

115 STATE STREET  
MONTPELIER, VT 05633  
TEL: (802) 828-2228  
FAX: (802) 828-2424



STATE OF VERMONT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

REP. KATHLEEN C. KEENAN, CO-CHAIR  
SEN. VIRGINIA "GINNY" LYONS, CO-  
CHAIR

DAVID ANGER  
JOHN BOOMHOVER  
LAWRENCE BRUCE  
DAN BRUSH  
ELLIOT BURG  
WILLIAM DODGE  
JOLINDA LACLAIR  
BRENT RAYMOND  
STEVE SHEPARD

**Commission on International Trade & State Sovereignty**

**MINUTES**

**Monday, April 8, 2013**

Members Present: David Anger, Lawrence Bruce, Daniel Brush, Elliot Burg, Representative Kathleen Keenan, Co-Chair, Senator Ginny Lyons, Co-Chair, Brent Raymond, Steve Shepard

Also Present: David Hall, Legislative Council; Agatha Kessler, Committee Staff; Liz Miller, Vermont State Point of Contact (SPOC); Chelsea Bardot-Lewis, Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, Channel 22 reporter, Burlington Free Press reporter

Recordings: CDs 13-1, 2

At 1:00 p.m., the Commission convened and approved the minutes of the February 14, 2013 meeting.

The Commission discussed a variety of issues including the need to present basic information to a varied audience of interest groups. The Bob Stumberg presentation, though excellent, was very specific and interested parties were not present. The Commission also discussed an issue brought up by Elliot Burg regarding the *Methanex* case and its potential implications for how government engages with businesses seeking to operate in Vermont. The Commission suggested writing a memo addressed to executive branch offices outlining the outcomes of this case and the impact on international trade. The Commission suggested discussing this issue again at a future meeting.

The Commission continued their discussion with a report from Brent Raymond on his international travels on behalf of the Vermont Global Trade Partnership. Mr. Raymond provided an overview of Vermont's EB-5 investment program, and reported hearing much interest in the EB-5 program abroad. Mr. Raymond also briefly discussed the Commission's annual report, of which his Agency is responsible for writing, and his plans to submit the report on schedule July.

The Commission discussed the new website, its limitations, and a desire for exploring non-state platforms of web hosting. The website discussion was identified as an issue for a future meeting.

Liz Miller, Vermont's State Point of Contact, reported that no documents have been submitted to her in the interim since last meeting.

David Hall, Legislative Counsel, gave an update on the Trans-Pacific Partnership, handing out 3 documents: Legal Issues [USTR – 2011], Update: Trans-Pacific Partnership, and March 2013 letter to Ambassador Kirk.

Future Meeting: The next meeting will be on June 4th at 1:00 p.m. at the Vermont Center for Emerging Technologies in Burlington.