

## MINUTES OF UTC PUBLIC POLICY FORUM MEETING

March 8, 2013 – 3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Utah Capitol –Training Room

Terry Bagley and Chet Linton, Co-Chairs

Those in attendance were: Terry Bagley of Centershift, Inc; Mark Bouchard of CBRE; Evelyn Call of Unspam; Ernest Carey of UVU College of Technology and Computing; Mark Griffin and John Johnson of Overstock.com; Suzanne Mulet of University of Pheonix; Kimmy Naylor of Paul Rogers and Associates; Senator Wayne Harper of Utah Legislature; Jeff Rogers of Paul Rogers and Associates; Greg Sutherland of the Office of Senator Mike Lee; Timothy Wheelwright of Kuck Immigration Partners; Dave Davis of Utah Retailers Association; Tom Lund of Tanner LC; Ron White of Ridgeview Capital; Sara Baldwin of CleanTec; Joyce Peters of Hill Air Force Base; Jay Magure of 1-800-Contacts; Tom Kosinski of Siemens Industry; Peggy Wallace of America First Credit Union; Stan Lockhard of IM Flash; Ted McAleer and Carson Howell of USTAR; Chet Linton of School Improvement Network; Richard Nelson and Judy Young of Utah Technology Council.

Terry Bagley conducted the meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes of 2/28/2013; Motion passed.

### **SB 226: Sales and Use Tax (Sen. Harper)**

Senator Harper was invited to the UTC Public Policy Forum and explained his reasoning and feelings behind SB 226. Harper does want a federal solution to the problem at hand, but there is not significant movement in Washington DC to fix it, Senator Harper has tried to take a step in the right direction in States collecting sales tax on internet based companies. After Senator Harper presented, he had to return to the floor and Dave Davis answered questions from the Forum.

The forums main concerns were:

- Potentially hurting Utah based companies
- Federal Solution would be best
- There is not protection for companies like there is in Streamline sales
- It is very pricy to set up a system that would comply with the statutes in SB 226
- It is unconstitutional
- The California Bill it is modeled after is not good legislation
- The bill is too broad and needs to be tailored
- The fiscal note is not accurate

After a lengthy discussion on the bill, UTC kept a position of “High-Priority Oppose” on the bill.

### **SJR5: Joint Resolution on State Superintendent of Public Instruction (Sen. Reid)**

UTC has decided it would be a wise move to back off this bill slightly. If Senator Reid asks us for help we will answer with a call to action if needed.

### **SB 79: Student-Centered Learning Pilot Program (Sen. Stephenson)**

This bill specifies eligibility requirements for participating in the pilot program and additional factors that may be considered; requires the State Board of Education to select a consultant, through a request for proposals process, to provide consulting series to the board on the pilot program and to assist school

districts and charter schools in designing and implementing educational models that meet the requirements of the Student-Centered Learning Pilot Program.

Chet Linton researched this bill and discussed with the sponsor his goals with SB 79. Chet reported to the Forum that this is a solution for teachers and students alike.

MOTION: Chet Linton motioned to take a position of "Support" on this bill. Seconded by Peggy Wallace; motion passed unanimously.

#### **SB 271: School Grading Amendments (Sen. Adams)**

This bill specifies that the school grading system shall be known and referred to as "school grading"; modifies the criteria and procedures for determining school grades, including calculation of learning growth; calculation of high school's graduation rate; and measurement of high school students' college and career readiness; and requires the State Board of Education to annually develop a personal student achievement report for each public school student to be delivered to the student's parent or guardian.

This is a bill that in prior years had been proposed by President Neiderhauser, but can't be carried by him at this time because of his status in the State Senate. This places additional focus on student's proficiency in schools and teachers performance.

MOTION: Rich Nelson motioned to take a position of "Support" on the bill; Sara Baldwin seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

#### **Update on HB 139- Stan Lockhart**

We are 90% of the way there and are on the homestretch! We are actively engaged on HB 139 and it is coming along. Just as a reminder the goals of HB 139 are:

- To create a small pay raise for teachers
- Identify gaps in our education system
- Implement the best concept into the education system
- Cut back on remediation
- Be a solution with accountability by reporting to the State every 6 months

CALL TO ACTION: Now is the time to reinforce the message. We ask members of UTC to send e-mails to leaders in the Legislature to support HB 139.

Motion to Adjourn; passed unanimously.