

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 23, 2003

NEWS RELEASE

Date: Friday, January 9, 2004
Time: 10 a.m. (MST)
Place: West Wendover Branch Library
590 Camper Drive
West Wendover, Nevada

Contact: Scott Young, Committee Policy Analyst
Legislative Committee on Public Lands'
Subcommittee to Study the Feasibility
and Desirability of a Change in the
Boundary Line Between Nevada and
Utah
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**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS' SUBCOMMITTEE
TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY AND DESIRABILITY OF
CHANGING THE STATE BOUNDARY LINE ALONG THE BORDER WITH UTAH**

In 2003, the Nevada Legislature authorized a legislative subcommittee to study the question of changing the state line between the states of Nevada and Utah (described in Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 20, File No. 82, *Statutes of Nevada 2003*). The study is a direct result of a local referendum on November 5, 2002, in which the residents of West Wendover, Nevada, and Wendover, Utah, voted to approve a merger of the two cities. The annexation of Wendover, Utah, to the State of Nevada would result in a change of boundary line between the two states. Ultimately, a bistate agreement or compact and an Act of Congress would be required to officially change the boundary.

Nevada State Senator Dean A. Rhoads (R-Tuscarora) chairs a legislative subcommittee established to study the feasibility and desirability of such a merger and boundary line change. The first meeting of the subcommittee will be held at 10 a.m. (*Mountain Standard Time*), Friday, January 9, 2004, at the West Wendover Branch Library in West Wendover. **“There is some confusion about the status of this proposal and the mechanism by which the merger could take place,”** explained Senator Rhoads. He further noted, **“My hope is that through this subcommittee, the Nevada and Utah Legislatures will work together with local governments to reach consensus on this issue.”**

At the January 9 meeting, the subcommittee will receive background information concerning past annexation efforts and the procedure required for annexation. It will also hear from local government representatives about the issues that must be addressed and the status of the proposal. **“There are a number of questions and specific details to be addressed before further action is taken. The citizens of both communities must have a voice in this issue, and there will be plenty of time for public comment at the meeting,”** Rhoads said.

Members of the public are encouraged to attend the meeting and address the subcommittee. Additional meetings will be held in the following months to solicit input from interested parties. Other members of the subcommittee include Senator Michael A. Schneider (D-Las Vegas) and Assemblyman John C. Carpenter (R-Elko).