



Interim 2018

LEGISLATIVE

# NEWSLETTER

Representative Jim Dunnigan  
District 39

Contact at:  
[jdunnigan@le.utah.gov](mailto:jdunnigan@le.utah.gov)  
801-840-1800



## Table of Contents

- Page 2 Rep Dunnigan
- Page 3 Highlighting the Utah Way
- Page 4 Legislative Auditor Set to Retire
- Page 5 Thank You for your Service
- Page 6 Overdose Awareness Day
- Page 7 Recap
- Page 8 Stay Connected
- Page 9 Upcoming

# Rep. Dunnigan

**With the Senate President Neiderhauser and Senators Harper and Davis at the ribbon cutting of the Salt Lake Community College WestPointe Center. The center provides training to help students quickly learn skills that can be converted into jobs.**



**Meeting with the President of Salt Lake Community College, President Huftalin.**

## State of Utah Department of Commerce: Media Alert

### **Federal Trade Commission and Utah Division of Consumer Protection presented a free Consumer Fraud and Business Symposium on Sept. 20, 2018**

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah – Francine A. Giani, Executive Director of the Utah Department of Commerce announced today that the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) will partner with the Utah Division of Consumer Protection in a free public event on September 20, 2018 focusing on fighting fraud. The “Consumer Fraud and Business Symposium” conference participants will share experiences and challenges, make connections, and discuss how groups can better collaborate and share information and resources.

“The Consumer Fraud and Business Symposium will highlight what scams are happening now and how federal and state agencies can work together to address fraud targeting our communities,” stated Daniel O’Bannon, Director, Division of Consumer Protection.

The conference will take place at the Salt Lake Sheraton Hotel at 150 West 500 South in Salt Lake City and will host the following keynote speakers; Senior United States District Court Judge Ted Stewart, Utah State Senator Todd Weiler, Utah State Representative James Dunnigan, and KSL Television Anchor/ Reporter Mike Headrick. The Symposium also will include speakers from the Utah Department of Commerce, Federal Trade Commission, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Utah Attorney General’s Office, United States Attorney's Office for the District of Utah, Utah Division of Consumer Protection, Utah Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing, Utah Division of Securities, Institute for Justice, and AARP, among others.



## Highlighting the Utah Way

The Utah Legislature hosted more than 400 state legislators, legislative staff and federal officials from 13 western states, Canada and Mexico for the 71st Council of State Governments West (CSG West) annual meeting at Snowbird on September 11-15.

The theme of the conference, 'Elevating the West,' provided the perfect opportunity to showcase Utah's innovative industries, majestic beauty and the collaborative spirit that embodies our great state.

CSG West is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that brings legislators and staff together to discuss challenging issues facing the various states, and to seek reasonable solutions. Lawmakers assembled in policy committees, attended trainings and heard from insightful speakers and experts addressing topics of regional and national significance.

Multiple off-site policy tours highlighted Utah's various industries including tourism, sports and recreation. Participants also attended tours of Hill Air Force Base and Huntsman Cancer Institute, and were able to witness first-hand how our state is partnering with a variety of organizations to help refugees and those experiencing homelessness.

Representative Dunnigan served as the Chairman of the CSG Health & Human Services Committee.



## Legislative Auditor General Set to Retire

Utah Legislative Auditor General John M. Schaff described his career with the Legislature as “a grand experience” in a recent letter announcing his plans to retire after 42 years with the state. Schaff has been at the helm of the Office of the Legislative Auditor General (OLAG) since 2004.

The OLAG is charged with examining and evaluating taxpayer-funded programs, operations and entities. Their mission is to provide objective information and analysis in order to make recommendations to help legislators and other decision-makers improve programs, reduce costs and promote accountability.

Schaff praised the legislative body’s respect for the independence of his office, saying, “...in all my years on the hill they have never attempted to censor or control the audit process. Rather, the Legislature has allowed the audit function freedom to discover and report the truth.”



## Thank You for Your Many Years of Service

The chief clerk of the Utah House of Representatives, Sandy Tenney, announced on August 21, 2018 that she will be retiring at the end of this year.

She has served as chief clerk for the past 13 years and has worked in the Utah Legislature for a total of 33 years.

Tenney started her career in the Legislative Printing Office before transferring to the Senate, where she worked as the Senate services manager, reading and amending clerk for 10 years. As chief clerk, she oversees parliamentary procedures, is responsible for the hiring and supervising of session staff, HR and payroll, and edits the final House Journals.

“It has been such an amazing experience to work for the legislature for more than three decades,” said Tenney. “I’ve been blessed to associate with dedicated House and Senate members and my fellow coworkers in the six legislative offices. I will miss working in this amazing building. More importantly, I will miss associating with House members and staff who have been so kind to me. I’ve had an extraordinary career working in ‘the room where it happens.’ I can’t even put into words how blessed I feel.”



Hundreds of people released balloons at the Capitol on August 31, International Overdose Awareness Day, to represent the many lives lost due to overdose. Over the past year, Utah has seen a nearly 12 percent reduction in fatal drug overdose deaths, but there is still much work to be done.

In 2016, Carbon County had the highest opioid prescription rate in the state, at 176 prescriptions per 100 residents. Members of the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee recently asked to hear directly from Carbon County residents in order to determine what more the state could be doing to help combat the opioid problem there.

A survey was created to obtain public input leading up to a town hall that the Subcommittee held in Price, Utah on September 17. Members were seeking feedback regarding impacts of the opioid crisis on the community and its residents, results of several new interventions that took effect July 1 and suggestions for if additional future interventions. Residents were invited to submit information through the online survey prior to the meeting or provide input during the public comment portion that night. Listen to the town hall and review the recommendations here.

## Utah Judges

Approximately one-quarter of all Utah judges will be on the ballot this November. The important task of determining whether or not to retain a judge can be daunting. The Utah Legislature established the Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission (JPEC) to provide Utahns with more information.

The JPEC collects and disseminates independent data about judges' performance to help inform judicial retention elections. Evaluations of all judges standing for retention election this November are available online at [judges.utah.gov](http://judges.utah.gov).

## Constitution Day

The Constitution of the United States of America was signed 231 years ago, on September 17, 1787, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. We recognize and honor the men and women who helped compose the most significant document of freedom ever created by human hand. Read the Constitution [here](#).



## Stay Connected

The Utah House of Representatives offers access to live and previous coverage of House floor proceedings and committee hearings from the [legislative website](https://legislative.utah.gov). You can search the archive of past sessions, track bills, read proposed legislation and more at [le.utah.gov](https://le.utah.gov).

Follow the Utah Reps on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter to stay connected to what is happening, get a behind-the-scenes look and receive updates. You can also contact your representative at [house.utah.gov](https://house.utah.gov).

# Upcoming Events

October

17

Interim  
Committees

October

25

Health  
Reform task  
Force

October

26

Rep Dunnigan  
tours the Salt  
Lake Airport  
Expansion