

## Women in the Economy Commission Meeting - Minutes

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

House Room 25

**Commission:** Rep. Rebecca Chavez-Houck, Rep. Becky Edwards, Sen. Deidre Henderson, Sen. Luz Escamilla, Ann Marie Wallace, Anne Burkholder, Kathy Bounous, Judy Barnett

**Excused:** Jennifer Robinson

**Staff Support:** Gail Tilson with additional support from Jen Jankowski

**Attendees:** Christopher Collard, Utah Foundation; Rep. Angela Romero, Utah Legislature; Mallory Bateman, Utah Foundation

AGENDA	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTION
Welcome	<p>Welcome (Rep. Rebecca Chavez-Houck)</p> <p>The minutes from our last meeting were approved.</p>	<p>A motion was made to approve the minutes from our Nov. 16, 2015 meeting. Motion carried.</p>
<p>Presentation on Paid Family Leave Legislation by Rep. Angela Romero</p>	<p>Legislation is currently being drafted for this bill. Representative Miller introduced this bill during the last session and there were some concerns with fiscal notes which we are looking into right now.</p> <p>The first question brought up is who would this bill benefit? People who work for the executive branch of state government. What would it cover? Six weeks paid time off for those who have just had a baby or adopted a child.</p> <p>One question regarding paid family leave is how does that compare with FMLA? Kathy Bounous stated that employers do not have to pay for FMLA.</p>	<p>Rep. Romero will personally email commission members after she has met with her colleagues and has answers for these questions.</p> <p>She will be invited back to present to the commission what her findings are.</p>

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<p>Midwife Birth Center Issue - Senator Deidre Henderson</p>	<p>Rep. Romero was prepared for a brainstorming session rather than a question and answer period. She will look into these questions and provide a history on the bill to legislators after she meets with others preparing the bill.</p> <p>Ten years ago there was a battle fought in the legislature between midwives and medical professionals and the midwives won. They were allowed to license and practice in any out-of-hospital setting, including birthing centers. The problems arose when the Health Facilities Committee, which regulates all health care facilities in the state of Utah, and is chaired by the CEO of LDS Hospital, came up with two regulations that couldn't be overcome. The first is a requirement of a written transfer agreement with a hospital and the second requirement is that a doctor must be present at every birth.</p> <p>The midwives have tried for ten years to open birth centers and have faced widespread discrimination as they've tried to get these rules changed. They've been prevented from practicing within the full scope of their licensure.</p>	<p>Senator Henderson met with the Administrative Rules Review Committee and these 2 rules have been placed on the sunset list of the re-authorization bill.</p> <p>The Dept. of Health is working with midwives to revise the birth center rule, but it still has to go through the Health Facilities Committee in February. Until rules are changed within the H.F.C., those two rules need to stay on the sunset list.</p> <p>Senator Henderson is running legislation that would statutorily prohibit the requirement of those two items as a pre-requisite for licensure of birth centers. She will also be addressing the authority of this committee.</p>

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<p>Interior Design Certification Modification – Senator Luz Escamilla</p>	<p>Senator Escamilla is working closely with the group of commercial interior designers and architects through the process of defining shell and core within a building. The end goal is to have commercial interior designers able to work under their own seal and be liable. They are required to take a national test, be licensed and have certification to do this.</p> <p>Utah State University and Weber State College both offer 4-year degrees in commercial interior designing and this boils down to an economic fairness issue. The interior designers still will not be able to use their seal for schools, hospitals, clinics and hotels.</p>	<p>Our job is to bring forth good public policy for women in the workforce. Senator Escamilla asked to bring this up again in February for review by the commission. A motion was made and carried. The commission will review it in February.</p>
<p>Sub-Committee Updates</p>	<p><b>Public Policy Sub-Committee:</b> Rep. Chavez-Houck -- Two things have happened – First, we did get our award from Wal-Mart (and this also ties in with the Research Committee) through the YWCA’s support and their lead as our fiscal agent for the grant. The grant will underwrite the research to be done through focus groups.</p> <p>Second, co-chairs Edwards and Chavez-Houck presented to the Economic Development Committee and requested that the sunset date on the commission be removed. This was adopted unanimously by the committee and House Bill #56 will be presented now to remove the sunset.</p> <p><b>Communications Sub-Committee:</b> Commissioner Wallace -- The Women’s Business Center, where Commissioner Wallace works, was awarded a grant from American Express to go statewide with online entrepreneurial training. She is interested in collaborating with the commission in that effort.</p>	<p>We will explore where the best place for the WIEC</p> <p>The co-chairs would like to explore the possibility of shifting the Women in the Economy Commission from the Social Services Appropriation Committee to one where they can request additional funds for administrative support for the commission.</p> <p>Co-chair Chavez-Houck asked Commissioner Wallace to talk to the commission in our February meeting and tell us more about</p>

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<p>Schedule next meeting</p>	<p>Website update: The website is not yet live – preparations are being made for its launch. Commissioner Wallace asked for feedback as she presented the website. She asked for key words to give to Utah Interactive. Words suggested were: dynamic, more graphics, silhouette (possibly of a woman’s face), tag line.</p> <p>Gail will send out a Doodle Poll</p>	<p>what that might look like.</p> <p>Website should be a call to action.</p>