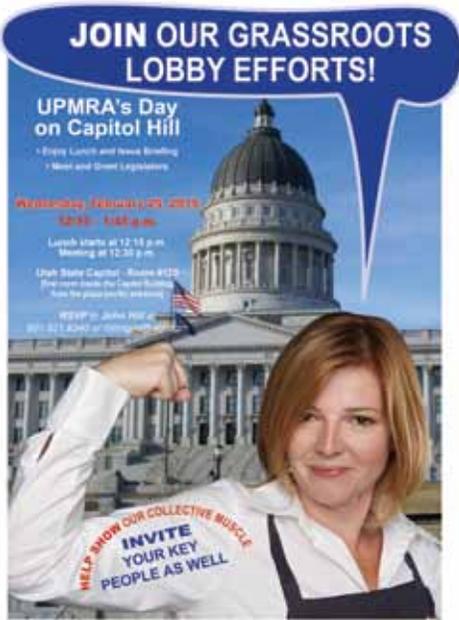


UTAH Petroleum Marketers & Retail Association State Report

UPMRA DAY ON CAPITOL HILL - February 25, 2015

On February 25, UPMRA held its annual legislative Day on Capitol Hill in Utah's State Capitol.



We had good attendance by UPMRA members and board members. We heard presentations by Senator Stevenson on Flavored Malt Beverages, and Senator Van Tassell on the two competing motor fuel tax bills. Rep. Don Ipson also attended and joined in on the motor fuel discussion. In addition, Rep. Paul Ray spoke about his e-cigarette licensing legislation. Those in attendance had a good discussion about these legislative proposals and other bills of potential interest to UPMRA members.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- with eight working days to go in the session ...

The Legislature moving into its final stretch continued to convene a full schedule of standing committee hearings for Week 6. **This becomes an important week with funding prioritization likely to occur by the end of the week so that the budget can be printed and circulated.**

In addition, legislators will be in a frenzy to move their bills from one body to the other as the deadline for doing so approaches. All House bills that will be considered by the Senate the last week of the session must be in the possession of the Senate by Tuesday, March 10th, and vice versa for Senate bills moving to the House.

Although some important bills have now surfaced and are being discussed and scheduled for committee hearings, there are still important bills being drafted and negotiated. For instance, the **Prison Relocation Commission** still has work to do in order to have legislation this session. The Governor and the House are fighting over **Medicaid expansion ("Healthy Utah")**, and the Governor has taken off the gloves. Although Speaker Hughes declared the Governor's plan DOA in the House without any kind of debate, it is clear that we haven't heard the last on that debate. Look for a bill from Rep. Dunnigan to try to walk some middle ground between Healthy Utah and the House's earlier position.

It appears that there might be some legislation on the **anti-discrimination/religious freedoms** issue. The current report is that the religious freedoms portion has been negotiated, and they are still working on the anti-discrimination portions. Finally, there are still plenty of negotiations between the House and the Senate on **transportation funding**. Rep. Anderson is considering changes to his proposal, and Sen. Van Tassell is considering changes to his. The House would like to get out of the session without directly raising taxes, but it appears the Senate is willing to bite the bullet and raise the motor fuel taxes.



John Hill
Executive Director,
Utah Petroleum
Marketers & Retailers
Association

Utah Update • UPMRA

OTHER UPMRA NEWS

- Park City Marriott
to Host 2015 Convention & Trade Show

On September 15-17, 2015, UPMRA members and associates will return to Park City for our annual Convention & Trade Show. We are golfing on Wednesday at Mountain Dell prior to an afternoon trade show followed by a keynote dinner. On Thursday, we will offer half a day of top-notch speakers and education. The convention is a great opportunity for networking, enjoying good food, friends, and a fun getaway.