



# MINUTES

## GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS INTERIM COMMITTEE

LEGISLATURE

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 | 1:30 p.m. | 450 State Capitol

**Members Present:**

Sen. Daniel W. Thatcher, Chair  
Rep. Marc K. Roberts, Chair  
Sen. Don L. Ipson  
Sen. Jani Iwamoto  
Sen. Todd Weiler  
Rep. Kyle R. Andersen  
Rep. Brady Brammer  
Rep. Suzanne Harrison  
Rep. Jon Hawkins  
Rep. Karen Kwan  
Rep. Phil Lyman  
Rep. Val L. Peterson

Rep. Candice B. Pierucci  
Rep. Travis M. Seegmiller  
Rep. Andrew Stoddard

**Members Absent:**

President J. Stuart Adams

**Staff Present:**

Sarah J. Balland, Policy Analyst  
Lisa Sorensen, Policy Analyst  
Alan Houston, Associate General Counsel  
Thomas R. Vaughn, Associate General Counsel  
Tracey Fredman, Administrative Assistant

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

### 1 . Committee Business

Chair Thatcher called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**MOTION:** Rep. Roberts moved to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2019, meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 9 - 0 - 7.

Yeas-9

Rep. K. Andersen  
Sen. J. Iwamoto  
Rep. K. Kwan  
Rep. P. Lyman  
Rep. V. Peterson  
Rep. C. Pierucci  
Rep. M. Roberts  
Rep. A. Stoddard  
Sen. D. Thatcher

Nays-0

Absent-7

Sen. J. Adams  
Rep. B. Brammer  
Rep. S. Harrison  
Rep. J. Hawkins  
Sen. D. Ipson  
Rep. T. Seegmiller  
Sen. T. Weiler

**MOTION:** Rep. Roberts moved to authorize the committee chairs to open bill files on behalf of the committee. The motion passed with a vote of 10 - 0 - 6.

Yeas-10

Rep. K. Andersen  
Sen. D. Ipson  
Sen. J. Iwamoto  
Rep. K. Kwan  
Rep. P. Lyman  
Rep. V. Peterson  
Rep. C. Pierucci  
Rep. M. Roberts  
Rep. A. Stoddard  
Sen. D. Thatcher

Nays-0

Absent-6

Sen. J. Adams  
Rep. B. Brammer  
Rep. S. Harrison  
Rep. J. Hawkins  
Rep. T. Seegmiller  
Sen. T. Weiler

Thomas Vaughn, Associate General Counsel, introduced Lisa Sorensen, Policy Analyst, and Alan Houston, Associate General Counsel. Alan Houston will split his time between the Government Operations Interim Committee and the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee.

## **2 . Martha Hughes Cannon Statue**

### [2a - Draft Legislation, Martha Hughes Cannon Statue Amendments, V3](#)

Rep. Pierucci reviewed provisions of draft legislation "Martha Hughes Cannon Statue Amendments," including the removal of the timing requirement for the unveiling of the Martha Hughes Cannon statue in the United States Capitol.

**MOTION:** Rep. Pierucci moved to approve draft legislation, "Martha Hughes Cannon Statue Amendments" (2020S5-0006/003), as a committee bill. The motion passed with a vote of 13 - 0 - 3.

#### Yeas-13

Rep. K. Andersen  
Rep. B. Brammer  
Rep. S. Harrison  
Rep. J. Hawkins  
Sen. D. Ipson  
Sen. J. Iwamoto  
Rep. K. Kwan  
Rep. P. Lyman  
Rep. V. Peterson  
Rep. C. Pierucci  
Rep. M. Roberts  
Rep. A. Stoddard  
Sen. D. Thatcher

#### Nays-0

#### Absent-3

Sen. J. Adams  
Rep. T. Seegmiller  
Sen. T. Weiler

## **3 . Open and Public Meetings Act**

### [3a - Open and Public Meetings Act](#)

Rep. Potter discussed draft legislation, "Open and Public Meetings Act Amendments," which would modify provisions relating to electronic meetings.

Victoria Ashby, Director, Government Relations, Utah League of Cities and Towns, spoke in favor of the bill.

**MOTION:** Rep. Potter moved to approve draft legislation, "Open and Public Meetings Act Amendments" (2020S5-0010/007), as a committee bill. The motion passed with a vote of 13 - 0 - 3.

Yeas-13

Rep. K. Andersen  
Rep. B. Brammer  
Rep. S. Harrison  
Rep. J. Hawkins  
Sen. D. Ipson  
Sen. J. Iwamoto  
Rep. K. Kwan  
Rep. P. Lyman  
Rep. V. Peterson  
Rep. C. Pierucci  
Rep. M. Roberts  
Rep. A. Stoddard  
Sen. D. Thatcher

Nays-0

Absent-3

Sen. J. Adams  
Rep. T. Seegmiller  
Sen. T. Weiler

**4 . Governmental Immunity**

[4a - Draft Legislation, Covid 19 Immunity Provisions, V2](#)

Sen. Kirk A. Cullimore reviewed draft legislation, "COVID-19 Immunity Provisions," which would address the relationship between the governmental immunity act and immunity related to exposure to COVID-19.

Committee discussion followed during which Sen. Cullimore responded to questions.

**MOTION:** Rep. Stoddard moved to amend the draft legislation, "COVID-19 Immunity Provisions" (FL2020S5-0015/002), as follows: on line 146 after "does not apply to" insert "a person who fails to follow the CDC guidelines". The motion failed with a vote of 2 - 13 - 1.

Yeas-2

Rep. S. Harrison  
Rep. A. Stoddard

Nays-13

Rep. K. Andersen  
Rep. B. Brammer  
Rep. J. Hawkins  
Sen. D. Ipson  
Sen. J. Iwamoto  
Rep. K. Kwan  
Rep. P. Lyman  
Rep. V. Peterson  
Rep. C. Pierucci  
Rep. M. Roberts  
Rep. T. Seegmiller  
Sen. D. Thatcher  
Sen. T. Weiler

Absent-1

Sen. J. Adams

**MOTION:** Rep. Lyman moved to approve "COVID-19 Immunity Provisions" (FL2020S5-0015/002), as a committee bill.

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION:** Rep. Pierucci moved to add an effective date to draft legislation, "COVID-19 Immunity Provisions" (FL2020S5-0015/002), and to approve the amended draft legislation as a committee bill.  
The substitute motion passed with a vote of 9 - 6 - 1.

Yeas-9

Rep. B. Brammer  
Rep. J. Hawkins  
Sen. D. Ipson  
Rep. P. Lyman  
Rep. V. Peterson  
Rep. C. Pierucci  
Rep. M. Roberts  
Sen. D. Thatcher  
Sen. T. Weiler

Nays-6

Rep. K. Andersen  
Rep. S. Harrison  
Sen. J. Iwamoto  
Rep. K. Kwan  
Rep. T. Seegmiller  
Rep. A. Stoddard

Absent-1

Sen. J. Adams

**5 . Committee Study Items**[5a - Interim Study Items List](#)

Lisa Sorensen, Policy Analyst, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, reviewed a list of study items approved by the Legislative Management Committee for the 2020 Interim.

**MOTION:** Sen. Ipson moved to approve the list of study items as presented.

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION:** Rep. Harrison moved to add the following items to the 2020 interim study list: (a) civil liberties, especially those related to the Banjo contract; (b) emergency powers during states of emergency; and (c) purchases made, contracts entered into, and cost cutting mechanisms during states of emergency.  
The substitute motion passed with a vote of 15 - 0 - 1.

Yeas-15

Rep. K. Andersen  
Rep. B. Brammer  
Rep. S. Harrison  
Rep. J. Hawkins  
Sen. D. Ipson  
Sen. J. Iwamoto  
Rep. K. Kwan  
Rep. P. Lyman  
Rep. V. Peterson  
Rep. C. Pierucci  
Rep. M. Roberts  
Rep. T. Seegmiller  
Rep. A. Stoddard  
Sen. D. Thatcher  
Sen. T. Weiler

Nays-0Absent-1

Sen. J. Adams

**6 . Impact of COVID-19 on Primary and General Elections**

Justin Lee, Director of Elections, Office of the Lieutenant Governor, discussed the implementation of 2020 Third Special Session H.B. 3006, "Election Amendments," and responded to committee members' questions.

**7 . Essential Mental Health Services**[7a - Presentation, Funding of Services that UNI Provides the Community and the State of Utah \[University of Utah\]](#)

Ross VanVranken, Executive Director, University of Utah Neuropsychiatric Institute, discussed the need for mental health services during a pandemic.

**MOTION:** Rep. Pierucci moved to adopt the interim study item list discussed under agenda item #5 as amended. The motion passed with a vote of 15 - 0 - 1.

Yeas-15

Rep. K. Andersen  
Rep. B. Brammer  
Rep. S. Harrison  
Rep. J. Hawkins  
Sen. D. Ipson  
Sen. J. Iwamoto  
Rep. K. Kwan  
Rep. P. Lyman  
Rep. V. Peterson  
Rep. C. Pierucci  
Rep. M. Roberts  
Rep. T. Seegmiller  
Rep. A. Stoddard  
Sen. D. Thatcher  
Sen. T. Weiler

Nays-0

Absent-1

Sen. J. Adams

**8 . Other items/adjourn**

**MOTION:** Rep. Seegmiller moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 15 - 0 - 1.

Yeas-15

Rep. K. Andersen  
Rep. B. Brammer  
Rep. S. Harrison  
Rep. J. Hawkins  
Sen. D. Ipson  
Sen. J. Iwamoto  
Rep. K. Kwan  
Rep. P. Lyman  
Rep. V. Peterson  
Rep. C. Pierucci  
Rep. M. Roberts  
Rep. T. Seegmiller  
Rep. A. Stoddard  
Sen. D. Thatcher  
Sen. T. Weiler

Nays-0

Absent-1

Sen. J. Adams

Chair Thatcher adjourned the meeting at 3:42 p.m.