



March 25, 2015

2013-2015 Vol. 23

GENERAL SESSION

March 11, 2015

WSLC Candidate Speeches + Election Balloting

President-Elect (R)

Suzanne Mulet

First Vice-President (D)

Donna Murphy

Second Vice-President (Selected by the Weber County Affiliate)

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Corresponding Secretary (D)

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Treasurer (R)

Renee Lowrey

Jo Sjoblom

Historian (D)

Josie Valdez

Director - Business & Labor (D)

Brandy Farmer

Kimber Gabryszak

Director - Education (R)

Amelia Powers

Taylor Rosecrans

Incoming President (current President-Elect)

Shauna Scott-Bellacomo.

Program Topic: The Air Around Us

Presented by: Energy/Natural Resources/Agriculture & Environment

Director: Gay Lynn Bennion

Co-Chairs: Amelia Powers and Donna Stevenson

**Speakers: Rep. Rebecca Edwards (R) Dist. 20 (Davis County) Bountiful, NSL, W.
Bountiful, Woods Cross**

Sponsor – HB226 Air Quality Revisions

Rep. Patrice Arent (D) Dist. 36 (Salt Lake County) Millcreek, Holladay, SLC

Sponsor – HB110 Motor Vehicle Emissions Amendments

Sen. Luz Escamilla (D) Dist. 1 (Salt Lake County)

Sponsor – SB208 Air Quality Amendments

Rep. Edwards described her bill **HB226 Air Quality Revisions**. It authorizes the Division of Air Quality to create rules different than corresponding federal regulations if additional regulations will provide added protections to public health and the environment; and makes technical changes to existing law. It is a compromise bill. By federal law, Utah is not allowed to have standards that are less than EPA Standards. However, **HB226** creates more specific parameters for the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). It must make sure study and research relevant to Utah is used. **HB226** was signed by the governor on March 23.

Rep. Patrice Arent spoke of her bill **HB110, Air Quality Revisions**. The bill modifies provisions related to motor vehicle emissions and gives the Division of Motor Vehicles the authority to suspend a vehicle's registration if the vehicle does not meet air emissions standards. It is intended to help keep high-polluting vehicles off Utah roads. Often these vehicles pollute intentionally by modifying their engines to produce black smoke. This is popularly called "rolling coal". Prior to requesting that the DMV revoke a registration, county health departments will give the vehicle owner an opportunity to repair the vehicle. The governor signed **HB110** on March 20.

Sen. Luz Escamilla explained her bill **SB208 Air Quality Amendments**. Sen. Escamilla believes simple increases in civil penalties should be imposed against violators of the Air Conservation Act. The bill would authorize the DEQ to use a portion of penalty money for environmental remediation. It would increase the statute of limitations for a violation of the Environmental Quality Code from the current one year to five years. It would also authorize the DEQ to retain a percentage of the money collected from civil penalties to use on environmental programs. **SB208** was voted down in Senate debate.

Results of Election Balloting for the 2015-17 Biennium

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Shauna Scott-Bellacomo.

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Director - Business & Labor (D)

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Director - Education (R)

Amelia Powers

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