

Citizen Trade Policy Commission
June 26, 2009
Transportation Committee Room, Augusta
10:00 A.M.

Meeting Summary

Members present: Sen. Troy Jackson, Rep. Margaret Rotundo, Sen. Gerzofsky, Rep. Jeffery Gifford, John L. Patrick, Michael Hiltz, Jane Aiudi, Cynthia Phinney, Paul Volckhausen, Joseph Woodbury, Michael Herz, Malcolm Burson and Sarah Bigney.

Staff present: Curtis Bentley, Legislative Analyst

1. Commission introductions

2. Discussion on suggestions for summer meetings:

- o Possible healthcare powerpoint presentation by Michael Hiltz to the Commission in September;
- o Possible meeting with MITC to discuss what MITC is doing and what the commission may be able to do to help coordinate efforts on upcoming issues; and
- o Commission voted (11-0) to send a letter to leadership in House and Senate to ask that someone from the Commission be appointed to the Commission to Study Energy Infrastructure.

3. Conference call with Kim Glas on Trade Act:

- o Trade Act review/ briefing- it has 108 co-sponsors and a number of groups that support the new trade model proposed by the bill; the Act includes a review of existing trade agreements;
- o Requested the Commission write a letter to Sen. Snowe to ask her to be a co-sponsor when it is introduced in the Senate; try to set up a conference call with Sen. Snowe to encourage her co-sponsorship of this legislation;
- o Some Commission members did not want to specifically request support for the Trade Act, but rather a general letter of support for states to be consulted and to weigh in on trade proposals – could support language that would prevent foreign corporations from having an advantage of U.S. companies; agreed to review this again at the next meeting; and
- o Commission directed staff to email the Trade Act to Commission members for their review so it can be discussed at the next meeting.

4. House Ways and Means Committee, Subcommittee on Trade discussion.

Commission member gave a briefing on the House Ways and Means Committee, Subcommittee on Trade's work regarding the system of trade advisory committees and how to increase transparency and public participation in the development of U.S. trade policy. The Commission voted (11-0) to reword its March 11, 2009 letter to USTR regarding advisory committees and the current system of federal-state consultation and submit the amended letter to the House Ways and Means' Subcommittee on Trade via its webpage.

5. Planning discussion:

- For the Resolve relating to groundwater resources, try to see if there is a possibility for overlap with the experts performing that review and the CTPC assessment;
- Suggestion to invite Rep. Sarty to talk to CTPC about his experiences with the groundwater issues;
- Rep. Rotundo will ask the Forum if they are able to perform the groundwater review pursuant to the Resolve, as well as the CTPC assessment;
- Discussed holding a public hearing with other groups on groundwater examination; and
- Next meeting is July 24th at 9am- also schedule on this day a meeting with the Water Resources Planning Committee and the Office of the Attorney General to discuss plans for the groundwater resources review.