



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 joint meeting of the Senate Economic Development and Senate Transportation Committees was held on Tuesday, October 25, 2011, at 12:33 p.m. in the Farnum Building, Room 100.

Attendance was recorded as follows:

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

Absent: None

Senator Kowall announced the order of business:

- Presentation by Mr. Steve Fisher, Executive Director of the American Great Lakes Ports Association to provide a bi-national report on the economic impact of the maritime industry upon the Great Lakes region and on individual states, including Michigan.

John Jamian, Executive Director of the Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority, gave both verbal and written testimony relative to the history and economic impact of the maritime industry.

Steve Fisher, Executive Director of the American Great Lakes Ports Association, gave a presentation on the results of "The Economic Impacts of the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System" study as well as an overview of the Michigan Port Collaborative.

(The full report can be viewed at the following link:

<http://www.marinedelivers.com/sites/default/files/documents/Econ%20Study%20-%20Full%20Report%20Final.pdf>)

Mr. Jamian and Mr. Fisher then answered questions from committee members.

Marci Cisneros, representing the Michigan Port Collaborative (MPC) gave verbal testimony relative to the MPC.

Lisa Shanley, representing the South Haven Convention and Visitors Bureau, submitted a testimony card in support of the presentation concept but did not wish to speak.

Being no further business before the committee, Senator Kowall adjourned the meeting without objection at 1:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Date approved by the Committee: October 26, 2011

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