

# SB0235S01 compared with SB0235

~~{Omitted text}~~ shows text that was in SB0235 but was omitted in SB0235S01

inserted text shows text that was not in SB0235 but was inserted into SB0235S01

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## Natural Resources Ownership

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Michael K. McKell**

House Sponsor:

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### 3 LONG TITLE

#### 4 General Description:

5 This bill addresses geothermal resources.

#### 6 Highlighted Provisions:

7 This bill:

- 8 ▶ clarifies the ownership of geothermal resources underlying land owned by a person; { ~~and~~ }
- 9 ▶ provides an exception; and
- 9 ▶ makes technical changes.

#### 11 Money Appropriated in this Bill:

12 None

#### 13 Other Special Clauses:

14 None

#### 16 AMENDS:

17 **73-22-4** , as enacted by Laws of Utah 1981, Chapter 188 , as enacted by Laws of Utah 1981,  
Chapter 188

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SB0235

## SB0235 compared with SB0235S01

19 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

20 Section 1. Section **73-22-4** is amended to read:

21 **73-22-4. Ownership of geothermal resource -- Lands subject to chapter.**

21 (1)

(a) Ownership of a geothermal resource derives from an interest in land and not from an appropriative right to geothermal fluids.

23 (b) Notwithstanding Section 73-22-3, the owner of surface land owns the rights to the underlying geothermal resource unless the rights to the geothermal resource have been reserved by or conveyed to another person.

26 {~~(2)~~} Subsection (1)(b) does not apply to school and institutional trust lands as defined in Section 53C-1-103.

29 (2) This chapter shall apply to all lands in the [~~State of Utah~~] state, including federal and Indian lands to the extent allowed by law. When [~~these~~] federal or Indian lands are committed to a unit agreement involving lands subject to federal or Indian jurisdiction, the division may, with respect to the unit agreement, [~~deem~~] consider this chapter complied with if:

31 (a) the unit operations are regulated by the United States; and

32 (b) the division finds that conservation of geothermal resources and prevention of waste are accomplished under the unit agreement.

37 Section 2. **Effective date.**

This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.

2-25-25 2:27 PM