

# **INTERIM JOINT COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND REVENUE**

## **Budget Review Subcommittee on Economic Development, Tourism, and Environmental Protection**

### **Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of the 2019 Interim**

**July 9, 2019**

#### **Call to Order and Roll Call**

The 2nd meeting of the Budget Review Subcommittee on Economic Development, Tourism, and Environmental Protection of the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and Revenue was held on Tuesday, July 9, 2019, at 8:00 AM, in Room 154 of the Capitol Annex. Representative Lynn Bechler, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:

Members: Senator Rick Girdler, Co-Chair; Representative Lynn Bechler, Co-Chair; Senators Perry B. Clark, Stan Humphries, Morgan McGarvey, and Max Wise; Representatives Terri Branham Clark, David Hale, Savannah Maddox, Dean Schamore, Russell Webber, and Les Yates.

Guests: David A. Dickerson, Secretary, Labor Cabinet; Michael G. Swansburg, Jr., Deputy Secretary, Labor Cabinet.

LRC Staff: Sara Rome, Chuck Truesdell, and Amie Elam.

#### **Labor Cabinet**

Secretary David Dickerson and Deputy Secretary Michael Swansburg presented a Labor Cabinet budget update to members of the subcommittee. The presentation included projected cost savings and anticipated General Fund budget request figures.

In response to questions from Chair Bechler, Secretary Dickerson said that the majority percentage of wage and hour claims are settled in favor of the worker. Secretary Dickerson said the Labor Cabinet will provide the exact percentages to the committee. Secretary Dickerson added that most offenders are transient companies and that there were occasionally repeat offenders. Deputy Secretary Swansburg said the Labor Cabinet is currently partnering with the Department of Revenue to collect money from individuals and companies. Secretary Dickerson said that only thirteen percent of the Labor Cabinet's

budget comes from the General Fund. Chair Bechler expressed a need for POP Center training across the state, especially in rural areas. Secretary Dickerson said the Cabinet would consider expanding trainings to be able to reach more of the commonwealth.

In response to a question from Senator Girdler, Secretary Dickerson said it is important to reduce experience modification rates across the commonwealth. He reiterated that the Labor Cabinet must be invited into an organization to be able to evaluate and provide suggestions.

In response to a question from Representative Schamore, Secretary Dickerson said the length of administrative hearings can vary anywhere from thirty minutes to two weeks or more.

In response to a question from Representative Bechler, Secretary Dickerson said that there is no end date set for the consolidation of Administrative Law Judge facilities. He stated that the goal for the consolidation is to move the hearings to more limited access facilities.

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 A.M.