



DRAFT MINUTES

RETIREMENT AND INDEPENDENT ENTITIES INTERIM COMMITTEE

Monday, October 27, 2025 | 9:00 a.m. | 210 Senate Building

Members Present:

Sen. Wayne A. Harper, Senate Chair
Rep. Cheryl K. Acton, House Chair
Sen. Kirk A. Cullimore
Sen. Luz Escamilla
Sen. Lincoln Fillmore
Sen. Jen Plumb
Sen. Todd Weiler
Rep. Kay J. Christofferson
Rep. Joseph Elison
Rep. Grant Amjad Miller
Rep. Michael J. Petersen

Rep. Norman K Thurston

Members Absent:

Rep. Jennifer Dailey-Provost
Rep. Trevor Lee

Staff Present:

Adam J. Sweet, Deputy Director
Christine R. Gilbert, Deputy General Counsel
RuthAnne Oakey-Frost, Senior Associate
General Counsel
Alyssa Castor, Administrative Assistant
Victoria Firmage, Administrative Assistant
Team Lead

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

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

1. Committee Business

MOTION: Rep. Christofferson moved to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2025, meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 7.

Yeas - 7

Rep. C. Acton
Rep. K. Christofferson
Rep. J. Elison
Sen. L. Fillmore
Sen. W. Harper
Rep. G. Miller
Sen. T. Weiler

Nays - 0

Absent - 7

Sen. K. Cullimore
Rep. J. Dailey-Provost
Sen. L. Escamilla
Rep. T. Lee
Rep. M. Petersen
Sen. J. Plumb
Rep. N. Thurston

2. Draft Legislation "Retirement Modifications"

[2 - Draft Legislation "Retirement Modifications" V007](#)

Christine Gilbert introduced changes proposed in the 2026 General Session draft legislation, "Retirement Modifications," and answered questions from the committee.

Dee Larsen, General Counsel, Utah Retirement Systems, answered questions from the committee.

MOTION: Sen. Harper moved to favorably recommend as a committee bill, "Retirement Modifications." The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 3.



Yeas - 11

Rep. C. Acton
Rep. K. Christofferson
Rep. J. Elison
Sen. L. Escamilla
Sen. L. Fillmore
Sen. W. Harper
Rep. G. Miller
Rep. M. Petersen
Sen. J. Plumb
Rep. N. Thurston
Sen. T. Weiler

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Sen. K. Cullimore
Rep. J. Dailey-Provost
Rep. T. Lee

3. Implementation Update Regarding H.C.R. 2, Concurrent Resolution Directing PEHP Regarding Pharmaceutical Rebates (2025 General Session)

Chet Loftis, Managing Director, Public Employees' Health Program (PEHP), updated the committee on the implementation of 2025 General Session H.C.R. 2, "Concurrent Resolution Directing PEHP Regarding Pharmaceutical Rebates," and the pharmaceutical rebate process.

Chet Loftis answered questions from the committee.

4. Independent Entity: Office of Inspector General of Medicaid Services

[4 - Independent Entity: Office of Inspector General of Medicaid Services](#)

Neil Erickson, Interim Inspector General, Utah Office of Inspector General of Medicaid Services (UOIG), explained how management changes impacted the UOIG.

Elise Napper, Program Analyst Auditor, UOIG, presented an overview of the UOIG and its responsibility to enforce Medicaid program integrity.

Elise Napper, Adam Sweet, and Neil Erickson answered questions from the committee.

Sen. Escamilla discussed findings from a legislative audit of the UOIG that raised concerns regarding accountability and oversight.

Neil Erickson responded to Sen. Escamilla's concerns about the audit's findings.

The committee discussed historic audits of the UOIG and the history of the UOIG's reporting requirements.

5. Independent Entity: School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration

[5 - Independent Entity: School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration](#)

Michelle McConkie, Director, School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA), presented information about trust lands and SITLA's land management practices.

Michelle McConkie answered questions from the committee.

6. Other Items/Adjourn

Rep. Christofferson discussed the possibility of reevaluating independent entities at the next meeting.



MOTION: Rep. Petersen moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 10 - 0 - 4.

Yeas - 10

Rep. C. Acton
Rep. K. Christofferson
Sen. K. Cullimore
Rep. J. Elison
Sen. L. Escamilla
Sen. W. Harper
Rep. M. Petersen
Sen. J. Plumb
Rep. N. Thurston
Sen. T. Weiler

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Rep. J. Dailey-Provost
Sen. L. Fillmore
Rep. T. Lee
Rep. G. Miller

Chair Acton adjourned the meeting at 10:43 a.m.