

**MINUTES OF THE
HOUSE RETIREMENT AND INDEPENDENT ENTITIES STANDING COMMITTEE
Room C450, State Capitol
February 13, 2008**

Members Present: Rep. John Dougall, Chair
Rep. Aaron Tilton, Vice Chair
Rep. Wayne A. Harper
Rep. Karen W. Morgan
Rep. Merlynn T. Newbold
Rep. LaWanna Shurtliff

Members Absent: Rep. David Clark
Rep. Neil A. Hansen
Rep. Bradley G. Last

Staff Present: Mr. Benjamin N. Christensen, Policy Analyst
Mr. Eric Weeks, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Barbara Bryner, Committee Secretary

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

Mr. John Dougall called the meeting to order at 4:20 p.m.

MOTION: Rep. Tilton moved to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2008 meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Harper absent for the vote.

H.B. 280 School Finance Amendments (Rep. Julie Fisher)

Rep. Fisher introduced the bill to the committee.

MOTION: Rep. Tilton moved to amend the bill as follows:

1. Page 8, Line 222:

222 ~~retirement to]~~ provide its own compensation, benefit, and retirement programs. =

(5) In setting the value of the weighted pupil unit, the Legislature shall consider a change in the retirement contribution rate.

The motion passed with Rep. Harper absent for the vote.

Todd Hauber, Associate Superintendent Business Services, State Office of Education, spoke for the bill.

(b) ~~{A}~~ If allowed by the participating employer under Subsection (3)(a),
a public safety service employee who initially enters employment beginning
432 July 1, 2008 with a participating employer may elect to become a member of:
433 (i) this system; or
434 (ii) the Public Employees' Noncontributory Retirement System under Chapter 13,
435 Public Employees' Noncontributory Retirement Act.
436 ~~{b}~~ (c) For a public safety service employee who elects to participate in
the Public
437 Employees' Noncontributory Retirement System, the participating employer shall, in
addition
438 to any other compensation, pay as part of the employee's compensation an amount equal to
the
439 difference in the cost of the two retirement systems, to be calculated as follows:
440 (i) the amount that the participating employer would be required to pay for the
441 employee's retirement benefit if the employee was a member of ~~{that system}~~ the
Public Safety Noncontributory Retirement System based on the
442 retirement contribution rate under the Public Safety Noncontributory Retirement System;

The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Harper absent for the vote.

The following people spoke for the bill:

Sheriff Jim Tracy, Utah County Sheriff
Mr. Scott Duncan, Department of Public Safety
Mr. Geoffrey Leonard, Utah School Employees Association

The following people spoke in opposition the bill:

Kelly Atkinson, Fraternal Order of Police
Courtney White, Utah Education Association
Todd Sutton, Utah Public Employees Association
Jan Johnson, Utah Alliance of Government Employees

Mr. Dan Andersen, Utah Retirement Systems, spoke to the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Newbold moved to pass the bill out favorably as amended.

SUBSTITUTE

MOTION: Rep. Morgan moved to refer the bill to interim study. The motion failed with Rep. Morgan and Rep. Shurtliff voting for the motion.

The motion to pass the bill out favorably as amended passed with Rep. Morgan and Rep. Shurtliff voting in opposition of the motion.

Rep. Tilton relinquished the Chair back to Rep. Dougall.

MOTION: Rep. Harper moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:25 p.m.

Rep. John Dougall, Chair