food Stamp error rate and sanction; the Department of Commerce's Licensing Enforcement System; and the implementation of the Tax Commission's data processing systems.

*Chairs: Sen. Scott K. Jenkins/Rep. Bryan D. Holladay  
Staff: Stan Eckersley (Analyst)*

### Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee

**STUDY:** Discussed issues regarding federal funds. Sheri Steisel, NCSL, gave a brief introduction of the history of welfare reform, reviewed the upcoming legislation to reauthorize the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Act (TANF), and recommended action the state should take while waiting for reauthorization.

*Chairs: Sen. David Steele/Rep. Jack Seitz  
Staff: Thor Nilsen (Analyst – Human Services), Spencer Pratt (Analyst – Department of Health)*

### Capital Facilities and Administrative Services

**SITE VISIT:** Visited the University of Utah's library, fine arts building, and medical school, as well as the 3rd District Court in Tooele to focus on facility needs and operations within key functions of administrative services. The Division of Finance and the Division of Purchasing presented information about new technology initiatives.

*Chairs: Sen. Beverly Ann Evans/Rep. Gerry A. Adair  
Staff: Kevin Walthers (Analyst)*

### Economic Development and Human Resources Subcommittee

**SITE VISIT:** Visited Cedar City, Kanab, Richfield, and Mt. Pleasant to discuss issues regarding the Heritage Highway and Pioneer

Programs, current activities of the Film Commission, the 2002 Winter Olympics, local economic development, state and local libraries, performance measures of the Department of Community and Economic Development, and economic development initiatives related to industrial expansion.

*Chairs: Sen. David Gladwell/Rep. Sheryl Allen  
Staff: Andrea Wilko (Chief Economist/Analyst)*

### Executive Offices and Criminal Justice

**SITE VISIT:** Visited the Central Utah Correctional Facility in Gunnison and the Central Utah Youth Center, the Office of the Utah Highway Patrol, the 6th District Court, and the 6th Juvenile Court in Richfield to discuss related issues.

*Chairs: Sen. D. Chris Buttars/Rep. A. Lamont Tyler  
Staff: William J. Greer (Analyst), Gary K. Ricks (Analyst)*

### Higher Education Subcommittee

**SITE VISIT:** Visited Logan and Salt Lake City and discussed ways to fashion a funding formula for Utah System of Higher Education that would provide funding for existing students on campus, cover the cost of new student growth, and provide sufficient resources for academic and student services.

*Chairs: Sen. Lyle Hillyard/Rep. Afton Bradshaw  
Staff: Boyd Garriott (Analyst), Debbie Headden (Analyst)*

### Natural Resources Subcommittee

**SITE VISIT:** Visited six state parks, the Loa State Fish Hatchery, the Moroni feed rail load-up site, coal rail load-up site, and the Piute Off-Highway Vehicle trail system and discussed energy reserves in Utah, Dam Safety policy, the State Fire Plan, the proposed Wide Hollow Reservoir, and the Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit policy.

*Chairs: Sen. Parley Hellewell/Rep. Michael Styler  
Staff: Steven Allred (Analyst)*

## OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR GENERAL

### RECENT AUDITS RELEASED

Audit Name	Date Released
Social Capital Formation	June 2001
Veterans Nursing Home Transfer	July 2001
Lisa P Settlement Agreement	August 2001
Y2K Expenditures	August 2001
Safety & Emission Testing of Newer Vehicles	August 2001
Associations of Government	August 2001
Child Welfare Referrals and Cases	September 2001

### OFFICE RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD

The Office of the Legislative Auditor General recently received the Excellence in Evaluation Award from the National Legislative Program Evaluation Society. Only one of these competitive awards is given each year during NCSL's annual meeting. The award is given to the legislative program evaluation office that best utilizes exemplary or innovative means of providing information to its legislature.

To receive the award, the work of the office should meet a legislative need, be communicated quickly and clearly, and project credibility and professionalism. The award was received by President Al Mansell, co-chair of the Audit Subcommittee, and Wayne Welsh, Legislative Auditor General. The entire staff of Office of the Legislative Auditor's Office is very proud of the recognition this award represents.

**LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE****REPORTS:**

- Received a report from Mr. Lane Beattie, State Olympic Officer, regarding the use of the State Capitol during the Olympics, including a discussion of activities, parking, and security.
- Received a report on possible changes to the previously approved legislative schedule for the two weeks prior to the 2002 General Session and during the session because of the Winter Olympics.
- Received a report on the possibility of publishing audio coverage of legislative sessions. Three options were discussed: 1) produce the Internet broadcast using legislative staff and equipment; 2) stream the broadcast to the state Information Technology Services and allow them to publish it on the network; or 3) grant rights to commercial websites to broadcast to the Internet.

**ACTIONS:**

- Approved changes to the legislative room policy for non legislative groups.
- Approved the request from the chairs of the Revenue and Taxation Interim Committee to create a subcommittee to study taxation of the telecommunication industry.
- Approved the request by the Joint Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee to study three issues: the governor's budget hold backs, block granting issues, and teacher health insurance issues.
- Voted to have the Commerce and Revenue Appropriations Subcommittee include within its review the Utah College of Applied Technology budget and to have the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee review the budget of the Medical Education Council.
- Approved a motion to authorize the three professional legislative staff directors to make adjustments to their office work schedules during the Olympics, including the option of telecommuting.

**EXECUTIVE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

Full reports are available at: [www.le.state.ut.us/lfa](http://www.le.state.ut.us/lfa)

**School Construction in Utah**

Facility issues pit statewide wealth against local control. As local districts seek additional state resources, they resist the imposition of centralized control. As a part of its mission, the Utah State Office of Education must provide oversight for local construction issues. In some cases, requirements may be too specific, may not provide optimum equity, or may not provide enough information for legislative decision making. The Analyst offered several recommendations.

**Higher Education Funding Formula**

Sen. Hillyard discussed his proposal for funding higher education: 70% funding for New Enrollment, 10% for Cost-of-Living, 10% for Equity Funding, and 10% for Special Incentives. Funding considerations outside the formula include: salary increases, health and dental rate changes, mandated costs for operation and maintenance on new facilities, hazardous waste disposal, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and statewide initiatives to fund library materials, technology initiatives, engineering and computer science, and other institutional needs.

**U of U School of Medicine  
Cost of Additional Student Capacity**

The School of Medicine is at capacity in terms of facility and faculty. Class size cannot be increased without additional lab space, larger classrooms, and small conference rooms. The school does not have enough faculty in the clinical departments to accommodate the increase. Furthermore, 25 faculty preceptors for each course would have to be recruited and trained as effective teachers. Expanding by 25 students (or 25%) per year would cost approximately \$53,000 per student or \$5.3 million if classroom space and facilities were not an issue.

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For more information about legislative activities, contact one of the legislative offices or access our website at: [www.le.state.ut.us](http://www.le.state.ut.us).

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