

**MINUTES OF THE SENATE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS  
STANDING COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 17, 2004, 8:00 A.M.  
ROOM 403, STATE CAPITOL BUILDING**

Members Present:           Sen. Carlene M. Walker, Chair  
                                  Sen. Patrice Arent  
                                  Sen. Dan Eastman  
                                  Sen. Beverly Evans  
                                  Sen. Karen Hale

Members Excused:        Sen. Bill Hickman  
                                  Sen. Peter Knudson

Staff Present:            Richard North, Policy Analyst  
                                  Saundra Maeser, Secretary

Public Speakers Present:   Jodi Hoffman, Utah League of Cities and Towns, Government  
  Immunity Task Force  
                                  Edward Havas, Utah Trial Lawyers' Association  
                                  Brent Burnett, Assistant Attorney General  
                                  David Church, General Counsel, Utah League of Cities and Towns  
                                  Andrew Morse, Attorney, Utah Local Governments' Trust  
                                  Alan Edwards, State Risk Management  
                                  Joe Johnson, Mayor, Bountiful City  
                                  Reed Searle, General Manager, Intermountain Power Agency  
                                  Mark Buchi, Attorney, Intermountain Power Agency  
                                  Brent Gardner, Utah Association of Counties

A list of visitors and a copy of handouts are filed with the committee minutes.

Committee Chair Walker called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

**1. S.B. 55 Governmental Immunity Act of Utah (L. Blackham)**

Sen. Leonard Blackham introduced the bill, assisted by Jodi Hoffman, Utah League of Cities and Towns and member of the Government Immunity Task Force.

**MOTION:** Sen. Arent moved to adopt 1st Sub. S.B. 55.

The motion passed unanimously.

The following spoke in support of the bill:

Edward Havas, Utah Trial Lawyers' Association, Government Immunity Task Force  
Brent Burnett, Assistant Attorney General, Government Immunity Task Force  
David Church, Gen. Counsel, Utah League of Cities and Towns, Government Immunity Task Force  
Andrew Morse, Attorney, Utah Local Governments' Trust, Government Immunity Task Force  
Alan Edwards, State Risk Management, Government Immunity Task Force  
Joe Johnson, Mayor, Bountiful City  
Reed Searle, General Manager, Intermountain Power Agency  
Mark Buchi, Attorney, Intermountain Power Agency, Government Immunity Task Force

**MOTION:** Sen. Arent moved to pass 1st Sub. S.B. 55 out with a favorable recommendation.

The motion passed unanimously.

**2. S.B. 222 Local Government Feasibility and Economic Impact Studies (S. Jenkins)**

Sen. Scott Jenkins introduced the bill.

Jodi Hoffman, Utah League of Cities and Towns; Andrew Morse, Attorney, Utah Local Governments' Trust; and Brent Gardner, Utah Association of Counties, spoke in opposition to the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Hale made a motion to move to the next item on the agenda.

The motion passed unanimously.

**3. S.B. 234 State Fair Park Leasing Agreements (J. Evans)**

The bill was not considered.

**MOTION:** Sen. Arent moved to adjourn.

The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Chair Walker adjourned the meeting at 9:57 a.m.

Minutes reported by Sandra Maeser, Secretary

---

Sen. Carlene Walker, Committee Chair

Minutes of the Senate Government Operations and Political Subdivisions Standing Committee  
February 17, 2004  
Page 3