

**MINUTES OF THE
SENATE REVENUE AND TAXATION STANDING COMMITTEE**

Wednesday , February 21, 2018 • 9:00 a.m. • 250 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Howard A. Stephenson, Chair
Sen. Jim Dabakis
Sen. Lincoln Fillmore
Sen. Wayne A. Harper
Sen. Daniel Hemmert

Members Absent:

Sen. Curtis S. Bramble
Sen. Gene Davis
Sen. Deidre M. Henderson

Staff Present:

Ms. Nancy Skidmore, Committee Secretary
Mr. Leif G. Elder, Policy Analyst

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

Chair Stephenson called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

1.1 Update on Tax Reform

Mr. Phil Dean, Governor's Office of Management and Budget, discussed tax modernization and the governor's office recommendations. He discussed re-emphasizing user fees in infrastructure, transportation, and water and broadening the base and lowering the rate.

Sen. Stephenson asked about legislation that is in the system right now relating to these issues.

Sen. Fillmore asked questions about broadening the base and lowering the rate.

Sen. Dabakis asked how the Governor rates progressivity in our state tax system.

Sen Dabakis asked about broadening the base and lowering the rate as it relates to sales tax on food.

Rep. Eliason and Rep. McCay discussed bills that have been presented in the house.

Sen. Stephenson commented and discussed the bills relating to the three-year life sales tax penalty that is placed on businesses.

Sen. Hemmert asked about Rep. McCay's idea that would eliminate personal property tax for small businesses for items under \$1000.

Sen. Dabakis discussed the state's economic competitiveness.

Mr. John Valentine, Chairman, State Tax Commission, discussed four decisions that need to be made before next year's tax returns are due. Chairman Valentine gave a presentation to the Executive Appropriations Committee at the beginning of the session outlining these decisions.

[Legislative Questions on HR1](#)

Sen. Adams discussed the importance of good tax policy to our state economy.

Ms. Rebecca Rockwell, Commissioner, Utah State Tax Commission addressed the Utah Personal Exemption.

MOTION: Sen. Dabakis moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 3 .

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Yeas-5

Sen. J. Dabakis
Sen. L. Fillmore
Sen. W. Harper
Sen. D. Hemmert
Sen. H. Stephenson

Nays-0

Absent-3

Sen. C. Bramble
Sen. G. Davis
Sen. D. Henderson

Chair Stephenson adjourned the meeting at 9:57 a.m.