



MEMBERS:
SENATOR HILDENBRAND,
MAJORITY VICE CHAIRMAN
SENATOR NOFS
SENATOR EMMONS
SENATOR HANSEN
SENATOR HUNTER,
MINORITY VICE CHAIRMAN
SENATOR SMITH

STATE OF MICHIGAN
THE SENATE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE
SENATOR MIKE KOWALL
CHAIRMAN

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MINUTES

A meeting of the Senate Economic Development Committee was held on Wednesday, December 14, 2011, at 2:19 p.m. in the Farnum Building, Room 110.

Attendance was recorded as follows:

Present: Kowall (C), Hildenbrand, Nofs, Emmons, and Hansen

Excused: Hunter and Smith

Senator Kowall announced the order of business:

- A Presentation by Tribal Economic Development Enterprises.
- Presenters:
 - Matthew Wesaw, Chairman, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
 - Sarah Lukin, Senior Vice President, Afognak Corporation
 - Jon M. DeVore, Attorney, Birch, Horton, Bittner, and Cherot, P.C.
 - Ron Perry, President, the National 8(a) Association; President, Teya Technologies

Senator Hildenbrand motioned that the committee adopt the minutes of December 8, 2011.

Without objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous voice.

James McBryde, representing the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), gave verbal testimony in support of collaboration between MEDC and Tribal Economic Development Enterprises.

Matthew Wesaw, representing the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, gave both verbal and written testimony in support of the economic potential tribes can contribute to the State of Michigan.

Sarah Lukin, representing Native American Contractors Association and The Afognak Native Corporation, gave both verbal and written testimony in support of engaging Michigan's Tribes as part of "Reinventing Michigan."

Ron Perry, representing the National 8a Association, gave both verbal and written testimony in support of the economic opportunities that Small Business Act (SBA) 8(a) Programs can contribute to the State of Michigan.

Jon M. DeVore, representing Birch, Horton, Bittner, and Cherot, gave both verbal and written testimony in support of the benefits of Alaska Native Corporations (ANCs) and Section 8(a) of the SBA, Business Development Program.

Bill Largent, representing the Tribal Resource Group, gave verbal testimony in support of the economic potential tribes can contribute to the State of Michigan.

Senator Kowall announced that additional hearings will be scheduled relative to Tribal Economic Enterprises.

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Senator Emmons motioned to excuse Senators Hunter and Smith.
Without objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous voice.

Being no further business before the committee, Senator Kowall adjourned the meeting without objection at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Date approved by the Committee: January 18, 2012

(An audio recording of this committee meeting is available upon request for a minimal fee.)