



## NEW PRE-SESSION PROCEDURES

The following new procedures were approved by the Legislative Management Committee at its November meeting:

- Interim committees will review and act only on numbered bills during the two weeks prior to the session.
- House and Senate Rules committees are authorized to meet jointly to assign numbered bills to interim committees during the two weeks prior to the session.
- An additional day's pay will be provided for appropriation subcommittee chairs to meet with their fiscal analysts prior to the session.

## STAFF CONTINUES WORKING WHILE SESSION IS ADJOURNED

The Legislative Management Committee authorized the three legislative staff directors to make adjustments to their office work schedules during the Olympics. As a result, legislative staff will be working flexible schedules, including some telecommuting, during the Olympics. Nevertheless, the staff offices will be open for business, and staff will be available to legislators. More detailed information regarding staff schedules will be provided at a later date.

## GENERAL SESSION TO BE BROADCAST

The Legislative Management Committee approved broadcasting the 2002 General Session, on a trial basis, via the Legislature's website. The public will be able to access a live audio stream of the House and Senate floor debates.

Legislators can also direct constituents to the Legislature's website ([www.le.state.ut.us](http://www.le.state.ut.us)) for additional information, such as text of numbered bills and amendments, fiscal notes, and committee and floor actions. This information is updated frequently throughout the day.

## EXECUTIVE APPROPRIATIONS

### REMINDER OF NEW PROCESS FOR APPROPRIATION REQUESTS

Last year the Legislature passed a new process (Joint Legislative Rule 4.22.1) governing the request for appropriations for a program or project that does not require a statutory change. To obtain funding or additional funding for a project or program, a legislator must file a "Request for Appropriation" with the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst (OLFA) no later than noon on the 11th day of the annual general session (JR-19.02). Request forms are available from OLFA or from the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel (OLRGC). The Fiscal Analyst reviews the request, and if a statutory change is required, the request is referred to OLRGC.

If no statutory change is required, the Fiscal Analyst numbers and titles the request and refers it to the Executive Appropriations Committee House Co-chair if the sponsor is a House member or to the Senate Co-chair if the sponsor is a Senate member. The House or Senate Co-chair then refers the request to a joint appropriations subcommittee, which must allow the sponsor to make a presentation and discuss the request. Then the subcommittee will either include the request in the subcommittee budget recommendation, reject the request, or recommend that all or part of the request be placed on a prioritization list as may be established by the Executive Appropriations Committee.

The purpose of the change was to make the legislative process more efficient by reducing the amount of time spent on drafting and debating bills that only appropriate funding.

### EXECUTIVE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

The Executive Appropriations Committee will meet on Wednesday, December 19 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 303 to set the initial budget.



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