

## MINUTES OF UTC PUBLIC POLICY FORUM

February 10, 2017 3:00 p.m.

Co-chair Mark McBride and Dan Lloyd

Held at State Capitol

Those in attendance: Mark McBride, Ivanti; Dan Lloyd, inContact; Brent Petersen, The STEM Action Center; Matt Kingdon, CIBER; Mark Griffin, Overstock; Brock Lyle, Overstock; Vanessa Clayton, Homie; Helen Hu, Westminster College; Jennifer Scott, U.S. Congressman Jason Chaffetz's Office; Victoria Garrow, Utah Valley University; Michelle Scharf, Unspam Technologies; Mike Waldron, Tanner LLC; Tom Lund, Tanner LLC; Joyce Peters, Hill Air Force Base; Ross Romero, Michael Best Strategies; Greg Jones, TechLaw Ventures; Josh Grant, University of Utah, College of Engineering; Paul Rogers, Paul Rogers & Associates; Jeff Rogers, Paul Rogers & Associates; Stan Lockhart, Paul Rogers & Associates; Ronald White, HAAU; and Richard Nelson and Jonathan Jackson of UTC

**Welcome and Brief Introductions** – Richard Nelson

**Minutes** – Mark McBride - *The motion was made to approve minutes from Feb. 3, 2017. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Facilitation of Meeting** – Mark McBride

### UTC Bill Watch List

Bill	Sponsor	Position
<b>HIGH PRIORITY SUPPORT</b>		
<a href="#">Engineering Initiative \$5 Million (OnGoing)</a>		High Priority Support
STEM Mentor Exchange (STEM MX)		High Priority Support
<a href="#">SB190 Education Computing Pathways</a>	Sen R Okerlund	High Priority Support
<b>SUPPORT</b>		
<a href="#">HB253 Short-Term Rental Amendments</a>	Rep J Knotwell	Support
<a href="#">HB87 Student Access to Online Courses</a>	Rep K Coleman	Support
<a href="#">HB108 Teacher Salary Supplement Amendments</a>	Rep K Christofferson	Support
<a href="#">SB132 Vehicle Manufacturers Tax Amendments</a>	Sen C Bramble	Support
<b>NEUTRAL</b>		
<a href="#">SB110 Sales Tax Collection Amendments</a>	Sen C Bramble	Neutral
<b>OPPOSE</b>		
<a href="#">HB81 Post-employment Restrictive Covenant Amendments</a>	Rep B Greene	Oppose

### Discussion and Presentations:

**Briefing on 7/8<sup>th</sup> % Tax Increase Initiative** – Senate President Wayne Niederhauser

- One of the things that drive Utah's economy is its lower tax rates compared to other states.
- Do we have the right tax structure/income flow for the economy of the future?
- Utah has a great quality of life, but how does that look with double the population in 30 years?
- This year is not a bad budget year.
  - o Almost \$300 million revenue growth.
  - o The past two years have been abnormal budget years.
  - o What we are seeing is a normalization of the budget.
- Revenue is not sufficient to meet infrastructure needs.
- Different methods for increasing funds for these needs (infrastructure):
  - o Raise the gas tax \$0.05-\$0.10. Gas tax is a great user fee.
  - o Add sales tax on food. This would broaden the sales tax base.
  - o Phase out tax exemptions at \$100,000
- The state should not try to do all of this in one year, because schools are not capable of consuming the money surplus in a single year.
- We need to train students to be ready to compete in the workforce and around the world and to be assets to companies.
- Need students reading at grade level by 3rd grade; performing math at grade level by 8th grade; and invest in leadership training for principals.
- UTC is a critical part of our business community to make these things happen.

**Digital Studies Graduation Requirement** – Helen Hu, Westminster College

- Board has approved a 0.5 requirement for students.
- UTC came out in strong support of this requirement.
- Organizations such as Adobe, Oracle, IHC, and STEM Action Center supported this requirement.
- Now six courses, three of which are web-based, are available for graduation requirements.
- The goal is to have more students graduating with an understanding of computer science.

**SB190 – Education Computing Pathways [UTC High Priority Support]**

- A Call to Action email has been sent to invite industry support at the hearing on 2/20.

**Review of Bill Watch List** – Jeff Rogers, Paul Rogers & Associates

**HB81 – Post-Employment Restrictive Covenant Amendments [UTC Oppose]**

- This is a different non-compete bill than the one discussed at the last meeting.
- ***A motion was made to oppose the bill. The motion passed unanimously.***

**HB87 – Student Access to Online Courses [UTC Support]**

- UTC has historically supported bills of this type.
- Provides increased access to online courses.
- Students should have space and resources at schools that they can utilize to do their online courses.
- ***A motion was made to support this bill. The motion passed unanimously.***

**HB108 – Teacher Salary Supplement Amendments [UTC Support]**

- Allow any teacher that is able to teach computer technology courses to receive extra income.
- Some want to expand this policy to include science teachers, which would have a larger fiscal impact.
- ***A motion was made to support this bill. The motion passed unanimously.***

**SB31 – Protection of Law Enforcement Officers’ Personal Information**

- Problematic because it opens up liability to Google Photos if a photo of an officer is shared and harm comes to the officer because of that exchange.

**SB37 – Statewide Crisis Line**

- Sen. Thatcher wants to use 6-1-1 for a Statewide Crisis Line.
- This is problematic for telecom companies because 6-1-1 is already used by them as a support line.
- The number 3-1-1 is used in just one city (Provo).
- Attempt to support the use of 3-1-1 over 6-1-1, and oppose use of 6-1-1 for this specific service.

**SB117 – Higher Education Performance Funding**

- Conflicts in multiple ways with what is trying to be done with the Engineering Initiative.
  - Engineering Initiative is performance-based, and no money is given until students perform.
- For example, Hill Air Force Base needs people with degrees in engineering, not certificates.
  - This bill is trying to elevate certificates to have equal weight as degrees.

**SB132 – Vehicle Manufactures Tax Amendments [UTC Support]**

- Historically, UTC has supported single-sale tax codes.
  - This is generally seen as a step in the right direction.
- ***A motion was made to support this bill. The motion passed unanimously.***

**SB185 – Cause of Action for Minors Injured by Pornography**

- Allows minors to sue for damage done from pornography.
- Want language to be clarified as to make it that ISP providers would not be held liable.
- Closely monitor this bill’s language and its far-reaching implications.
  - Concern over liability of far-reaching services, and if an in-app warning is needed?

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.; Next Meeting is February 17, 2017.