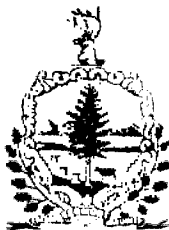


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Commission on International Trade & State Sovereignty
MINUTES

August 26, 2013

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

Also Present: David Hall, Legislative Council; Julie Tucker, Committee Staff; Chelsea Bardot-Lewis, Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets.

Recordings: CDs 13-5, 6

At 1:00 p.m., the Commission convened and upon motion to approve and unanimous consent, the Commission approved the minutes from the June 4, 2013, as presented.

Next, Mr. Hall presented a letter for the Commission to review concerning "China ROHS." The letter was requested by the Commission after hearing from representatives of IBM at its prior meeting, specifically concerning the numerous different testing and regulatory protocols in China RoHS that could potentially increase economic costs, delay production, and risk the disclosure of proprietary business information. The Commission reviewed the letter and tentatively approved it, pending review and approval by appropriate personnel at IBM.

Next, Mr. Hall gave a brief overview of the Technical Barriers to Trade agreement under the World Trade Organization. Mr. Hall explained the different types of mandatory and non-mandatory practices in the agreement. Several Members of the Commission raised concerns about whether recently adopted Vermont laws could be challenged under TBT provisions, specifically particular types of flame retardant materials recently required by Vermont law.

Finally, Mr. Hall gave an overview of the Methanex Decision issued several years prior concerning a challenge to California's Reformulated Gasoline Regulations. In particular, the Commission discussed the potential risks state officials face when meeting with potential investors, and being careful not to make representations that the investor will

continue to find a favorable legal or regulatory environment for his or her productions following the investment.

The Commission discussed the September 27th meeting regarding the TPPA and the possibility of a November meeting with the topic, "Agriculture and the Environment".

The Commission discussed the possibility of the Ambassador from Singapore coming to the October meeting; he is available either October 8 or 9th.

Future Meetings: The TPPA meeting will be on September 27th in Room 11 at the Statehouse from 1-4 pm.

The next regular ITSS meeting will be on October 9th at 1:00 p.m. at the Vermont Center for Emerging Technologies in Burlington.