



## Intergenerational Welfare Reform Commission Meeting

Thursday, October 15, 2020

10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Please join via the link;

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/635720901>

### Meeting Minutes

**Commission:** Lt. Governor Spencer Cox, Casey Cameron, Dr. Joseph Miner, Ann Williamson Sydnee Dickson, Neira Siaperas

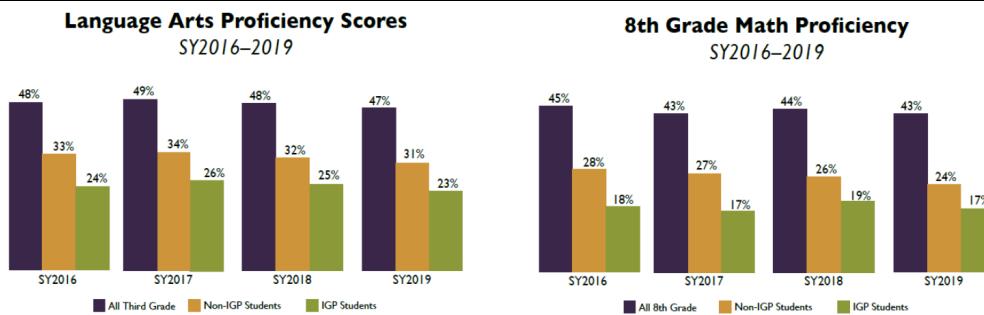
**Committee:** Bishop H. David Burton

**Staff Support:** Tracy Gruber, Montana Meyers

**Guests:** Bert Granberg, Mary Beth Vogel-Ferguson, Nune Phillips, Kelsey Martinez, Patty Norman, Collin Peterson, Jim Robison, Wynn Shooter, Jeremias Solari, Srimoyee Bose, Jon Pierpont, Greg Paras, Cecilia Pease, Jill Devito, Jeremias Solari, Kirsten Rappleye, Marisol Davis, Mark Brasher, Zachary Barrus

Agenda Item	Discussion	Recommendations/Action
Welcome	<p>Lt. Governor Spencer Cox welcomed the group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. The Act designates the Executive or Deputy Director of DWS as Vice Chair, therefore, Lt. Governor Cox appointed Casey Cameron as the Vice Chair of the Commission.</li><li>b. 7/16/2020 combined IGP Welfare Reform Commission &amp; IGP Advisory Meeting Minutes</li></ul>	<p>Lt. Governor Cox called for a motion to approve the 7/16/2020 IGP Commission/IGP Advisory minutes. Ann Williamson motioned. Dr. Joe Miner seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Minutes approved.</p>
Impacts of COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Collin Peterson presented on the preliminary impacts of COVID-19 on those experiencing, or at-risk of, intergenerational poverty. Programs used to determine IGP cohorts are child care, financial, medical, and SNAP; the benefit needs to be received in the year of analysis for the individual to be included in the cohort. Mr. Peterson indicated upward trends in the number of individuals receiving the programs and if the trend continues, the number of those experiencing, or at-risk of, intergenerational poverty may also increase. It is unclear when the IGP increase could be seen in the data and how much of it will be explained by an increase in those receiving public assistance for the first time. DWS will run the 2020 IGP cohort data in Feb-March 2021, at which time impacts may be better understood.</li></ul> <p>Jim Robson presented on Utah's employment data, noting that in the one month period between March and April 2020, approximately 140,000 jobs were lost. However, Utah continues to lead</p>	

	<p>the nation with the lowest rate of unemployment. Mr. Robson reviewed employment rate changes by industry, county, point of job loss, and the share of job loss in each county.</p>	
Economic Upward Mobility Discussion	<p>a. Lt. Governor Spencer Cox reported that Utah is the best in the nation in terms of upward mobility and has the second lowest poverty rate at 8.9%. However, a deeper look into the data shows the poverty rate is approximately 28.7% for Utah's African American population and 15% among Utah's Latino population. This presents opportunities for additional strategies to support these minority communities.</p> <p>Lt. Governor Cox made the following recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Amend the Intergenerational Poverty Mitigation Act to add the director of the Utah Division of Multicultural Affairs as a new member to the IGP Commission.</li> <li>2. Staff reach out to the Housing Affordability Task Force to evaluate opportunities for improved coordination on issues of access to affordable housing.</li> </ol>	<p>Lt. Governor Cox called for a motion to add the director of the Utah Division of Multicultural Affairs to the IGP Commission. Sydnee Dickson motioned. Bishop Burton seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Lt. Governor Cox will seek out members of the legislature to champion a bill to make the change.</p>
Overview of 2020 Annual Report	<p>a. Tracy Gruber presented key findings from the 2020 Annual Report and remaining challenges for the Commission with the goal to reduce the incidence of children experiencing intergenerational poverty. Economic hardship is more likely to carry into adulthood if an individual received public assistance as a child. The rate of children at-risk of remaining in poverty has dropped 7%, which is consistent with national child poverty measures. This includes children within the cycle, and at-risk of entering the cycle, of intergenerational poverty. Ms. Gruber highlighted several indicators of success, including a closing graduation gap between IGP students and all Utah students from 22% in SY2016 to 9% in SY2019. Superintendent Dickson emphasized this achievement and the role of the IGP Commission in prioritizing education and student academic growth. Ms. Gruber also noted the Kindergarten Entry and Exit Profile (KEEP) to measure kindergarten preparedness and proficiency, expansion and increased enrollment in enhanced Kindergarten, and the launch of the child care quality rating system as foundational to understanding and supporting the success of Utah's children. Ms. Gruber noted remaining challenges for those experiencing intergenerational poverty, including: 79% lacking affordable housing, high rates of mobility, only 30% of adults earning wages in all four quarters of 2019, low educational attainment among adults, and increased chronic absence rates for students experiencing intergenerational poverty. Additionally, students experiencing intergenerational poverty have lower proficiency rates compared to non-IGP students and all students in 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade <i>Language Arts</i> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade <i>Math</i> (graph below).</p>	



Ms. Gruber ended her presentation by highlighting promising practices and potential policies for the Commission to consider, including successful county-level interventions that could be replicated.

Agency Longitudinal Study Findings	a. Nune Phillips summarized the objectives and key findings of longitudinal studies conducted by IGP researchers from the <i>Department of Health, Department of Human Services, Department of Workforce Services, Utah State Board of Education, and the Utah System of Higher Education</i> . These findings will be released in a summary report by the end of the calendar year.	
Other Business		
Adjournment		Casey Cameron called for a motion to adjourn. Dr. Miner motioned. Bishop Burton seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned.

#### NEXT MEETING

IGP Welfare Reform Commission Meeting  
Date/Time: TBD

IGP Advisory Committee Meeting  
October 29, 2020 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm