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GOVERNOR'S VETOES

Overview

Governor Huntsman vetoed one bill from the 2008 General Session. The Governor signed all other bills into law.

2008 General Session

Vetoes

Senate Bill 144, *Parameters on Governor's Ability to Enter Agreements Binding the State* (Jenkins)

The Governor vetoed Senate Bill 144, *Parameters on Governor's Ability to Enter Agreements Binding the State* (Jenkins), because this bill would violate core principles of government established in the Utah Constitution. The Utah Constitution prohibits the legislative branch from having veto power over a bill it has presented to

the Governor, but this bill contained such veto authority. The Utah Constitution also distributes power between the three branches of government and mandates that no branch of government may exercise powers properly belonging to another department of government.

In addition, this bill would impede the Governor's current authority to form interstate agreements during times of emergency and would unnecessarily paralyze the State's response to any unforeseen catastrophe.

In order to facility greater cooperation in the future, except in emergency circumstances, the Governor agreed to brief the President, the Speaker, the Majority and Minority Leaders in the Senate and the House before signing a significant interstate agreement.