



DRAFT MINUTES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND WORKFORCE SERVICES INTERIM COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 19, 2025 | 1:15 p.m. | 120 Senate Building

Members Present:

Sen. Ann Millner, Chair
Rep. Jon Hawkins, Chair
Sen. Karen Kwan
Sen. Michael K. McKell
Sen. Evan J. Vickers
Rep. Paul A. Cutler
Rep. James A. Dunnigan
Rep. Doug Fiefia
Rep. Jake Fitisemanu
Rep. Leah Hansen
Rep. Sahara Hayes

Rep. Colin W. Jack
Rep. Carol S. Moss
Rep. David Shallenberger
Rep. Troy Shelley
Rep. Jordan D. Teuscher

Members Absent:

Sen. Jerry W Stevenson

Staff Present:

Sivan Nizan, Policy Analyst
Rhonda Bailey, Associate General Counsel
Samantha Merrell, Administrative Assistant

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

1. Committee Business

Chair Millner called the meeting to order at 1:39 p.m.

MOTION: Rep. Jack moved to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2025, meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 6.

Yeas - 11

Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. J. Dunnigan
Rep. D. Fiefia
Rep. J. Fitisemanu
Rep. L. Hansen
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. C. Jack
Sen. K. Kwan
Sen. A. Millner
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. T. Shelley

Nays - 0

Absent - 6

Rep. J. Hawkins
Sen. M. McKell
Rep. D. Shallenberger
Sen. J. Stevenson
Rep. J. Teuscher
Sen. E. Vickers

2. Draft Legislation: Bears Ears Visitor Center Advisory Committee Amendments

[2 - Draft Legislation "Bears Ears Visitor Center Advisory Committee Amendments" \(V004\) \(Drafter: R. Bailey\)](#)

Rhonda Bailey, Associate General Counsel, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, presented on draft legislation, "Bears Ears Visitor Center Advisory Committee Amendments."

The committee discussed the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Jack moved to favorably recommend draft legislation, "Bears Ears Advisory Center Committee Amendments" as a committee bill. The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 6.

Yeas - 11

Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. J. Dunnigan
Rep. D. Fiefia
Rep. J. Fitisemanu
Rep. L. Hansen
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. C. Jack
Sen. K. Kwan
Sen. A. Millner
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. T. Shelley

Nays - 0

Absent - 6

Rep. J. Hawkins
Sen. M. McKell
Rep. D. Shallenberger
Sen. J. Stevenson
Rep. J. Teuscher
Sen. E. Vickers

3. Draft Legislation: Child Care Advisory Committee Amendments

[3 - Draft Legislation "Child Care Advisory Committee Amendments" \(V003\) \(Drafter: R. Bailey\)](#)

Rhonda Bailey presented on draft legislation, "Child Care Advisory Committee Amendments."

The committee discussed the draft legislation and asked questions of Kevin Burt, Deputy Director, Department of Workforce Services.

Chair Millner opened the meeting for public comment on the bill.

Kory Holdaway, Utah Private Childcare Association, spoke in favor of the bill.

Chair Millner closed public comment.

MOTION: Sen. Kwan moved to favorably recommend draft legislation "Child Care Advisory Committee Amendments" as a committee bill. The motion passed with a vote of 10 - 0 - 7.

Yeas - 10

Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. J. Dunnigan
Rep. J. Fitisemanu
Rep. L. Hansen
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. C. Jack
Sen. K. Kwan
Sen. A. Millner
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. T. Shelley

Nays - 0

Absent - 7

Rep. D. Fiefia
Rep. J. Hawkins
Sen. M. McKell
Rep. D. Shallenberger
Sen. J. Stevenson
Rep. J. Teuscher
Sen. E. Vickers

4. Economic Development: Utah Inland Port Authority

[5 - Legislative Update \(Utah Inland Port Authority\)](#)

Ben Hart, Executive Director, Utah Inland Port Authority (UIPA), presented an overview of the Utah Inland Port Authority, including updates on current project areas.

Ben Hart responded to questions from the committee.

5. Draft Legislation: Housing Amendments

[4 - Draft Legislation "Housing Amendments" \(V016\) \(Drafter: R. Bailey\)](#)

[4 - Housing Reorganization \(Rep. Roberts\)](#)

Rep. Cal Roberts presented on draft legislation, "Housing Amendments."

Jeff Moss, Executive Director, Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity (GOEO), spoke to the bill.

Kevin Burt spoke to the bill.

Rep. Roberts responded to questions from the committee.

Chair Millner opened for the meeting for public comment on the bill.

Tianu Tonga, resident, spoke to the bill.

Rep. Roberts responded to public comment.

Susan Olson, citizen advocate for housing, spoke to the bill.

Chair Millner closed public comment.

MOTION: Rep. Dunnigan moved to favorably recommend draft legislation, "Housing Amendments," as a committee bill. The motion passed with a vote of 12 - 0 - 5.

Yeas - 12

Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. J. Dunnigan
Rep. D. Fiefia
Rep. J. Fitisemanu
Rep. L. Hansen
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. C. Jack
Sen. K. Kwan
Sen. A. Millner
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. D. Shallenberger
Rep. J. Teuscher

Nays - 0

Absent - 5

Rep. J. Hawkins
Sen. M. McKell
Rep. T. Shelley
Sen. J. Stevenson
Sen. E. Vickers

6. Annual Report: Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity

[6, 7 - 2025 Annual Report and Strategic Plan Update \(Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity\)](#)

[6 - 2025 Annual Report \(Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity\)](#)

Jeff Moss presented on the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity's annual report.

Kamron Dalton, Managing Director of Operations, GOEO, continued to present on the annual report.

Kamron Dalton and Jeff Moss responded to questions from the committee.

7. Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity Strategic Plan Update

Jeff Moss and Natalie Randall, Managing Director, Utah Office of Tourism and Film, GOEO, presented on the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity Strategic Plan, including the framework, guiding principles, and focus areas.



Jeff Moss and Lance Soffe, Director, Industry Partnerships, GOEO, responded to questions from the committee.

8. Annual Report: Department of Workforce Services

[8 - 2025 Annual Report \(Department of Workforce Services\)](#)

[8 - Presentation, Annual Report \(Department of Workforce Services\)](#)

Kevin Burt presented an overview of the Department of Workforce Service's annual report.

Kevin Burt responded to questions from the committee.

9. Annual Report: Department of Cultural and Community Engagement

[9 - 2025 Annual Report \(Department of Cultural and Community Engagement\)](#)

[9 - Presentation, Annual Report \(Department of Cultural and Community Engagement\)](#)

Donna Law, Executive Director, Department of Cultural and Community Engagement (DCCE), and Katherine Potter, Deputy Director, DCCE, presented on the Department of Cultural and Community Engagement's annual report.

MOTION: Rep. Hayes moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 10 - 0 - 7.

Yeas - 10

Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. D. Fiefia
Rep. L. Hansen
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. C. Jack
Sen. K. Kwan
Sen. A. Millner
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. D. Shallenberger
Sen. E. Vickers

Nays - 0

Absent - 7

Rep. J. Dunnigan
Rep. J. Fitisemanu
Rep. J. Hawkins
Sen. M. McKell
Rep. T. Shelley
Sen. J. Stevenson
Rep. J. Teuscher

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