



INTERIM HIGHLIGHTS

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel
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LEGISLATIVE INTERIM MEETINGS

Meetings were held October 15, 2014, or as noted.

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would like to view)

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**State Water Development
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**Veterans' and Military Affairs
Commission**

Business and Labor

Insurance Licensee Amendments

Action: Adopted as a committee bill, [draft legislation "Insurance Licensee Amendments,"](#) which modifies the Insurance Code regarding licensees, including:

- addressing the amount and type of noncommission compensation; and
- modifying the disclosure requirements related to health benefit plans.

Insurance Code Modifications

Action: Adopted as a committee bill, [draft legislation "Insurance Modifications,"](#) which modifies the Insurance Code, including:

- addressing standards and management of an insurer within a holding company;
- revising provisions related to insurance holding companies; and
- enacting the Own Risk and Solvency Assessment Act.

Liquefied Petroleum Gas Board Amendments

Action: Adopted as a committee bill, [draft legislation "Liquefied Petroleum Gas Board Amendments,"](#) which allows the State Fire Marshal Division to send an official ballot and instructions to a licensee by registered or certified US mail or by email.

State Construction Code Amendments

Discussed [draft legislation "State Construction Code Amendments,"](#) which modifies the provisions of the State Construction Code, including:

- adopting the 2014 National Electrical Code; and
- modifying an amendment to the International Residential Code that applies to the City of Farmington.

Received a presentation from Salt Lake City regarding its ordinance that requires certain newly constructed parking lots to include a minimum number of charging stations for electric vehicles.

State Fire Code Act Amendments

Action: Adopted as a committee bill, [draft legislation "Fire Code Amendments,"](#) which modifies the provisions of the State Fire Code relating to carbon monoxide detection.

Chairs: Rep. James A. Dunnigan / Sen. Curtis S. Bramble
Staff: Bryant R. Howe (Assistant Director) / Megan L. Bolin (Policy Analyst) / Patricia Owen (Attorney) / Christine R. Gilbert (Attorney) / Kristen C. Ricks (Secretary)

Commission for the Stewardship of Public Lands

September 24, 2014, 1:00 p.m.

Stakeholder Reports and Updates

Received a [presentation](#) from the Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office on the management of public lands, including:

- funding;
- process;
- stewardship; and
- partnerships.

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September 24, 2014, 3:00 p.m.

Stakeholder Reports and Updates

Received updates from leaders of Utah counties on public land management issues, including:

- health and condition of the public lands;
- productivity of the public lands; and
- access to the public lands.

*Chairs: Rep. Keven J. Stratton / Sen. David P. Hinkins
Staff: Leif G. Elder (Policy Analyst) / Tiffany A. Stanley (Policy Analyst) / RuthAnne Frost (Attorney) / Cathy J. Dupont (Attorney) / Timothy J. Barber (Secretary)*

Commission on Federalism

October 7, 2014

Curriculum for Continuing Education on Federalism

Received an update from the curriculum workgroup regarding the development of a request for proposals to develop the curriculum for continuing education on federalism.

Action: Amended and approved the request for proposals to be released, contingent upon the Legislative Management Committee's approving the request.

Perez v. Mortgage Bankers Association

Received a report from commission staff regarding the pending case before the US Supreme Court, *Perez v. Mortgage Bankers Association*. The case addresses the question of whether a federal agency must engage in public notice and comment when the agency significantly changes its definitive interpretation of a federal regulation. The State and Local Legal Center is in the process of filing an amicus curiae brief in the case and has asked Utah to provide examples of similar actions by the federal government.

Watershed Restoration and Fuels Reduction Program

Received a presentation from the state forester regarding the state restoration and fuels project map. Additionally, the state forester presented key policy issues regarding federal and state interaction in the areas of:

- Wood Utilization: the majority of our forest lands are under the jurisdiction of the US Forest Service. Utah used to have 30 timber mills operating at full capacity. The state currently has three timber mills operating at about one-third capacity. Utah cannot rebuild the timber mill industry without having consistent access to US Forest Service timber.
- Wildfire Suppression: the cost of wildfire suppression continues to increase, resulting in fewer funds available for mitigation and prevention, and resulting in increased hazards and risks that directly impact Utah.
- Implementation of Federal Fire Policy: Federal agencies now have a broad range of tools they can choose to use, depending on the strategies used by each agency to implement federal wildfire policies. This individualized approach to wildfire policy has resulted in problems fighting multijurisdictional fires because each agency often has different objectives. The state continues to work with federal agencies to minimize the negative

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impacts of this new approach.

- Procuring Wildfire Suppression Equipment: Recently, the federal government transferred the responsibility for the ordering process for wildfire suppression equipment from the General Services Administration to the Defense Logistics Agency, resulting in a complicated process that may hinder the state's ability to procure necessary equipment. This is a new federal policy that is impacting every state.
- Wildfire Billing: The federal government recently changed the process for seeking reimbursement for wildfire suppression, including changing what efforts would be reimbursed and which wouldn't, which has negatively impacted the state.

*Chairs: Speaker Rebecca D. Lockhart / President Wayne L. Niederhauser
Staff: Jerry D. Howe (Managing Policy Analyst) / Nathan W. Brady (Policy Analyst) / Robert H. Rees (Attorney) / Cathy J. Dupont (Attorney) / Sara J. Thomas (Secretary)*

Economic Development and Workforce Services

Daylight Saving Time Study

Received a [report](#) from the Governor's Office of Economic Development on daylight saving time. During the 2014 General Session, the Legislature passed H.B. 197, "Daylight Saving Time Study," which required the Governor's Office of Economic Development to conduct meetings to discuss the impacts of exempting Utah from daylight saving time and to invite the public and interested parties to [participate](#). The bill required the office to compile

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comments and recommendations, publish a summary, and report on the summary to the committee.

Required Reports

Received reports from the following agencies that are required to prepare and submit to the governor and the Legislature by October 1 of each year an annual written report of the operations, activities, programs, and services of the department, including its divisions, offices, and boards for the preceding fiscal year:

- [Department of Heritage and Arts](#);
- [Department of Workforce Services](#); and
- [Governor's Office of Economic Development](#).

Intergenerational Poverty Report

Received the third [annual report](#) from the Department of Workforce Services on intergenerational poverty. The Utah Intergenerational Welfare Reform Commission, created in 2013, is required to identify and develop plans, programs, and recommendations to help at-risk children in the state escape the cycle of poverty and welfare dependency. The commission's progress is reported to the Department of Workforce Services for inclusion in the department's annual report. Matching data across state agencies has revealed that many children are experiencing challenges, including poor academic outcomes, abuse and neglect, lack of medical care, and low family income, that will hamper their ability to emerge from poverty.

New Convention Facility Development Incentive Act

Received an update from the Governor's Office of Economic Development on the [New Convention Facility Development Incentive Act](#). During the 2014 General Session, the Legislature passed [H.B. 356, "New Convention Facility Development Incentive Provisions,"](#) which requires the Governor's Office of Economic Development to submit a written report before November 1 of each year describing the state's success in attracting new conventions, including any corresponding new state revenues. The report is to include:

- the estimated amount of tax credit commitments;
- the economic impact on the state related to generating new state revenues; and
- the estimated and actual costs and economic benefits of the tax credit commitments.

Tourism Marketing Performance Account

Received a presentation from the Office of Tourism, Film, and Global Branding and the Utah Outdoor Recreation Office on proposed changes in the statutory formula for providing growth in the Tourism Marketing Performance Account. The committee also received an update on the Utah Outdoor Recreation Office created by statute in 2013.

Action: Adopted as a committee bill, [draft legislation "Tourism Marketing Performance Amendments,"](#) which modifies the formula for determining potential increases in

the legislative appropriations for the Tourism Marketing Performance Account.

Utah Science, Technology, and Research Initiative (USTAR) Update

Received an update from the Utah Science Technology and Research Governing Authority on the Utah Science, Technology, and Research Initiative. During the 2014 General Session, the Legislature passed [S.B. 62, "Utah Science, Technology, and Research Governing Authority Amendments,"](#) which mandates greater transparency, accountability, and increased focus on job creation and economic metrics for the Utah Science, Technology, and Research Initiative. The update addressed progress on development of processes, program changes, and future actions to fully implement the statute.

Women in the Economy Commission

Received the first annual report from the Department of Workforce Services on women in the economy. During the 2014 General Session, the Legislature passed [H.B. 90, "Women in the Economy Commission,"](#) which created the commission within the Department of Workforce Services. The commission is tasked with increasing public and government understanding of the current and future impact and needs of the state's women in the economy and how those needs may be most effectively and efficiently met.

*Chairs: Rep. Rebecca P. Edwards / Sen. Aaron Osmond
Staff: Benjamin N. Christensen (Policy Analyst) / Peter Asplund (Attorney) / Debra Hale (Secretary)*

Education

Education Savings Account Pilot Program

Reviewed [draft legislation "Education Savings Account Pilot Program,"](#) which creates a pilot project to provide education savings accounts to certain secondary school students. The draft legislation also provides an appropriation for a per pupil allocation to be deposited into a student's education savings account and provides that a participant in the pilot program may use the money for courses at secondary schools or institutions within the state system of higher education.

Teachers' Report on Finnish Schools

Received a [presentation](#) from a group of teachers who visited Finland to study the country's public education and teacher training systems. The teachers reported on aspects of Finland's education system that may be useful in Utah.

Utah State Board of Education Risk Management

Received a [draft risk mitigation plan](#) from the State Board of Education to address newly identified sources of risk, including outdated financial systems and insufficient monitoring for compliance with state and federal laws.

*Chairs: Rep. Francis D. Gibson / Sen. Stuart C. Reid
Staff: Allyson R. Goldstein (Policy Analyst) / Constance C. Steffen (Policy Analyst) / Tiffany A. Stanley (Policy Analyst) / Angela Oakes Stallings (Attorney) / Debra Hale (Secretary)*

Education Task Force

September 23, 2014

Advanced Placement US History Course

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah State Office of Education that addresses recent changes to the advanced placement US history course framework. According to the office, the course framework was modified to develop historical thinking skills that are vital for college, career, and civic life.

Education Technology Implementation

Received recommendations from an education consultant on professional development that the consultant finds is required to successfully introduce technology in the classroom. The consultant recommended that:

- subject specific training be provided so that teachers learn how to use technology to teach the curriculum;
- superintendents and principals receive training on technology implementation; and
- principals learn and be able to apply change management theory.

The Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst provided estimated costs for a four-year rollout of a statewide one-to-one technology initiative, ranging from \$183,961,700 to \$451,185,200. The estimates include the costs of infrastructure and capacity, professional development, devices for students and teachers, and technical support.

Smart School Technology Program Evaluation

Received a report on the evaluation of the Smart School Technology Program from an independent evaluator. The evaluator reviewed student achievement results for the 2012-13 school year and acknowledged that:

- there was not a marked improvement in test results; and
- improvement varied by grade and content.

Student-Centered Learning

Received a [presentation](#) from a task force member on a proposal that combines:

- blended learning, where students learn in part through online delivery of content and instruction with some student control over time, place, path, or pace; and
- an extended work schedule that allows teachers to receive 50% more pay and paid vacation.

*Chairs: Speaker Rebecca D. Lockhart / President Wayne L. Niederhauser
Staff: Constance C. Steffen (Policy Analyst) / Tiffany A. Stanley (Policy Analyst) / Angela Oakes Stallings (Attorney) / Debra Hale (Secretary)*

Government Communications Task Force

October 16, 2014

Statewide Public Safety Radio System Needs

Received recommendations from the Utah Communications Authority (UCA) Board regarding the needs of a statewide public safety radio system.

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UCA Recommendation Material:

- ["Recommendations to the Task Force from the UCA Board"](#)
- ["Recommendations to the Legislative Task Force on Radio from the Utah Communications Authority"](#)

Update on Consolidation and Outreach

Received a [report](#) from UCA on consolidation and outreach. The Utah Communications Agency network was merged with the radio communications part of the Utah Department of Technology Services to form the UCA.

*Chairs: Rep. Brad L. Dee / Sen. Wayne A. Harper
Staff: Joseph T. Wade (Policy Analyst) / Victoria Ashby (Attorney) / Timothy J. Barber (Secretary)*

Government Operations

Department of Veterans' and Military Affairs

Received a statutorily required [report](#) from the Department of Veterans' and Military Affairs on:

- the services the department provides to veterans; and
- the department's coordination of veterans' services with other government entities.

Governor's Office of Economic Development

Received a statutorily required [report](#) from the Governor's Office of Economic Development on the [impacts](#) of exempting Utah from daylight saving time.

State and Local Campaign Finance Laws

Received a [report](#) from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor on discrepancies between state and local laws regarding campaign finance reporting requirements. The committee discussed possible policy solutions for making state and local laws congruent.

Action: Directed committee staff to open a committee bill file to amend local campaign finance laws to be more consistent with state campaign finance laws.

Sunset Review — Resource Development Coordination Committee

Reviewed [Utah Code Section 63J-4-501, Creation](#), which creates the Resource Development Coordinating Committee and provides a sunset date of July 1, 2015.

Received a [report](#) from the Public Lands Policy Coordination Office on the purpose and effect of the Resource Development Coordination Committee.

Action: Directed committee staff to draft legislation to extend the sunset date for Utah Code Section 63J-4-501 for ten years.

*Chairs: Rep. Jack R. Draxler / Sen. Margaret Dayton
Staff: Brian J. Bean (Policy Analyst) / Shannon C. Halverson (Attorney) / Thomas R. Vaughn (Attorney) / Victoria Ashby (Attorney) / Anna M. Allen (Secretary)*

Health and Human Services

Certificate of Stillbirth Amendments

Action: Adopted as a committee bill, [draft legislation "Certificate of Stillbirth Amendments,"](#) which creates a process for the state registrar of vital records to issue a certificate of early term stillbirth.

Ebola

Received information from the Utah Department of Health on the state's response to the [Ebola](#) disease in the United States, including department efforts to ensure that health care providers are prepared to respond to an appearance of the disease in Utah.

Healthcare Professions

Received a [report](#) from the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing on the nature of complaints that it receives about certain health care professionals and how the division [responds](#) by providing feedback, education, and discipline.

Also received a [report](#) from the Office of Inspector General for Medicaid stating that the office is emphasizing the use of training and education to respond to problems that healthcare providers face in complying with Medicaid payment regulations.

Sunset Review — Children's Hearing Aid Pilot Program

Discussed [draft legislation "Children's Hearing Aid Program Amendments,"](#) which:

- converts the [Children's Hearing Aid Pilot Program](#) to a permanent program;
- increases the eligibility age for the program from less than three years old to less than six years old;

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- makes an appropriation in fiscal year 2016 of \$100,000; and
- changes the sunset date for the program from 2015 to 2020.

Sunset Review — Utah Digital Health Services Commission

Discussed [draft legislation "Digital Health Services Commission,"](#) which extends the [Utah Digital Health Services Commission's](#) sunset date from 2015 to 2025.

Utah State Office of Rehabilitation

Discussed whether the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation should remain under the oversight of the Utah State Board of Education, be moved to the Department of Workforce Services, or be moved to another agency.

Received reports from the [Utah State Office of Rehabilitation](#), the Department of Workforce Services, and others on the functions of each agency and the organizational [placement](#) of the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation.

*Chairs: Rep. Paul Ray / Sen. Evan J. Vickers
Staff: Gregg A. Girvan (Policy Analyst) / Mark D. Andrews (Policy Analyst) / Samuel C. Johnston (Attorney) / Lee A. Killian (Attorney) / Cathy J. Dupont (Attorney) / Lori Rammell (Secretarial Supervisor)*

Judiciary

Domestic Asset Protection Trusts

Received remarks from several persons with professional involvement in domestic asset protection trusts, who addressed implications to consider when making changes to [Utah Code Section 25-6-14, Asset Protection Trust](#). Discussion focused on the profile of individuals holding these trusts and whether there should be a limit on the amount of assets that can be placed into the trusts.

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DUI Statutory Report

Received statutorily required [report](#) from the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice on driving under the influence (DUI). The commission is required to prepare an annual report of DUI-related data, including:

- the data collected by the courts that is necessary to allow for sentencing and enhancement decisions to be made;
- dispositions by the justice courts; and
- any measures for which data are available to evaluate the profile and impacts of DUI recidivism.

The report also evaluated the DUI-related processes of law enforcement; adjudication; sanctions; driver license control; and alcohol education, assessment, and treatment.

Minimum Mandatory Sentencing

Continued the committee discussion on minimum mandatory sentencing from the September interim meeting. Received an update from the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice regarding the joint study findings developed with The Pew Charitable Trusts related to this topic.

Received recommendations from the commission on approaches to reduce the number of prison inmates and to reduce recidivism.

*Chairs: Rep. Kay L. McIlff / Sen. Mark B. Madsen
Staff: Gregg A. Girvan (Policy Analyst) / Esther Chelsea-McCarty (Attorney) / Kristen C. Ricks (Secretary)*

Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice

Firearms on University Campuses

Action: Voted to request a legal opinion from the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel that addresses the question of whether a person with a concealed carry permit can openly carry a firearm on a higher education campus.

Gang Issues

Received a report from the Ogden Metro Gang Task Force on trends in gang activity for northern Utah and recommendations that would help law enforcement address gang issues, including penalty enhancements for:

- gang members in possession of specific quantities of narcotics; and
- persons classified as known gang members in possession of a firearm.

Peace Officer Standards and Training Curricula for Veteran Interactions

Received a presentation from the Utah Peace Officer Standards and Training agency about both academy and in-service training for peace officers when interacting with a veteran.

The agency indicated that the academy provides eight to ten hours of training and then offers in-service training throughout the year to all peace officer agencies.

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Peace officers are required to complete 40 hours of continuing education each year; failure to do so results in suspension.

Motor Vehicle Emissions

Action: Approved as a committee bill, [draft legislation "Motor Vehicle Emissions,"](#) which amends the penalty for violating the motor vehicle visible emissions limits.

Rape Kit Processing

Received a report from the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice and the Department of Public Safety regarding efforts and progress being made to address the backlog of unprocessed rape kits in Utah. A workgroup was formed to address this issue and the workgroup identified approximately 2,700 untested rape kits. The workgroup concluded that all untested rape kits should be processed, based on the premise that any kit that is tested could result in identification of other victims. Additionally, the workgroup studied the submission of rape kits for testing and how to improve the process.

State Prisoners in County Jails

Received a report from the Utah Department of Corrections regarding the state's use of county jail facilities to house state inmates and the contracted rates at which the state reimburses the jails. The Department of Corrections uses this practice to manage its inmate population when the number of state inmates exceeds the number of available prison beds.

*Chairs: Rep. Curtis Oda / Sen. Todd Weiler
Staff: Nathan W. Brady (Policy Analyst) / Susan Creager Allred (Attorney) / Lori Rammell (Secretarial Supervisor)*

Legislative Management Committee

October 14, 2014

Interim Committee Study Requests

Action: Approved, without change, the requests of the following interim committees:

- *Business and Labor*—to study business personal property, including the property taxes imposed on business personal property;
- *Revenue and Taxation*—to study issues related to special service districts;
- *Revenue and Taxation*—to request that Legislative Management Committee ask the Tax Review Commission to "study and provide recommendations on sales and use tax earmarks, particularly the earmarks related to water and transportation"; and
- *Transportation*—to hold an additional meeting in November in Vernal.

This approval applies to the Infrastructure and General Government Appropriations Subcommittee as well, which will meet jointly with the Transportation Interim Committee.

Approved the requests of the Health and Human Services Interim Committee:

- *to study nine additional items and one item added by the Legislative Management Committee—Emergency Room Services Amendments;*

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- to reassign to the Health Reform Task Force two items:
 - mental illness funding, and
 - accountable care organizations; and
- to add six additional study items to the Health Reform Task Force.

Approved the agendas of meetings of the following appropriation subcommittees:

- Executive Offices and Criminal Justice;
- Infrastructure and General Government; and
- Social Services.

Voted to authorize both the Commission on Federalism and the Commission for the Stewardship of Public Lands to prepare requests for proposals for their respective commissions because the request for proposals process will provide the best value to these commissions in their assigned responsibilities.

*Chairs: Speaker Rebecca D. Lockhart / President Wayne L. Niederhauser
Staff: Michael E. Christensen (Director) / John L. Fellows (General Counsel) / Phalin L. Flowers (Administrative Assistant)*

Legislative Process Committee

October 16, 2014

Legislative Sponsors

Discussed ways to authorize the chief sponsor of a piece of legislation to share credit with other legislators by allowing the chief sponsor to designate, in addition to cosponsors, other legislators as primary sponsors who significantly contributed to the legislation.

Master Study Resolution

Discussed ways to improve the Master Study Resolution by requesting that the Legislative Management Committee review and authorize items on the Master Study Resolution before those items are scheduled on an interim committee agenda.

*Chairs: Rep. Melvin R. Brown / Sen. Lyle W. Hillyard
Staff: Jerry D. Howe (Managing Policy Analyst) / John L. Fellows (General Counsel) / Eric N. Weeks (Deputy General Counsel) / Phalin L. Flowers (Administrative Assistant)*

Native American Legislative Liaison Committee

October 16, 2014

Improving Educational Attainment

Discussed the various [options](#) prepared by committee staff that the committee could focus on to improve educational attainment levels of Utah's Native American students and directed staff to prepare these options in more detail for the next meeting.

Statistical Overview of Utah Native Americans

Received from committee staff an economic and demographic [overview](#) of Utah's Native American population.

Utah Native American Education Today

Received a presentation from the State Office of Education

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about the programs provided to assist Utah's Native American students.

*Chairs: Rep. Jack R. Draxler / Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell
Staff: Michael E. Christensen (Director) / Patricia Owen (Associate General Counsel) / Phalin L. Flowers (Administrative Assistant)*

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment

Air Quality

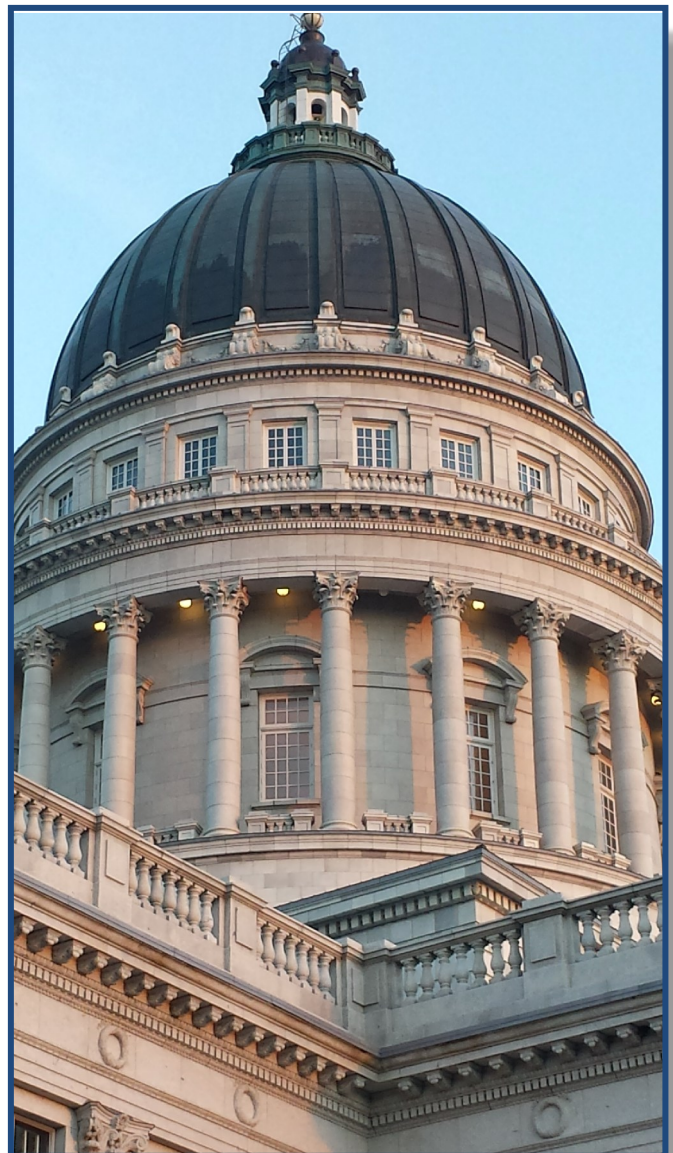
Received a [report](#) from Envision Utah on the [recommendations](#) of the Governor's Clean Air Action Team.

Catastrophic Wildfire Reduction Strategies

Received a [report](#) from the state forester on catastrophic wildfire reduction strategies focusing on regionally significant preparedness and prevention projects.

Discussed the importance of federal agency cooperation in promoting forest health and fighting wildfires.

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Consumer Electronic Device Recycling

Received a [report](#) from the Department of Environmental Quality on electronic consumer device collection, reuse, and recycling systems in the state.

Energy Policy Review

Received a [report](#) from the state energy advisor and the Office of Energy Development on the status and development of the state's energy resources and the energy advisor's activities. The advisor reviewed the state energy policy and discussed the importance of energy development and reliability and the impact of energy development on the state economy.

Impact of Federal Land Ownership

The committee discussed ways that federal land ownership and federal agency actions affect the state and its citizens. The discussion focused on forest health, wildfire prevention, cooperative agreements for fighting wildfires, and air quality.

Raw Milk

Received a report from the Department of Agriculture and Food and the Department of Health on the sale of raw whole milk at self-owned retail stores. The committee discussed ways to allow the sale of raw milk while still protecting public health.

Sage Grouse

Received a [report](#) from the Department of Natural Resources on the progress and results achieved through a FY 2015 \$2,000,000 appropriation used to hire a contractor for the purpose of delaying the possible listing of the sage grouse as an endangered species. Funds are to be used for legal strategies, educating members of Congress, and engaging the public in the process.

State Fairpark Financial Oversight and Performance

Received a report from the State Fairpark, the Department of Agriculture and Food, and the Division of Facilities Construction and Management on state fair operations, including:

- the 2014 State Fair;
- the status of infrastructure improvement; and
- proposals to expand and develop fairpark facilities and opportunities.

Tier III Motor Fuel

Received a report from the Division of Air Quality on ways that low sulfur Tier III fuels can provide substantial air quality benefits.

The governor's office discussed ways that the governor is encouraging refiners to produce and provide Tier III fuels in Utah.

*Chairs: Rep. Michael E. Noel / Sen. Scott K. Jenkins
Staff: J Brian Allred (Policy Analyst) / RuthAnne Frost (Attorney) / Anna M. Allen (Secretary)*

Political Subdivisions

Community Energy Choice

Received an [update](#) from the study sponsor on an ongoing inquiry into the feasibility of residents of a designated municipality or county qualifying as renewable energy contract customers under an arrangement known as community choice aggregation, as provided in [2014 General Session 1st Sub H.B. 110 "Renewable Energy Amendments."](#)

Quality Growth Commission

Received a report from the Quality Growth Commission on the state of quality growth in Utah.

Quality Growth Material:

- ["Growth Management in Utah"](#)
- ["LeRay McAllister Critical Land Conservation Program"](#)

Utah's Associations of Governments

Received information from the seven regional associations of governments on their purposes and the services they provide.

Associations of Governments Material:

- ["Regional Collaborations, Solutions and Strategies to Achieve Local Results"](#)
- ["Utah's Association of Governments"](#)

*Chairs: Rep. R. Curt Webb / Sen. Daniel W. Thatcher
Staff: Joseph T. Wade (Policy Analyst) / Victoria Ashby (Attorney) / Sara J. Thomas (Secretary)*

Public Utilities and Technology

Energy Development

Received the annual report from the Governor's Office of Energy Development about the growth of energy resources in Utah and how the development promotes reduced pollution energy generation.

Environmental Protection Agency Proposed Rule

Received presentations from the Governor's Office of Energy Development, regulated utilities, rural electrical cooperatives, and municipal power providers about the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed Section 111 (d) rule and the expected impact on the production of energy, energy customers, and clean air in Utah.

The presenters' primary concern is the ability of Utah power providers to economically and efficiently meet the proposed clean air standards by the 2030 deadline.

Currently, Utah power providers emit about 1,800 pounds of carbon dioxide per megawatt of electricity and would be required to reduce that amount to about 1,300 pounds

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of carbon dioxide per megawatt of electricity produced in 2030.

Natural Gas Line — Rural Infrastructure

Received an overview from a legislator on natural gas lines and possible legislation that would provide for private sector involvement and government loan programs in the construction of natural gas lines to rural business. The committee also received presentations from:

- Norbest;
- Emery County and Millard County economic development officials; and
- Questar Gas.

*Chairs: Rep. Roger E. Barrus / Sen. David P. Hinkins
Staff: Richard C. North (Policy Analyst) / Samuel C. Johnston (Attorney) / Tracey Fredman (Secretary)*

Revenue and Taxation

Centrally Assessed Property Valuation

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff addressing questions asked by committee members during the May meeting regarding valuation appeals for centrally assessed property. Over the last ten years, 560 appeals have been filed—480 by taxpayers and 80 by counties. On 51 occasions, both the taxpayer and the county made a valuation appeal on the same property value. Of these 51 cases, the property value was changed in favor of the taxpayer 63% of the time and in favor of the counties 6% of the time. For the remaining 31% of cases, the value of the property was not changed. Committee staff also reported that the average valuation appeal that involves both the county and taxpayer takes 1,495 days to resolve.

Income Tax Credits and Contribution Accounts

Action: Approved as a committee bill, [draft legislation, "Income Tax Amendments,"](#) which repeals provisions related to:

- corporate and individual income tax credits; and
- individual income tax contributions.

Special Service District Issues

Received comments and presentations from:

- individuals who own [property](#) near or live near the Jordanelle Reservoir;
- individuals who live in the Traverse Ridge area;
- bond counsel for the Jordanelle Special Service District; and
- a member of the Wasatch County Council.

Action: Directed committee staff to open a committee bill file to address issues related to special service and local districts.

Taxation of Molten Magnesium

Action: Approved as a committee bill, [draft legislation, "Sales and Use Tax - Molten Magnesium,"](#) which provides a sales and use tax exemption for a purchase or lease of

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molten magnesium.

*Chairs: Rep. Daniel McCay / Sen. Deidre M. Henderson
Staff: Bryant R. Howe (Assistant Director) / Leif G. Elder (Policy Analyst) / Rebecca L. Rockwell (Attorney) / Sara J. Thomas (Secretary)*

Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee

October 8, 2014

Confirmation of Kara L. Pettit

The committee met on October 8, 2014, and recommended to the Senate the confirmation of Ms. Kara L. Pettit as a judge to the Third District Court.

The Senate met in extraordinary session on October 15, 2014, and confirmed the appointment of Ms. Pettit.

*Chair: Sen. Scott K. Jenkins
Staff: Michael E. Christensen (Director) / Susan Creager Allred (Attorney) / Kristen C. Ricks (Secretary)*

State Water Development Commission

October 14, 2014

Filing of Change Applications

Discussed [draft legislation "Water Rights Amendments,"](#) which requires that a person who applies for a permanent or temporary change to a water right must meet certain qualifications.

Snake Valley Water Sharing Agreement

Received a report from the Department of Natural Resources on the history and current status of the Snake Valley Water Sharing agreement between Utah and Nevada.

*Chairs: Rep. Keith Grover / Sen. Margaret Dayton
Staff: J Brian Allred (Policy Analyst) / RuthAnne Frost (Attorney) / Anna M. Allen (Secretary)*

Transportation

Active Transportation Funding

Received a [presentation](#) from Bike Utah regarding the important role that bicycling plays in Utah's comprehensive transportation plan.

DUI Statutory Report

Received the statutorily required [report](#) from the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice on driving under the influence (DUI). The commission is required to prepare an annual report of DUI-related data, including:

- the data collected by the courts that is necessary to allow for sentencing and enhancement decisions to be made;
- dispositions by the justice courts; and
- any measures for which data is available to evaluate the profile and impacts of DUI recidivism.

The report evaluated the DUI-related processes of law enforcement; adjudication; sanctions; driver license control; and alcohol education, assessment, and treatment.

(Continued next page)

Electric Motor Vehicles

Received a [presentation](#) from General Motors regarding electronic motor vehicle technology and ways to encourage increased use of electric vehicles.

Public Transit Issues

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah Transit Riders Union addressing concerns regarding current transit services provided by the Utah Transit Authority.

State Highway System

Received an annual, statutorily required report from the Utah Department of Transportation regarding changes to the state highway system.

Action: Directed committee staff to open a committee bill file to address highway transfer-related issues.

Transportation Funding Options

Received updates from committee members regarding their review of potential transportation funding options, as assigned by the committee chairs.

*Chairs: Rep. Johnny Anderson / Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell
Staff: Art L. Hunsaker (Policy Analyst) / Shannon C. Halverson (Attorney) / Timothy J. Barber (Secretary)*

Veterans' and Military Affairs Commission

October 2, 2014

Peace Officer Standards and Training Curricula for Veteran Interactions

Received a presentation from the Utah Peace Officer Standards and Training agency about both academy and in-service training for peace officers when interacting with a veteran.

The agency indicated that the academy provides eight to ten hours of training and then offers in-service training throughout the year to all peace officer agencies. Peace officers are required to complete 40 hours of continuing education each year; failure to do so results in suspension.

The director of the US Department of Veterans Affairs Criminal Justice Outreach Program also spoke about the types of services the program currently provides for the Utah federal district court and the Salt Lake County justice courts.

Action: Voted to send a letter from the commission to all state and local peace officer agencies encouraging the agencies to allow their sworn officers to wear US flag-like symbols that represent the branch of the military in which they served.

Utah Code Definition of a Veteran

Received a presentation from commission staff regarding policy options in creating a uniform statutory definition of a veteran. Discussion followed about which persons should be included as a veteran and about related benefits.

Action: Voted to create a workgroup.

Utah Veterans Court

Received a presentation from commission staff about which states offer veterans courts for diverting veterans involved in the criminal justice system. Utah is currently the only western state without a state-level veterans court or docket.

*Chairs: Rep. Paul Ray / Sen. Peter C. Knudson
Staff: Richard C. North (Policy Analyst) / Esther Chelsea-McCarty (Attorney) / Tracey Fredman (Secretary)*

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Next Interim Day— [November 19, 2014](#)



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