

HB0542

~~{Omitted text}~~ shows text that was in HB0542 but was omitted in HB0542S06

inserted text shows text that was not in HB0542 but was inserted into HB0542S06

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1 **Economic Development Amendments**

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Jon Hawkins

Senate Sponsor:Chris H. Wilson

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends provisions of the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ amends and defines terms;
- ▶ amends provisions of the Office of Homeless Services regarding certain legislative appropriations;
- ▶ amends provisions of the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity(office);
- ▶ repeals the Unified Economic Opportunity Commission and associated committees and committees;
- ▶ rennumbers and amends the Utah Broadband Center and Access Act; {and}
- ▶ creates the Office of Housing within the office;
- ▶ directs the executive director of the office to coordinate with various departments and officials in order to consolidate certain state housing programs from the Housing and Community Development Division within the office by July 1, 2026;

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- 19 ▸ removes the sunset date on the Utah Housing Corporation;
- 13 ▸ makes technical and conforming changes{.} ; and
- 21 ▸ provides intent language regarding the transfer of funding from the Utah Board of Higher
Education - Administration fund to the Utah Board of Higher Education Nucleus Institute upon
passage of this bill and H.B. 530, Utah Innovation Lab Modifications.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

- 25 ▸ **This bill transfers money from the funds or accounts of the Governor's Office of**
26 **Economic Opportunity - Economic Prosperity to the funds or accounts of the Utah**
27 **Board of**
27 **Higher Education - Administration.**
- 28 ▸ **This bill appropriates \$1,900,000 in operating and capital budgets for fiscal year 2026,**
29 **all of**
29 **which is from the General Fund.**

Other Special Clauses:

31 This bill provides a special effective date.

AMENDS:

- 34 **11-59-203 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 413 **(Effective**
35 **07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 413
- 35 **35A-8-2203 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapters 118,
406 **(Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapters 118, 406
- 37 **36-12-23 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 506 **(Effective**
38 **07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 506
- 38 **36-29-109 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 458 **(Effective**
39 **07/01/25)**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 458
- 39 **53B-34-101 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter
362 **(Effective 07/01/25)**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 362
- 41 **53B-34-102 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter
362 **(Effective 07/01/25)**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 362
- 43 **53B-34-111 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 482 **(Effective**
44 **07/01/25)**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 482

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63H-8-302 (Effective 07/01/25), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 164 and renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 226 (Effective 07/01/25), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 164 and renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 226

- 46 **63I-1-263 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Third Special Session, Chapter 4 **(Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Third Special Session, Chapter 4
- 48 **63N-1a-102 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159 **(Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159
- 49 **63N-1a-301 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159 **(Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159
- 50 **63N-1a-303 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 362 **(Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 362
- 51 **63N-1a-304 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 282 **(Effective 07/01/25)**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 282
- 53 **63N-1a-305 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 282 **(Effective 07/01/25)**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 282
- 55 **63N-1a-306 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 362 **(Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 362
- 56 **63N-1a-401 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159 **(Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159
- 57 **63N-2-103 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 438 **(Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 438
- 58 **63N-2-104.3 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 499 **(Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 499
- 59 **63N-2-107 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159 **(Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159
- 60 **63N-16-302 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 157 **(Effective 07/01/25)**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 157
- 61 **72-1-203 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 517 **(Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 517

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72-1-303 (Effective 07/01/25), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 498 (Effective 07/01/25), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 498

ENACTS:

35A-16-103 (Effective 07/01/25), Utah Code Annotated 1953 (Effective 07/01/25), Utah Code Annotated 1953

63N-1a-303.2 (Effective 07/01/25), Utah Code Annotated 1953 (Effective 07/01/25), Utah Code Annotated 1953

63N-22-101 (Effective 05/07/25), Utah Code Annotated 1953 (Effective 05/07/25), Utah Code Annotated 1953

RENUMBERS AND AMENDS:

72-19-101 (Effective 07/01/25), (Renumbered from 63N-17-102, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159) (Effective 07/01/25), (Renumbered from 63N-17-102, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159)

72-19-201 (Effective 07/01/25), (Renumbered from 63N-17-201, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159) (Effective 07/01/25), (Renumbered from 63N-17-201, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159)

72-19-202 (Effective 07/01/25), (Renumbered from 63N-17-202, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159) (Effective 07/01/25), (Renumbered from 63N-17-202, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159)

72-19-203 (Effective 07/01/25), (Renumbered from 63N-17-203, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159) (Effective 07/01/25), (Renumbered from 63N-17-203, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159)

72-19-301 (Effective 07/01/25), (Renumbered from 63N-17-301, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159) (Effective 07/01/25), (Renumbered from 63N-17-301, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159)

72-19-302 (Effective 07/01/25), (Renumbered from 63N-17-302, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 282) (Effective 07/01/25), (Renumbered from 63N-17-302, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 282)

72-19-401 (Effective 07/01/25), (Renumbered from 63N-17-401, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159) (Effective 07/01/25), (Renumbered from 63N-17-401, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159)

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REPEALS:

63N-1a-201 (Effective 07/01/25), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159 (**Effective 07/01/25**), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159

63N-1a-202 (Effective 07/01/25), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159 (**Effective 07/01/25**), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159

63N-1b-102 (Effective 07/01/25), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 118 (**Effective 07/01/25**), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 118

63N-1b-401 (Effective 07/01/25), as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 362 (**Effective 07/01/25**), as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 362

63N-1b-402 (Effective 07/01/25), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 499 (**Effective 07/01/25**), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 499

63N-1b-403 (Effective 07/01/25), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 499 (**Effective 07/01/25**), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 499

63N-1b-404 (Effective 07/01/25), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159 (**Effective 07/01/25**), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159

63N-3-204 (Effective 07/01/25), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 362 (**Effective 07/01/25**), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 362

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

Section 1. Section **11-59-203** is amended to read:

11-59-203. (Effective 07/01/25) Authority duties and responsibilities.

(1) As the authority plans, manages, and implements the development of the point of the mountain state land, the authority shall pursue development strategies and objectives designed to:

(a) maximize the creation of high-quality jobs and encourage and facilitate a highly trained workforce;

(b) ensure strategic residential and commercial growth;

(c) promote a high quality of life for residents on and surrounding the point of the mountain state land, including strategic planning to facilitate:

(i) jobs close to where people live;

(ii) vibrant urban centers;

(iii) housing types that incorporate affordability factors and match workforce needs;

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- (iv) parks, connected trails, and open space, including the preservation of natural lands to the extent practicable and consistent with the overall development plan; and
- (v) preserving and enhancing recreational opportunities;
- (d) complement the development on land in the vicinity of the point of the mountain state land;
- (e) improve air quality and minimize resource use;
- (f) accommodate and incorporate the planning, funding, and development of an enhanced and expanded future transit and transportation infrastructure and other investments, including:
 - (i) the acquisition of rights-of-way and property necessary to ensure transit access to the point of the mountain state land; and
 - (ii) a world class mass transit infrastructure, to service the point of the mountain state land and to enhance mobility and protect the environment; and
 - (g) if appropriate, exercise its land use authority to increase the supply of housing in the state.
- (2) In planning the development of the point of the mountain state land, the authority shall:
 - (a) consult with applicable governmental planning agencies, including:
 - (i) relevant metropolitan planning organizations; and
 - (ii) Draper City and Salt Lake County planning and governing bodies; ~~and~~
 - ~~[(iii) in regards to the factors described in Subsections (1)(c)(i) and (iii), the Unified Economic Opportunity Commission created in Section 63N-1a-201;]~~
 - (b) research and explore the feasibility of attracting a nationally recognized research center; and
 - (c) research and explore the appropriateness of including labor training centers and a higher education presence on the point of the mountain state land.

Section 2. Section **35A-8-2203** is amended to read:

35A-8-2203. (Effective 07/01/25)Duties of the commission.

- (1) The commission shall:
 - ~~[(a) serve as a subcommittee of the Unified Economic Opportunity Commission and assist the Unified Economic Opportunity Commission in performing the Unified Economic Opportunity Commission's duties under Section 63N-1a-202;]~~
 - ~~[(b)]~~ (a) increase public and government awareness and understanding of the housing affordability needs of the state and how those needs may be most effectively and efficiently met, through empirical study and investigation;

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117 [(e)] (b) identify and recommend implementation of specific strategies, policies, procedures, and
programs to address the housing affordability needs of the state;

118 [(d)] (c) facilitate the communication and coordination of public and private entities that are involved in
developing, financing, providing, advocating for, and administering affordable housing in the state;

119 [(e)] (d) study, evaluate, and report on the status and effectiveness of policies, procedures, and programs
that address housing affordability in the state;

120 [(f)] (e) study and evaluate the policies, procedures, and programs implemented by other states that
address housing affordability;

121 [(g)] (f) provide a forum for public comment on issues related to housing affordability;

122 [(h)] (g) provide recommendations to the ~~[Unified Economic Opportunity Commission and the~~
Legislature on strategies, policies, procedures, and programs to address the housing affordability
needs of the state; and

123 [(i)] (h) on or before December 31, 2022, approve the methodology developed by the division under
Subsection 35A-8-803(1)(a)(ix).

124 (2) To accomplish its duties, the commission may:

125 (a) request and receive from a state or local government agency or institution summary information
relating to housing affordability, including:

126 (i) reports;

127 (ii) audits;

128 (iii) projections; and

129 (iv) statistics; and

130 (b) appoint one or more advisory groups to advise and assist the commission.

131 (3)

132 (a) A member of an advisory group described in Subsection (2)(b):

133 (i) shall be appointed by the commission;

134 (ii) may be:

135 (A) a member of the commission; or

136 (B) an individual from the private or public sector; and

137 (iii) notwithstanding Section 35A-8-2202, may not receive reimbursement or pay for any work
done in relation to the advisory group.

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- (b) An advisory group described in Subsection (2)(b) shall report to the commission on the progress of the advisory group.

Section 3. Section 3 is enacted to read:

35A-16-103. Applicability.

The provisions of this chapter governing funding for the provision of homeless services do not apply to money the Legislature appropriates for a direct award grant governed by Title 63G, Chapter 6b, State Grants.

Section 4. Section 36-12-23 is amended to read:

36-12-23. (Effective 07/01/25)Legislative committees -- Staffing.

- (1) As used in this section:

(a) "Chair" means a presiding officer or a co-presiding officer of a committee.

(b) "Committee" means a standing committee, interim committee, subcommittee, special committee, authority, commission, council, task force, panel, or board in which legislative participation is required by statute or legislative rule.

(c) "Legislative committee" means a committee:

(i) formed by the Legislature to study or oversee subjects of legislative concern; and

(ii) that is required by statute or legislative rule to have a chair who is a legislator.

(d) "Legislator" means a member of either chamber of the Legislature.

(e) "Professional legislative office" means the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, the Office of the Legislative Auditor General, or similar office of the Legislature.

(2)

(a) Except as provided in Subsections (3) and (4), a professional legislative office shall provide each legislative committee's staff support, regardless of whether statute or legislative rule directs another entity to provide the staff support.

(b) Unless a legislative committee's enacting statute or legislative rule names a particular professional legislative office to provide the legislative committee's staff support, the professional legislative offices shall select, based on subject matter expertise, which professional legislative office will staff the legislative committee.

(3)

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(a) Subject to Subsection (3)(b), the provisions of this section control over any conflicting provision of statute or legislative rule.

(b)

(i) If another provision of statute or legislative rule directs an entity other than a professional legislative office to provide a legislative committee's staff support, notwithstanding Subsection (2), a legislator who is a chair of the legislative committee may elect to have the other entity provide the legislative committee's staff support.

(ii) If the legislative committee has more than one chair who is a legislator, the chairs who are legislators shall collectively make the election under Subsection (3)(b)(i).

(iii) A chair or chairs who make an election under Subsection (3)(b)(i) may change the chair's or chairs' election no more than once each calendar year.

(4) This section does not apply to:

(a) the Point of the Mountain State Land Authority created in Section 11-59-201;

(b) the Utah Broadband Center Advisory Commission created in Section 36-29-109;

(c) the Blockchain and Digital Innovation Task Force created in Section 36-29-110;

(d) the Public Safety Data Management Task Force created in Section 36-29-111;

(e) the Constitutional Defense Council created in Section 63C-4a-202;

~~[(f) the Women in the Economy Subcommittee created in Section 63N-1b-402;]~~

~~[(g)]~~ (f) the House Ethics Committee established under Legislative Joint Rule JR6-2-101; or

~~[(h)]~~ (g) the Senate Ethics Committee established under Legislative Joint Rule JR6-2-101.

Section 5. Section **36-29-109** is amended to read:

36-29-109. (Effective 07/01/25) Utah Broadband Center Advisory Commission.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Broadband infrastructure funds" means the funds available for broadband infrastructure pursuant to:

(i) the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Pub. L. No. 115-58;

(ii) legislative appropriations; and

(iii) state and federal grants.

(b) ~~["Center"]~~ "Broadband center" means the Utah Broadband Center created in Section ~~[63N-17-201]~~ 72-19-201.

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(c) [~~"Commission"~~] "Broadband commission" means the Utah Broadband Center Advisory Commission created in Subsection (2).

(d) "Strategic plan" means the statewide digital connectivity plan described in Section [63N-17-203] 72-19-203.

(2) There is created the Utah Broadband Center Advisory Commission consisting of the following nine voting members:

(a) two members of the Senate, appointed by the president of the Senate;

(b) two members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

(c) the executive director of the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, or the executive director's designee;

(d) the governor shall appoint four members who currently work in the public sector and who have professional experience in:

(i) broadband or broadband infrastructure;

(ii) applying for federal grants; or

(iii) financing infrastructure.

(3) In addition to the nine voting members, the director of the broadband center, or the director's designee, shall serve on the broadband commission in a nonvoting capacity.

(4)

(a) The president of the Senate shall designate one of the members described in Subsection (2)(a) to serve as cochair of the broadband commission.

(b) The speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate one of the members described in Subsection (2)(b) to serve as cochair of the broadband commission.

(5)

(a) If a vacancy occurs in the membership of the broadband commission, the member shall be replaced in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(b) A member shall serve until the member's successor is appointed and qualified.

(6)

(a) A majority of the members of the broadband commission constitutes a quorum.

(b) The action of a majority of a quorum constitutes an action of the broadband commission.

(7)

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- (a) Salaries and expenses of the members of the broadband commission who are legislators shall be paid in accordance with:
- (i) Section 36-2-2;
 - (ii) Legislative Joint Rules, Title 5, Chapter 2, Lodging, Meal, and Transportation Expenses; and
 - (iii) Legislative Joint Rules, Title 5, Chapter 3, Legislator Compensation.
- (b) A member of the broadband commission who is not a legislator may not receive compensation for the member's work associated with the broadband commission but may receive per diem and reimbursement for travel expenses incurred as a member of the broadband commission at the rates established by the Division of Finance under:
- (i) Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107; and
 - (ii) rules made by the Division of Finance in accordance with Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.
- (8) The broadband center shall provide staff support to the broadband commission.
- (9) The broadband commission shall:
- (a) make recommendations to the broadband center with respect to:
 - (i) strategic plan development; and
 - (ii) the application for and use of broadband infrastructure funds;
 - (b) solicit input from relevant stakeholders, including:
 - (i) public and private entities who may assist in developing and implementing the strategic plan; and
 - (ii) public and private entities whom the strategic plan may impact;
 - (c) provide recommendations for strategic plan development and implementation based on the input described in Subsection (9)(b);
 - (d) review strategic plan drafts; and
 - (e) recommend changes.
- (10) The broadband commission shall meet as needed.
- Section 6. Section **53B-34-101** is amended to read:
- 53B-34-101. (Effective 07/01/25)Definitions.**
- As used in this chapter:
- (1) "Apprenticeship program" means a program that:
 - (a) combines paid on-the-job learning with formal classroom instruction to prepare students for careers; and
 - (b) includes:

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- 261 (i) structured on-the-job learning for students under the supervision of a skilled employee;
263 (ii) classroom instruction for students related to the on-the-job learning;
264 (iii) ongoing student assessments using established competency and skills standards; and
266 (iv) the student receiving an industry-recognized credential or degree upon completion of the program.
- 268 (2) "Career and technical education region" means an economic service area created in Section
35A-2-101.
- 270 (3) "GOEO" means the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity created in Section 63N-1a-301.
272 [~~(3) "Commission" means the Unified Economic Opportunity Commission created in Section
63N-1a-201.~~]
- 274 (4) "High quality professional learning" means the professional learning standards for teachers and
principals described in Section 53G-11-303.
- 276 (5) "Institution of higher education" means the University of Utah, Utah State University, Southern
Utah University, Weber State University, Snow College, Utah Tech University, Utah Valley
University, or Salt Lake Community College.
- 279 (6) "Local education agency" means a school district, a charter school, or the Utah Schools for the Deaf
and the Blind.
- 281 (7) "Master plan" means the computer science education master plan described in Section 53B-34-105.
- 283 (8) "Participating employer" means an employer that:
- 284 (a) partners with an educational institution on a curriculum for an apprenticeship program or work-
based learning program; and
- 286 (b) provides an apprenticeship or work-based learning program for students.
- 287 (9) "State board" means the State Board of Education.
- 288 (10) "Talent board" means the Talent, Education, and Industry Alignment Board created in Section
53B-34-102.
- 290 (11) "Talent program" means the Talent Ready Utah Program created in Section 53B-34-103.
- 292 (12) "Targeted industry" means an industry or group of industries targeted by ~~[the commission]~~ GOEO
for economic development in the state.
- 294 (13) "Technical college" means:
- 295 (a) the same as that term is defined in Section 53B-1-101.5; and
- 296 (b) a degree-granting institution acting in the degree-granting institution's technical education role
described in Section 53B-2a-201.

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298 (14)

(a) "Work-based learning program" means a program that combines structured and supervised learning activities with authentic work experiences and that is implemented through industry and education partnerships.

301 (b) "Work-based learning program" includes the following objectives:

302 (i) providing students an applied workplace experience using knowledge and skills attained in a program of study that includes an internship, externship, or work experience;

305 (ii) providing an educational institution with objective input from a participating employer regarding the education requirements of the current workforce; and

307 (iii) providing funding for programs that are associated with high-wage, in-demand, or emerging occupations.

309 (15) "Workforce programs" means education or industry programs that facilitate training the state's workforce to meet industry demand.

343 Section 7. Section **53B-34-102** is amended to read:

344 **53B-34-102. (Effective 07/01/25)Talent, Education, and Industry Alignment Board -- Creation -- Membership -- Expenses -- Duties.**

314 (1) There is created the Talent, Education, and Industry Alignment Board composed of the following members:

316 (a) the state superintendent of public instruction or the superintendent's designee;

317 (b) the commissioner or the commissioner's designee;

318 (c) the chair of the State Board of Education or the chair's designee;

319 (d) the executive director of the Department of Workforce Services or the executive director's designee;

321 (e) the executive director of the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity or the executive director's designee;

323 (f) the director of the Division of Professional Licensing or the director's designee;

324 (g) the governor's education advisor or the advisor's designee;

325 (h) one member of the Senate, appointed by the president of the Senate;

326 (i) one member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

328 (j) the president of the Salt Lake Chamber or the president's designee;

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- (k) six representatives of private industry chosen to represent targeted industries, appointed by [the commission] GOEO;
- 331 (l) the lieutenant governor or the lieutenant governor's designee; and
- 332 (m) any additional individuals appointed by [the commission] GOEO who represent:
- 333 (i) one or more individual educational institutions; or
- 334 (ii) education or industry professionals.
- 335 (2) The talent board shall select a chair and vice chair from among the members of the talent board.
- 337 (3) The talent board shall meet at least quarterly.
- 338 (4) Attendance of a majority of the members of the talent board constitutes a quorum for the transaction of official talent board business.
- 340 (5) Formal action by the talent board requires the majority vote of a quorum.
- 341 (6) A member of the talent board:
- 342 (a) may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service; and
- 343 (b) who is not a legislator may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:
- 344 (i) Section 63A-3-106;
- 345 (ii) Section 63A-3-107; and
- 346 (iii) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.
- 348 (7) The talent board shall:
- 349 (a)
- (i) review and develop metrics to measure the progress, performance, effectiveness, and scope of any state operation, activity, program, or service that primarily involves employment training or placement; and
- 352 (ii) ensure that the metrics described in Subsection (7)(a) are consistent and comparable for each state operation, activity, program, or service that primarily involves employment training or placement;
- 355 (b) make recommendations to the board and [the commission] GOEO regarding how to better align training and education in the state with industry demand;
- 357 (c) make recommendations to the board and [the commission] GOEO regarding how to better align technical education with current and future workforce needs;
- 359 (d) coordinate with the talent program to meet the responsibilities described in [Subsection 53B-34-103(4)] Section 53B-34-103;
- 361 (e) develop a computer science education master plan in accordance with Section 53B-34-105;

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- (f) coordinate with the talent program to meet the responsibilities described in Section 53B-34-107; and
- (g) administer the Utah Works Program in accordance with Section 53B-34-108.

(8) Nothing in this section prohibits an individual who, on June 30, 2022, is a member of a subcommittee within the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity known as the Talent, Education, and Industry Alignment Subcommittee from serving as a member of the talent board.

Section 8. Section **53B-34-111** is amended to read:

53B-34-111. (Effective 07/01/25) Youth apprenticeship governance study.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Apprenticeship" means the same as the term is defined in Section 35A-6-102.

(b) "Study" means the study created in Subsection (2).

(2) There is created a study to design a framework and system for maximizing efficiencies and expanding youth apprenticeship opportunities for students.

(3) The study shall be conducted collaboratively by the following entities:

(a) the ~~[Governor's Office]~~ governor's office;

(b) the State Board of Education;

(c) the Department of Workforce Services;

(d) the Talent Ready Utah Program; and

(e) relevant participating employers as determined by the entities described in Subsections (3)(a) through (d).

(4) The study shall examine framework and system design recommendations regarding:

(a) ways to increase youth apprenticeship offerings;

(b) increasing student and employer participation in youth apprenticeships;

(c) formalizing roles and streamlining use of existing infrastructure described in:

(i) Title 35A, Chapter 6, Apprenticeship Act;

(ii) Title 53B, Chapter 34, Talent, Education, and Industry Alignment, including the role of the state apprenticeship intermediary described in Section 53B-34-103; and

(iii) Section 53G-7-902;

(d) aligning youth apprenticeship efforts to meet the definition of youth apprenticeship defined in Section 35A-6-102;

(e) identifying metrics to assess the success of youth apprenticeship programs;

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(f) opportunities to leverage secondary and post-secondary educational programs in conjunction with youth apprenticeships, including:

(i) career and technical education;

(ii) concurrent enrollment; and

(iii) stackable credentials; and

(g) the creation of career competencies to prepare a qualified workforce.

(5) The staff of the Talent Ready Utah Program shall staff the study.

(6) No later than May 1, 2025, the entities described in [~~Subsections (3)(a) through (e)~~] Subsection (3) shall report the recommendations described in Subsection (4) to[~~:~~]

[~~(a)~~] _the talent board[~~;~~ and] _

[~~(b)~~ the Unified Economic Opportunity Commission.]

Section 9. Section 63H-8-302 is amended to read:

63H-8-302. Corporation -- Additional powers.

(1) To accomplish the declared purposes of this chapter, the corporation has the following powers:

(a) to purchase mortgage loans originated by mortgage lenders or local public bodies made for the purpose of financing the construction, development, rehabilitation, refinancing, or purchase of residential housing for low and moderate income persons;

(b) to make mortgage loans and to provide financial assistance to housing sponsors for the purpose of financing the construction, development, rehabilitation, refinancing, or purchase of residential housing for low and moderate income persons;

(c) to make mortgage loans and provide financial assistance to housing sponsors for the purpose of financing the operations of a housing development that are necessary or desirable to enable the housing development to remain available as residential housing for low and moderate income persons, whether or not the housing development has been financed by the corporation;

(d) to provide financial assistance to any housing authority created under Title 35A, Chapter 8, Part 4, Housing Authorities, which housing authorities may enter into commitments for and accept loans for a housing project as defined in Section 35A-8-401; and

(e) to make mortgage loans and to provide financial assistance to low and moderate income persons for the construction, rehabilitation, refinancing, or purchase of residential housing.

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- (2) The corporation may issue bonds to purchase loans under Subsection (1)(a) only after a determination by the corporation that the loans are not otherwise available upon reasonably equivalent terms and conditions from private lenders.
- 463 (3) Loans for owner-occupied housing made under Subsection (1)(a) may not include a penalty for prepayment.
- 465 (4) The corporation shall make rules or adopt policies and procedures to govern the activities authorized under this section, including:
- 467 (a) procedures for the submission of requests or the invitation of proposals for the purchase and sale of mortgage loans and the making of mortgage loans;
- 469 (b) rates, fees, charges, and other terms and conditions of originating or servicing mortgage loans in order to protect against a realization of an excessive financial return or benefit by the originator or servicer;
- 472 (c) the type and amount of collateral, payment bonds, performance bonds, or other security to be provided for construction loans made by the corporation;
- 474 (d) the nature and amounts of fees to be charged by the corporation to provide for expenses and reserves of the corporation;
- 476 (e) procedures allowing the corporation to prohibit persons who fail to comply with the rules of the corporation with respect to the operations of a program of the corporation from participating, either directly or indirectly, in the programs of the corporation;
- 479 (f) the terms and conditions under which the corporation may purchase and make mortgage loans under each program of the corporation;
- 481 (g) the terms and conditions under which the corporation may provide financial assistance under each program of the corporation;
- 483 (h) the terms and conditions under which the corporation may guarantee mortgage loans under each program of the corporation; and
- 485 (i) any other matters related to the duties or exercise of powers under this section.
- 486 (5)
- (a)
- (i) The trustees of the corporation shall elect the directors, trustees, and members, if any, of each subsidiary.

488

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(ii) Service by a trustee of the corporation in any of these capacities does not constitute a conflict of interest for any purpose.

(iii) The corporation may delegate any of its powers and duties under this chapter to any subsidiary.

(iv) Subsidiaries shall constitute legal entities separate and distinct from each other, the corporation, and the state.

(b) A note, bond, and other obligation of a subsidiary shall contain on its face a statement to the effect that:

(i) the subsidiary is obligated to pay the note, bond, or other obligation solely from the revenues or other funds of the subsidiary;

(ii) neither the corporation, nor the state, nor any of its political subdivisions is obligated to pay the note, bond, or other obligation; and

(iii) neither the faith and credit nor the taxing power of the state or its political subdivisions is pledged to the payment of principal, the redemption price of, or the interest on, the note, bond, or other obligation.

(c) Upon dissolution of a subsidiary of the corporation, any assets shall revert to the corporation or to a successor to the corporation or, failing this succession, to the state.

(6)

(a) The corporation may, with the approval of the state treasurer:

(i) enter into interest rate contracts that its trustees determine are necessary, convenient, or appropriate for the control or management of debt or for the cost of servicing debt; and

(ii) use corporation funds to satisfy its payment obligations under those contracts.

(b) An interest rate contract may contain payment, security, default, termination, remedy, and other terms and conditions that the trustees consider appropriate.

(c) An interest rate contract and funds used in connection with an interest rate contract may not be considered a deposit or investment.

(7) The corporation shall coordinate with the commissioner of the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity in fulfilling the corporation's duties.

Section 10. Section **63I-1-263** is amended to read:

63I-1-263. (Effective 07/01/25) Repeal dates: Titles 63A to 63O.

(1) Subsection 63A-5b-405(5), regarding prioritizing and allocating capital improvement funding, is repealed July 1, 2024.

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- 410 (2) Title 63C, Chapter 4a, Constitutional and Federalism Defense Act, is repealed July 1, 2028.
- 412 (3) Title 63C, Chapter 6, Utah Seismic Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2025.
- 413 (4) Title 63C, Chapter 18, Behavioral Health Crisis Response Committee, is repealed December 31, 2026.
- 415 (5) Title 63C, Chapter 23, Education and Mental Health Coordinating Committee, is repealed December 31, 2024.
- 417 (6) Title 63C, Chapter 25, State Finance Review Commission, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 418 (7) Title 63C, Chapter 27, Cybersecurity Commission, is repealed July 1, 2032.
- 419 (8) Title 63C, Chapter 28, Ethnic Studies Commission, is repealed July 1, 2026.
- 420 (9) Title 63C, Chapter 31, State Employee Benefits Advisory Commission, is repealed July 1, 2028.
- 422 (10) Section 63G-6a-805, Purchase from community rehabilitation programs, is repealed July 1, 2026.
- 424 (11) Title 63G, Chapter 21, Agreements to Provide State Services, is repealed July 1, 2028.
- 425 (12) Title 63H, Chapter 4, Heber Valley Historic Railroad Authority, is repealed July 1, 2029.
- 427 ~~[(13) Title 63H, Chapter 8, Utah Housing Corporation Act, is repealed July 1, 2026.]~~
- 428 ~~[(14)]~~ (13) Subsection 63J-1-602.2(16), related to the Communication Habits to reduce Adolescent Threats (CHAT) Pilot Program, is repealed July 1, 2029.
- 430 ~~[(15)]~~ (14) Subsection 63J-1-602.2(26), regarding the Utah Seismic Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2025.
- 432 ~~[(16)]~~ (15) Section 63L-11-204, Canyon resource management plan, is repealed July 1, 2025.
- 433 ~~[(17)]~~ (16) Title 63L, Chapter 11, Part 4, Resource Development Coordinating Committee, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 435 ~~[(18)]~~ (17) Title 63M, Chapter 7, Part 7, Domestic Violence Offender Treatment Board, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 437 ~~[(19)]~~ (18) Section 63M-7-902, Creation -- Membership -- Terms -- Vacancies -- Expenses, is repealed July 1, 2029.
- 439 ~~[(20)]~~ (19) Title 63M, Chapter 11, Utah Commission on Aging, is repealed July 1, 2026.
- 550 (20) Section 63N-1a-302.2, Coordination of future Office of Housing, is repealed July 1, 2026.
- 440 ~~[(21) Title 63N, Chapter 1b, Part 4, Women in the Economy Subcommittee, is repealed January 1, 2030.]~~
- 442 ~~[(22)]~~ (21) Title 63N, Chapter 2, Part 2, Enterprise Zone Act, is repealed July 1, 2028.
- 443

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[(23)] (22) Subsection 63N-2-511(1)(b), regarding the Board of Tourism Development, is repealed July 1, 2025.

[(24)] (23) Section 63N-2-512, Hotel Impact Mitigation Fund, is repealed July 1, 2028.

[(25)] (24) Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 9, Strategic Innovation Grant Pilot Program, is repealed July 1, 2027.

[(26)] (25) Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 11, Manufacturing Modernization Grant Program, is repealed July 1, 2025.

[(27)] (26) Title 63N, Chapter 4, Part 4, Rural Employment Expansion Program, is repealed July 1, 2028.

[(28)] (27) Section 63N-4-804, which creates the Rural Opportunity Advisory Committee, is repealed July 1, 2027.

[(29)] (28) Subsection 63N-4-805(5)(b), regarding the Rural Employment Expansion Program, is repealed July 1, 2028.

[(30)] (29) Subsection 63N-7-101(1), regarding the Board of Tourism Development, is repealed July 1, 2025.

[(31)] (30) Subsection 63N-7-102(3)(c), regarding a requirement for the Utah Office of Tourism to receive approval from the Board of Tourism Development, is repealed July 1, 2025.

[(32)] (31) Title 63N, Chapter 7, Part 2, Board of Tourism Development, is repealed July 1, 2025.

Section 11. Section **63N-1a-102** is amended to read:

63N-1a-102. (Effective 07/01/25)Definitions.

As used in this title:

(1) "Baseline jobs" means the number of full-time employee positions that existed within a business entity in the state before the date on which a project related to the business entity is approved by the office or by the GOEO board.

(2) "Baseline state revenue" means the amount of state tax revenue collected from a business entity or the employees of a business entity during the year before the date on which a project related to the business entity is approved by the office or by the GOEO board.

[(3)] "Commission" means the Unified Economic Opportunity Commission created in Section 63N-1a-201.]

[(4)] (3) "Economic opportunity agency" includes:

(a) the Department of Workforce Services;

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- 477 (b) the Department of Cultural and Community Engagement;
478 (c) the Department of Commerce;
479 (d) the Department of Natural Resources;
480 (e) the Office of Energy Development;
481 (f) the State Board of Education;
482 (g) institutions of higher education;
483 (h) the Utah Multicultural Commission;
484 (i) the World Trade Center Utah;
485 (j) local government entities;
486 (k) associations of governments;
487 (l) the Utah League of Cities and Towns;
488 (m) the Utah Association of Counties;
489 (n) the Economic Development Corporation of Utah;
490 (o) the Small Business Administration;
491 (p) chambers of commerce;
492 (q) industry associations;
493 (r) small business development centers; and
494 (s) other entities identified by the commission or the executive director.
- 495 [(5)] (4) "Executive director" means the executive director of the office.
496 [(6)] (5) "Full-time employee" means an employment position that is filled by an employee who works
at least 30 hours per week and:
498 (a) may include an employment position filled by more than one employee, if each employee who
works less than 30 hours per week is provided benefits comparable to a full-time employee; and
501 (b) may not include an employment position that is shifted from one jurisdiction in the state to another
jurisdiction in the state.
- 503 [(7)] (6) "GOEO board" means the Board of Economic Opportunity created in Section 63N-1a-401.
505 [(8)] (7) "High paying job" means a newly created full-time employee position where the aggregate
average annual gross wage of the employment position, not including health care or other paid or
unpaid benefits, is:
508 (a) at least 110% of the average wage of the county in which the employment position exists; or
510

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(b) for an employment position related to a project described in Chapter 2, Part 1, Economic Development Tax Increment Financing, and that is located within the boundary of a county of the third, fourth, fifth, or sixth class, or located within a municipality in a county of the second class and where the municipality has a population of 10,000 or less:

- (i) at least 100% of the average wage of the county in which the employment position exists; or
- (ii) an amount determined by rule made by the office in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, if the office determines the project is in a county experiencing economic distress.

~~[(9)]~~ (8)

(a) "Incremental job" means a full-time employment position in the state that:

- (i) did not exist within a business entity in the state before the beginning of a project related to the business entity; and
- (ii) is created in addition to the number of baseline jobs that existed within a business entity.

(b) "Incremental job" includes a full-time employment position where the employee is hired:

- (i) directly by a business entity; or
- (ii) by a professional employer organization, as defined in Section 31A-40-102, on behalf of a business entity.

~~[(10)]~~ (9) "New state revenue" means the state revenue collected from a business entity or a business entity's employees during a calendar year minus the baseline state revenue calculation.

~~[(11)]~~ (10) "Office" or "GOEO" means the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity.

~~[(12)]~~ (11) "State revenue" means state tax liability paid by a business entity or a business entity's employees under any combination of the following provisions:

- (a) Title 59, Chapter 7, Corporate Franchise and Income Taxes;
- (b) Title 59, Chapter 10, Part 1, Determination and Reporting of Tax Liability and Information;
- (c) Title 59, Chapter 10, Part 2, Trusts and Estates;
- (d) Title 59, Chapter 10, Part 4, Withholding of Tax; and
- (e) Title 59, Chapter 12, Sales and Use Tax Act.

~~[(13)]~~ (12) "State strategic goals" means the strategic goals listed in Section 63N-1a-103.

~~[(14)]~~ (13) "Statewide economic development strategy" means the economic development strategy developed by the ~~[commission in accordance with Section 63N-1a-202]~~ office in accordance with Section 63N-1a-301.

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546 ~~[(15) "Talent board" means the Talent, Education, and Industry Alignment Board created in Section~~
547 ~~53B-34-102.]~~

548 ~~[(16)]~~ (14) "Targeted industry" means an industry or group of industries targeted by the ~~[commission~~
549 ~~under Section 63N-1a-202]~~ office under Section 63N-1a-301, for economic development in the
550 state.

663 Section 12. Section **63N-1a-301** is amended to read:

664 **63N-1a-301. (Effective 07/01/25)Creation of office -- Responsibilities.**

553 (1) There is created the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity.

554 (2) The office is:

555 (a) responsible for creating and implementing the statewide economic development strategy ~~[developed~~
556 ~~by the commission; and]~~ that:

557 (i) unifies and coordinates economic development efforts in the state;

558 (ii) includes key performance indicators for long-term progress toward the state strategic goals;

560 (iii) establishes reporting and accountability processes for the key performance indicators; and

562 (iv) ensures the success of statewide economic development; and

563 (b) the industrial and business promotion authority of the state.

564 (3) The office shall:

565 (a) consistent with the statewide economic development strategy, coordinate and align into a single
566 effort the activities of the economic opportunity agencies in the field of economic development;

568 (b) provide support and direction to economic opportunity agencies in establishing goals, metrics, and
569 activities that align with the statewide economic development strategy;

571 (c) administer and coordinate state and federal economic development grant programs;

572 (d) promote and encourage the economic, commercial, financial, industrial, agricultural, and civic
573 welfare of the state;

574 (e) develop the statewide economic development strategy consistent with the state water policy
575 described in Section 73-1-21, including the state's commitment to appropriate:

576 (i) conservation;

577 (ii) efficient and optimal use of water resources;

578 (iii) infrastructure development and improvement;

579 (iv) optimal agricultural use;

580 (v) water quality;

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- 581 (vi) reasonable access to recreational activities;
582 (vii) effective wastewater treatment; and
583 (viii) protecting and restoring health ecosystems;
584 (f) at least once every five years, identify which industry or groups of industries shall be targeted for
economic development in the state;
586 ~~[(e)]~~ (g) promote and encourage the employment of workers in the state and the purchase of goods and
services produced in the state by local businesses;
588 ~~[(f)]~~ (h) act to create, develop, attract, and retain business, industry, and commerce in the state:
590 (i) in accordance with the statewide economic development ~~[plan and commission directives]~~ strategy;
and
592 (ii) subject to the restrictions in Section 11-41-103;
593 ~~[(g)]~~ (i) act to enhance the state's economy;
594 (j) analyze the state's projected long-term population and economic growth and plan for the anticipated
impacts of the projected growth in a manner that improves quality of life and is consistent with the
statewide economic development strategy and state strategic goals;
598 ~~[(h)]~~ (k) act to assist strategic industries that are likely to drive future economic growth;
599 ~~[(i)]~~ (l) assist communities in the state in developing economic development capacity and coordination
with other communities;
601 (m) develop strategies and plans to ensure comprehensive economic development efforts are targeted to
the unique needs of rural areas of the state;
603 ~~[(j)]~~ (n) identify areas of education and workforce development in the state that can be improved to
support economic and business development;
605 ~~[(k)]~~ (o) ~~[consistent with direction from the commission,]~~ develop core strategic priorities for the office,
which may include:
607 (i) enhancing statewide access to entrepreneurship opportunities and small business support;
609 (ii) focusing industry recruitment and expansion of targeted industries;
610 (iii) ensuring that in awarding competitive economic development incentives the office accurately
measures the benefits and costs of the incentives; and
612 (iv) assisting communities with technical support to aid those communities in improving economic
development opportunities;
614 ~~[(4)]~~ (p) submit an annual written report as described in Section 63N-1a-306; and

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- 615 ~~[(m)]~~ (q) perform other duties as provided by the Legislature.
- 616 (4) To perform the office's duties under this title, the office may:
- 617 (a) enter into a contract or agreement with, or make a grant to, a public or private entity, including a
municipality, if the contract or agreement is not in violation of state statute or other applicable law;
- 620 (b) except as provided in Subsection (4)(c), receive and expend funds from a public or private source
for any lawful purpose that is in the state's best interest; and
- 622 (c) solicit and accept a contribution of money, services, or facilities from a public or private donor, but
may not use the contribution for publicizing the exclusive interest of the donor.
- 625 (5) Money received under Subsection (4)(c) shall be deposited into the General Fund as dedicated
credits of the office.
- 627 ~~[(6)]~~
- (a) ~~The office shall:~~
- 628 ~~[(i) obtain the advice of the GOEO board before implementing a change to a policy, priority, or
objective under which the office operates; and]~~
- 630 ~~[(ii) provide periodic updates to the commission regarding the office's efforts under Subsections (3)
(a) and (b).]~~
- 632 ~~[(b) Subsection (6)(a)(i) does not apply to the routine administration by the office of money or services
related to the assistance, retention, or recruitment of business, industry, or commerce in the state.]~~
- 747 Section 13. Section **63N-1a-303** is amended to read:
- 748 **63N-1a-303. (Effective 07/01/25) Powers and duties of executive director.**
- 637 (1) Unless otherwise expressly provided by statute, the executive director may organize the office in
any appropriate manner, including the appointment of deputy directors of the office.
- 640 (2) The executive director may consolidate personnel and service functions for efficiency and economy
in the office.
- 642 (3) The executive director, with the approval of the governor:
- 643 (a) may, by following the procedures and requirements of Title 63J, Chapter 5, Federal Funds
Procedures Act, seek federal grants, loans, or participation in federal programs;
- 645 (b) may enter into a lawful contract or agreement with another state, a chamber of commerce
organization, a service club, or a private entity; and
- 647 (c) shall annually prepare and submit to the governor a budget of the office's financial requirements.
- 649

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(4) With the governor's approval, if a federal program requires the expenditure of state funds as a condition for the state to participate in a fund, property, or service, the executive director may expend necessary funds from money provided by the Legislature for the use of the office.

(5) The executive director shall coordinate with the executive directors of the Department of Workforce Services and the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget to review data and metrics to be reported to the Legislature as described in ~~[Subsection 63N-1a-306(2)(b)]~~ Section 63N-1a-306.

(6) Unless otherwise provided in this title, the executive director may make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, as necessary for the administration of programs established under state law.

Section 14. Section **14** is enacted to read:

63N-1a-303.2. Coordination of future Office of Housing.

(1) The executive director shall coordinate with the following in order to create a plan to consolidate the state housing components of the Housing and Community Development Division into the office by July 1, 2026:

(a) the governor, or the governor's designee;

(b) the president of the Senate, or the president's designee;

(c) the speaker of the House of Representatives, or the speaker's designee;

(d) the executive director of the Department of Workforce Services;

(e) the executive director of the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget; and

(f) the chairs of the Commission on Housing Affordability, created in Section 35A-8-2202.

(2) In coordinating with the individuals and entities described in Subsection (1), the executive director shall provide a written report on the plan in Subsection (1), including recommended statutory changes, by September 1, 2025, to:

(a) the Economic Development and Workforce Services Interim Committee;

(b) the Political Subdivisions Interim Committee;

(c) the Economic and Community Development Appropriations Subcommittee; and

(d) the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget.

(3) The executive director may hire a director for the Office of Housing and the director may assist in the process described in Subsections (1) and (2).

Section 15. Section **63N-1a-304** is amended to read:

63N-1a-304. (Effective 07/01/25)Executive director and the Public Service Commission.

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(1) The executive director or the executive director's designee shall:

(a) become generally informed of significant rate cases and policy proceedings before the Public Service Commission; and

(b) monitor and study the potential economic development impact of [these] the proceedings.

(2) In the discretion of the executive director or the executive director's designee, the office may appear in a proceeding before the Public Service Commission to testify, advise, or to present argument regarding the economic development impact of a matter that is the subject of the proceeding.

Section 16. Section **63N-1a-305** is amended to read:

63N-1a-305. (Effective 07/01/25)Incentive review process.

~~[The Legislature intends that the]~~ The office ~~[will]~~ shall develop an ~~[incentives]~~ incentive review process under the direction of the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president of the Senate.

Section 17. Section **63N-1a-306** is amended to read:

63N-1a-306. (Effective 07/01/25)Annual report -- Content -- Format.

(1) The office shall prepare and submit to the governor and the Legislature, by October 1 of each year, an annual written report of the operations, activities, programs, and services of the office, including the divisions, sections, boards, commissions, councils, and committees established under this title, for the preceding fiscal year.

(2) For each operation, activity, program, or service provided by the office, the annual report shall include:

(a) a description of the operation, activity, program, or service;

(b) data and metrics:

(i) selected and used by the office to measure progress, performance, effectiveness, and scope of the operation, activity, program, or service, including summary data; and

(ii) that are consistent and comparable for each state operation, activity, program, or service that primarily involves employment training or placement as determined by the executive directors of the office, the Department of Workforce Services, and the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget;

(c) budget data, including the amount and source of funding, expenses, and allocation of full-time employees for the operation, activity, program, or service;

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(d) historical data from previous years for comparison with data reported under Subsections (2)(b) and (c);

(e) goals, challenges, and achievements related to the operation, activity, program, or service;

(f) relevant federal and state statutory references and requirements;

(g) contact information of officials knowledgeable and responsible for each operation, activity, program, or service; and

(h) other information determined by the office that:

(i) may be needed, useful, or of historical significance; or

(ii) promotes accountability and transparency for each operation, activity, program, or service with the public and elected officials.

(3) The annual report shall be designed to provide clear, accurate, and accessible information to the public, the governor, and the Legislature.

(4) The office shall:

(a) submit the annual report in accordance with Section 68-3-14; and

(b) make the annual report, and previous annual reports, accessible to the public by placing a link to the reports on the office's website[; ~~and~~] .

~~[(c) provide the data and metrics described in Subsection (2)(b) to the talent board.]~~

Section 18. Section **63N-1a-401** is amended to read:

63N-1a-401. (Effective 07/01/25)Creation of Board of Economic Opportunity.

(1)

(a) There is created within the office the Board of Economic Opportunity, consisting of nine members appointed by the ~~[chair of the commission]~~ executive director of the office, in consultation with the ~~[executive director]~~ governor, to four-year terms of office with the advice and consent of the Senate in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 24, Part 2, Vacancies.

(b) The nine members described in Subsection (1)(a) shall include:

(i) one member associated with the state's rural communities;

(ii) one member associated with direct entrepreneurship in the state;

(iii) one member associated with higher education in the state;

(iv) five members, other than the members described in Subsections (1)(b)(i) through (iii), that are associated with a targeted industry; and

(v) one at-large member.

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- 727 (c) Notwithstanding the requirements of Subsection (1)(a), the [~~chair of the commission~~] executive
director shall, at the time of appointment or reappointment, adjust the length of terms to ensure that
the terms of board members are staggered so that approximately half of the board is appointed every
two years.
- 731 (d) The members may not serve more than two full consecutive terms except when the [~~chair of the~~
~~commission~~] executive director determines that an additional term is in the best interest of the state.
- 734 (2) When a vacancy occurs in the membership for any reason, the replacement shall be appointed for
the unexpired term in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 24, Part 2, Vacancies.
- 737 (3) A majority of board members, not including a vacancy, constitutes a quorum for conducting board
business and exercising board power.
- 739 (4) [~~The chair of the commission~~] The executive director shall select one board member as the board's
chair and one member as the board's vice chair.
- 741 (5) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but may receive per
diem and travel expenses in accordance with:
- 743 (a) Section 63A-3-106;
- 744 (b) Section 63A-3-107; and
- 745 (c) rules made by the Division of Finance under Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.
- 746 (6) A member shall comply with the conflict of interest provisions described in Title 63G, Chapter 24,
Part 3, Conflicts of Interest.
- 882 Section 19. Section **63N-2-103** is amended to read:
- 883 **63N-2-103. (Effective 07/01/25) Definitions.**
- As used in this part:
- 751 (1)
- (a) "Business entity" means a person that enters into a written agreement with the office to initiate a
new commercial project in Utah that will qualify the person to receive a tax credit under Section
59-7-614.2 or 59-10-1107.
- 754 (b) With respect to a tax credit authorized by the office in accordance with Subsection 63N-2-104.3(2),
"business entity" includes a nonprofit entity.
- 756 (2) "Commercial or industrial zone" means an area zoned agricultural, commercial, industrial,
manufacturing, business park, research park, or other appropriate business related use in a general
plan that contemplates future growth.

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- 759 (3) "Development zone" means an economic development zone created under Section 63N-2-104.
- 761 (4) "Local government entity" means a county, city, or town.
- 762 (5) "New commercial project" means an economic development opportunity that:
- 763 (a) involves a targeted industry; or
- 764 (b) is located within:
- 765 (i) a county of the third, fourth, fifth, or sixth class; or
- 766 (ii) a municipality that has a population of 10,000 or less and the municipality is located within a county
of the second class~~[; or]~~ .
- 768 ~~[(e) involves an economic development opportunity that the commission determines to be eligible for a
tax credit under this part.]~~
- 770 (6) "Remote work opportunity" means a new commercial project that:
- 771 (a) does not require a physical office in the state where employees associated with the new commercial
project are required to work; and
- 773 (b) requires employees associated with the new commercial project to:
- 774 (i) work remotely from a location within the state; and
- 775 (ii) maintain residency in the state.
- 776 (7) "Significant capital investment" means an investment in capital or fixed assets, which may include
real property, personal property, and other fixtures related to a new commercial project that
represents an expansion of existing operations in the state or that increases the business entity's
existing workforce in the state.
- 780 (8) "Tax credit" means an economic development tax credit created by Section 59-7-614.2 or
59-10-1107.
- 782 (9) "Tax credit amount" means the amount the office lists as a tax credit on a tax credit certificate for a
taxable year.
- 784 (10) "Tax credit certificate" means a certificate issued by the office that:
- 785 (a) lists the name of the business entity to which the office authorizes a tax credit;
- 786 (b) lists the business entity's taxpayer identification number;
- 787 (c) lists the amount of tax credit that the office authorizes the business entity for the taxable year; and
- 789 (d) may include other information as determined by the office.
- 790 (11) "Written agreement" means a written agreement entered into between the office and a business
entity under Section 63N-2-104.2.

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Section 20. Section **63N-2-104.3** is amended to read:

63N-2-104.3. (Effective 07/01/25) Limitations on tax credit amount.

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(a), for a new commercial project that is located within the boundary of a county of the first or second class, the office may not authorize a tax credit that exceeds:
- (a) 50% of the new state revenues from the new commercial project in any given year; or
 - (b) 30% of the new state revenues from the new commercial project over a period of up to 20 years[; ~~or~~]
 - ~~[(c) 35% of the new state revenues from the new commercial project over a period of up to 20 years, if:]~~
 - ~~[(i) the new commercial project brings 2,500 or more new incremental jobs to the state;]~~
 - ~~[(ii) the amount of capital expenditures associated with the new commercial project is \$1,000,000,000 or more; and]~~
 - ~~[(iii) the commission approves the tax credit.]~~
- (2) If the office authorizes a tax credit for a new commercial project located within the boundary of:
- (a) a municipality with a population of 10,000 or less located within a county of the second class and that is experiencing economic hardship as determined by the office, the office may authorize a tax credit of up to 50% of new state revenues from the new commercial project over a period of up to 20 years;
 - (b) a county of the third class, the office may authorize a tax credit of up to 50% of new state revenues from the new commercial project over a period of up to 20 years; and
 - (c) a county of the fourth, fifth, or sixth class, the office may authorize a tax credit of 50% of new state revenues from the new commercial project over a period of up to 20 years.

Section 21. Section **63N-2-107** is amended to read:

63N-2-107. (Effective 07/01/25) Reports of new state revenue, partial rebates, and tax credits.

- (1) Before October 1 of each year, the office shall submit a report to the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, and the Division of Finance identifying:
- (a)
 - (i) the total estimated amount of new state revenue created from new commercial projects;
 - (ii) the estimated amount of new state revenue from new commercial projects that will be generated from:

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- 827 (A) sales tax;
828 (B) income tax; and
829 (C) corporate franchise and income tax; and
830 (iii) the minimum number of new incremental jobs and high paying jobs that will be created before any
tax credit is awarded; and
832 (b) the total estimated amount of tax credits that the office projects that business entities will qualify to
claim under this part.
- 834 (2) By the first business day of each month, the office shall submit a report to the Governor's Office
of Planning and Budget, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, and the Division of Finance
identifying:
- 837 (a) each new written agreement that the office entered into since the last report;
838 (b) the estimated amount of new state revenue that will be generated under each written agreement
described in Subsection (2)(a);
840 (c) the estimated maximum amount of tax credits that a business entity could qualify for under each
written agreement described in Subsection (2)(a); and
842 (d) the minimum number of new incremental jobs and high paying jobs that will be created before any
tax credit is awarded.
- 844 (3) At the reasonable request of the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, the Office of
the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, or the Division of Finance, the office shall provide additional
information about the tax credit, new incremental jobs and high paying jobs, costs, and economic
benefits related to this part, if the information is part of a public record as defined in Section
63G-2-103.
- 849 ~~[(4) By October 1, the office shall submit to the Economic Development and Workforce Services
Interim Committee, the Business, Economic Development, and Labor Appropriations
Subcommittee, and the governor, a written report that provides an overview of the implementation
and efficacy of the statewide economic development strategy, including an analysis of the extent
to which the office's programs are aligned with the prevailing economic conditions expected in the
next fiscal year.]~~
- 990 Section 22. Section **63N-16-302** is amended to read:
991 **63N-16-302. (Effective 07/01/25) Proactive regulatory relief efforts.**
857 (1) As used in this section:

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- 858 (a) "Regulatory framework" means a framework for determining the risk level to the public if a law or
regulation that inhibits the creation or success of new and existing companies or industries were to
be permanently removed or temporarily waived.
- 861 (b) "Risk level" means a level of risk categorized from low, medium, and high.
- 862 (2) The regulatory relief office may:
- 863 (a) review, at any time, any existing state laws or regulations that may unnecessarily inhibit the
creation or success of companies or industries other than the occupational regulations of individuals
reviewed by the Office of Professional Licensure Review under Title 13, Chapter 1b, Office of
Professional Licensure Review; and
- 867 (b) provide recommendations to the governor and the Legislature on modifying those state laws and
regulations described in Subsection (2)(a).
- 869 (3) The regulatory relief office shall:
- 870 (a) create a regulatory framework; and
- 871 (b) annually study the laws and regulations of at least two industries selected from:
- 872 (i) an industry targeted for economic development by the [~~Unified Economic Opportunity~~
~~Commission~~] office as described in Section [~~63N-1a-202~~] 63N-1a-302; or
- 875 (ii) an industry designated by the General Regulatory Sandbox Program Advisory Committee for study
by the regulatory relief office.
- 877 (4) In undertaking the review described in Subsection [~~(3),~~] (2), the regulatory relief office shall:
- 879 (a) identify any law or regulation that the regulatory relief office determines inhibits the creation or
success of new and existing companies or industries;
- 881 (b) apply the regulatory framework to the identified law or regulation; and
- 882 (c) consider:
- 883 (i) the history of the identified regulation or law, including the reasons why the regulation or law was
originally enacted;
- 885 (ii) whether the identified regulation or law:
- 886 (A) creates an unnecessary barrier to industry for businesses; or
- 887 (B) imposes an unnecessary cost to businesses or consumers;
- 888 (iii) whether the penalty for violation of the regulation or law, if any, is proportional to the potential
harm; and
- 890

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(iv) if there are potentially less burdensome alternatives to the existing regulation or law and apply the regulatory framework to that alternative.

(5) The regulatory relief office shall submit as part of the report described in Section 63N-16-105:

(a) a detailed overview of the regulatory relief office's study of the laws and regulations as described in this section, including the reasons why the laws and regulations of a particular industry were selected for study and the strategy the office implemented to study the laws and regulations of that industry; and

(b) recommended changes to a law or regulation identified by the regulatory relief office in Subsection (4) that the regulatory relief office determines:

(i) is inhibiting the success of businesses, companies, or industries; and

(ii) would not present a high risk level to the public if the law or regulation were permanently removed or temporarily waived.

Section 23. Section **23** is enacted to read:

63N-22-101. Office of Housing.

There is created the Office of Housing.

Section 24. Section **72-1-203** is amended to read:

72-1-203. (Effective 07/01/25)Deputy director -- Appointment -- Qualifications -- Other assistants and advisers -- Salaries.

(1) The executive director shall appoint the following deputy directors, who shall serve at the discretion of the executive director:

(a) the deputy director of engineering and operation, who shall be a registered professional engineer in the state, and who shall be the chief engineer of the department; and

(b) the deputy director of planning and investment.

(2) As assigned by the executive director, the deputy directors described in Subsection (1) may assist the executive director with the following departmental responsibilities:

(a) project development, including statewide standards for project design and construction, right-of-way, materials, testing, structures, and construction;

(b) oversight of the management of the region offices described in Section 72-1-205;

(c) operations and traffic management;

(d) oversight of operations of motor carriers and ports;

(e) transportation systems safety;

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- 920 (f) aeronautical operations;
- 921 (g) equipment for department engineering and maintenance functions;
- 922 (h) oversight and coordination of planning, including:
- 923 (i) development of statewide strategic initiatives for planning across all modes of transportation;
- 925 (ii) coordination with metropolitan planning organizations and local governments;
- 926 (iii) coordination with a large public transit district, including planning, project development, outreach,
programming, environmental studies and impact statements, construction, and impacts on public
transit operations; and
- 929 (iv) corridor and area planning;
- 930 (i) asset management;
- 931 (j) programming and prioritization of transportation projects;
- 932 (k) fulfilling requirements for environmental studies and impact statements;
- 933 (l) resource investment, including identification, development, and oversight of public-private
partnership opportunities;
- 935 (m) data analytics services to the department;
- 936 (n) corridor preservation;
- 937 (o) employee development;
- 938 (p) maintenance planning;
- 939 (q) oversight and facilitation of the negotiations and integration of public transit providers described in
Section 17B-2a-827;
- 941 (r) oversight and supervision of any fixed guideway capital development project within the
boundaries of a large public transit district for which any state funds are expended, including those
responsibilities described in Subsections (2)(a), (h), (j), (k), and (l), and the implementation and
enforcement of any federal grant obligations associated with fixed guideway capital development
project funding; and
- 946 (s) other departmental responsibilities as determined by the executive director.
- 947 (3) The executive director shall ensure that the same deputy director does not oversee or supervise
both the fixed guideway capital development responsibilities described in Subsection (2)(r) and the
department's fixed guideway rail safety responsibilities, including the responsibilities described in
Section 72-1-214.

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- (4) The executive director shall ensure that the same deputy director does not oversee or supervise both the authorization of a telecommunication provider to have longitudinal access to state right-of-way as described in Section 72-7-108, and the operations and duties of the Utah Broadband Center created in Section 72-19-201.

1093 Section 25. Section **72-1-303** is amended to read:

1094 **72-1-303. (Effective 07/01/25)Duties of commission.**

957 (1) The commission has the following duties:

958 (a) determining priorities and funding levels of projects and programs in the state transportation systems and the capital development of new public transit facilities for each fiscal year based on project lists compiled by the department and taking into consideration the strategic initiatives described in Section 72-1-211;

962 (b) determining additions and deletions to state highways under Chapter 4, Designation of State Highways Act;

964 (c) holding public meetings and otherwise providing for public input in transportation matters;

966 (d) making policies and rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, necessary to perform the commission's duties described under this section;

969 (e) in accordance with Section 63G-4-301, reviewing orders issued by the executive director in adjudicative proceedings held in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act;

972 (f) advising the department on state transportation systems policy;

973 (g) approving settlement agreements of condemnation cases subject to Section 63G-10-401;

975 (h) in accordance with Section 17B-2a-807, appointing a commissioner to serve as a nonvoting member or a voting member on the board of trustees of a public transit district;

978 (i) in accordance with Section 17B-2a-808, reviewing, at least annually, the short-term and long-range public transit plans;

980 (j) determining the priorities and funding levels of public transit innovation grants, as defined in Section 72-2-401;~~and~~

982 (k) approving grant awards administered by the Utah Broadband Center in accordance with Section 17-19-301; and

984 ~~[(k)]~~ (l) reviewing administrative rules made, substantively amended, or repealed by the department.

986 (2)

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(a) For projects prioritized with funding provided under Sections 72-2-124 and 72-2-125, the commission shall annually report to a committee designated by the Legislative Management Committee:

(i) a prioritized list of the new transportation capacity projects in the state transportation system and the funding levels available for those projects; and

(ii) the unfunded highway construction and maintenance needs within the state.

(b) The committee designated by the Legislative Management Committee under Subsection (2)(a) shall:

(i) review the list reported by the Transportation Commission; and

(ii) make a recommendation to the Legislature on:

(A) the amount of additional funding to allocate to transportation; and

(B) the source of revenue for the additional funding allocation under Subsection (2)(b)(ii)(A).

(3) The commission shall review and may approve plans for the construction of a highway facility over sovereign lakebed lands in accordance with Chapter 6, Part 3, Approval of Highway Facilities on Sovereign Lands Act.

(4) One or more associations representing airport operators or pilots in the state shall annually report to the commission recommended airport improvement projects and any other information related to the associations' expertise and relevant to the commission's duties.

Section 26. Section **72-19-101** is renumbered and amended to read:

CHAPTER 19. UTAH BROADBAND CENTER

Part 1. General Provisions

~~[63N-17-102]~~ **72-19-101. (Effective 07/01/25) Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Broadband center" means the Utah Broadband Center created in Section ~~[63N-17-201]~~ 72-19-201.

(2) "Broadband commission" means the Utah Broadband Center Advisory Commission created in Section 36-29-109.

~~[(2)]~~ (3) "Final proposal" means the submission provided by the state to the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information as part of the state's BEAD Application, as set forth in 47 U.S.C. Sec. 1702(e)(4).

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[~~(3)~~] (4) "Initial proposal" means the submission provided by the state to the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information as part of the state's BEAD Application, as set forth in 47 U.S.C. Sec. 1702(e)(3).

1022 [~~(4)~~] (5) "Letter of intent" means the submission provided by the state to the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information as part of the state's BEAD Application, as set forth in 47 U.S.C. Sec. 1702(e)(1)(B).

1025 [~~(5)~~] (6) "Public-private partnership" means an arrangement or agreement between a government entity and one or more private persons to fund and provide for a public need through the development or operation of a public project in which the private person or persons share with the government entity the responsibility or risk of developing, owning, maintaining, financing, or operating the project.

1030 [~~(6)~~] (7) "Subgrantee" means an entity that receives funds from the state under:

1031 (a) the Broadband Access Grant Program created in Section [~~63N-17-301~~] 72-19-301; or

1032 (b) the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Grant Program created in Section [~~63N-17-401~~] 72-19-401.

1034 [~~(7)~~] (8) "State BEAD application" means a submission by the state for a grant under the federal Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program established under 47 U.S.C. Sec. 1702(b), consisting of a letter of intent, initial proposal, and final proposal.

1175 Section 27. Section **72-19-201** is renumbered and amended to read:

1039

Part 2. Utah Broadband Center

1178 [~~63N-17-201~~] 72-19-201. **(Effective 07/01/25) Utah Broadband Center -- Creation -- Director -- Duties.**

1042 (1) There is created within the [~~office~~] department the Utah Broadband Center.

1043 (2) The executive director shall appoint a director of the broadband center to oversee the operations of the broadband center.

1045 (3) The broadband center shall:

1046 (a) ensure that publicly funded broadband projects continue to be publicly accessible and provide a public benefit;

1048 (b) develop the statewide digital connectivity plan described in Section [~~63N-17-203~~] 72-19-203;

1050 (c) carry out the duties described in Section [~~63N-17-202~~] 72-19-202;

1051 (d) administer the Broadband Access Grant Program [~~in accordance with Part 3, Broadband Access Grant Program~~] created in Section 72-19-301; and

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- 1053 (e) administer the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Grant Program [~~in accordance with Part~~
1054 ~~4, Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program~~] created in Section 72-19-301.
- 1056 [(f)] (4) The broadband center shall ensure efficiency with respect to:
- 1057 [(i)] (a) expenditure of funds; and
- 1058 [(ii)] (b) avoiding duplication of efforts.
- 1059 [(g)] (5) The broadband center shall consider administering broadband infrastructure funds in a manner
that:
- 1061 [(i)] (a) efficiently maximizes the leverage of federal funding;
- 1062 [(ii)] (b) avoids the use of public funds for broadband facilities that duplicate existing broadband
facilities that already meet or exceed federal standards; and
- 1064 [(iii)] (c) accounts for the benefits and costs to the state of existing facilities, equipment, and services of
public and private broadband providers.
- 1204 Section 28. Section **72-19-202** is renumbered and amended to read:
- 1206 ~~[63N-17-202]~~ **72-19-202. (Effective 07/01/25) Infrastructure and broadband coordination.**
- 1069 (1) The broadband center shall partner with the Utah Geospatial Resource Center created in Section
63A-16-505 to collect and maintain a database and interactive map that displays economic
development data statewide, including:
- 1072 (a) voluntarily submitted broadband availability, speeds, and other broadband data;
- 1073 (b) voluntarily submitted public utility data;
- 1074 (c) workforce data, including information regarding:
- 1075 (i) enterprise zones designated under Section 63N-2-206;
- 1076 (ii) public institutions of higher education; and
- 1077 (iii) APEX accelerators;
- 1078 (d) transportation data, which may include information regarding railway routes, commuter rail routes,
airport locations, and major highways;
- 1080 (e) lifestyle data, which may include information regarding state parks, national parks and monuments,
United States Forest Service boundaries, ski areas, golf courses, and hospitals; and
- 1083 (f) other relevant economic development data as determined by the office, including data provided by
partner organizations.
- 1085 (2) The broadband center may:
- 1086

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- (a) make recommendations to state and federal agencies, local governments, the governor, and the Legislature regarding policies and initiatives that promote the development of broadband-related infrastructure in the state and help implement those policies and initiatives;
- 1090 (b) facilitate coordination between broadband providers and public and private entities;
- 1091 (c) collect and analyze data on broadband availability and usage in the state, including Internet speed, capacity, the number of unique visitors, and the availability of broadband infrastructure throughout the state;
- 1094 (d) create a voluntary broadband alliance, which shall include broadband providers and other public and private stakeholders, to solicit input on broadband-related policy guidance, best practices, and adoption strategies;
- 1097 (e) work with broadband providers, state and local governments, and other public and private stakeholders to facilitate and encourage the expansion and maintenance of broadband infrastructure throughout the state; and
- 1100 (f) in accordance with the requirements of Title 63J, Chapter 5, Federal Funds Procedures Act, and in accordance with federal requirements:
 - 1102 (i) apply for federal grants;
 - 1103 (ii) participate in federal programs; and
 - 1104 (iii) administer federally funded broadband-related programs.

1244 Section 29. Section **72-19-203** is renumbered and amended to read:

1246 ~~[63N-17-203]~~ **72-19-203. (Effective 07/01/25) Statewide digital connectivity plan.**

As used in this section:

- 1109 (1) ~~["Commission"]~~ **"Broadband commission"** means the Utah Broadband Center Advisory Commission created in Section 36-29-109.
- 1111 (2) "Strategic plan" means the statewide digital connectivity plan created in accordance with Subsections ~~[(2) and]~~ **(3) and (4)**.
- 1113 (3) The broadband center shall develop the strategic plan.
- 1114 (4) The strategic plan shall include strategies to:
 - 1115 (a) implement broadband connectivity statewide;
 - 1116 (b) promote digital ~~[equity]~~ **access throughout the state**;
 - 1117 (c) apply for federal infrastructure funds; and
 - 1118 (d) apply for additional funds.

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- 1119 (5) In developing the strategic plan, the broadband center shall work with the broadband commission.
1121 [~~(6) The broadband center shall provide the commission with quarterly status updates regarding:~~
1123 [~~(a) implementation of the commission's recommendations;~~
1124 [~~(b) the grant programs created in Sections 63N-17-301 and 63N-17-401, including:~~
1125 [~~(i) applications received for grant funding;~~
1126 [~~(ii) grant awards about to be made by the broadband center;~~
1127 [~~(iii) grant awards made by the broadband center; and~~
1128 [~~(iv) projects implemented with grant funding;~~
1129 [~~(e) strategic plan development;~~
1130 [~~(d) strategic plan implementation;~~
1131 [~~(e) grants received in addition to those described in Subsection (6)(b);~~
1132 [~~(f) projects funded in addition to those described in Subsection (6)(b); and~~
1133 [~~(g) recommendations for legislation.~~]
1134 [~~(7)~~] (6) The broadband center shall submit the strategic plan to the broadband commission for the
broadband commission's recommendation before finalizing the strategic plan.
1136 [~~(8)~~] (7) On or before October 1 of each year, the broadband center shall report to the broadband
commission and the Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology Interim Committee regarding status
updates.

1278 Section 30. Section **72-19-301** is renumbered and amended to read:

1141 **Part 3. Broadband Access Grant Program**

- 1281 ~~[63N-17-301]~~ **72-19-301. (Effective 07/01/25) Creation of Broadband Access Grant Program.**
1143 (1) As used in this part:
1144 (a) "Eligible applicant" means:
1145 (i) a telecommunications provider or an Internet service provider;
1146 (ii) a local government entity and one or more private entities, collectively, who are parties to a public-
private partnership established for the purpose of expanding affordable broadband access in the
state; or
1149 (iii) a tribal government.
1150 (b) "Underserved area" means an area of the state that is underserved in terms of the area's access to
broadband service, as further defined by rule made by the department in coordination with the
broadband center.

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- 1153 (c) "Unserved area" means an area of the state that is unserved in terms of the area's access to
broadband service, as further defined by rule made by the department in coordination with the
broadband center.
- 1156 (2) There is established a grant program known as the Broadband Access Grant Program that is
administered by the broadband center in accordance with this part.
- 1158 (3)
- (a) The broadband center may award a grant under this part to an eligible applicant that submits to
the broadband center an application that includes a proposed project to extend broadband service
to individuals and businesses in an unserved area or an underserved area by providing last-mile
connections to end users.
- 1162 (b) Subsection (3)(a) does not prohibit the broadband center from awarding a grant for a proposed
project that also includes middle-mile elements that are necessary for the last-mile connections.
- 1165 (4) In awarding grants under this part, the broadband center shall:
- 1166 (a) based on the following criteria and in the order provided, prioritize proposed projects:
- 1167 (i) located in unserved areas;
- 1168 (ii) located in underserved areas;
- 1169 (iii)
- (A) that the eligible applicant developed after meaningful engagement with the impacted community to
identify the community's needs and innovative means of providing a public benefit that addresses
the community's needs; and
- 1172 (B) that include, as a component of the proposed project, a long-term public benefit to the impacted
community developed in response to the eligible applicant's engagement with the community;
- 1175 (iv) located in an economically distressed area of the state, as measured by indices of unemployment,
poverty, or population loss;
- 1177 (v) that make the greatest investment in last-mile connections;
- 1178 (vi) that provide higher speed broadband access to end users; and
- 1179 (vii) for which the eligible applicant provides at least 25% of the money needed for the proposed
project, with higher priority to proposed projects for which the eligible applicant provides a greater
percentage of the money needed for the proposed project; and
- 1183 (b) consider the impact of available funding for the proposed project from other sources, including
money from matching federal grant programs.

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- 1185 (5) For a project that the eligible applicant cannot complete in a single fiscal year, the broadband center
may distribute grant proceeds for the project over the course of the project's construction.
- 1188 (6)
(a) Before awarding a grant under this part, the broadband center shall present the application described
in Subsection (3) to the Transportation Commission for approval.
- 1191 (b) In awarding a grant under this part, the broadband center shall ensure that grant funds are not used
by a subgrantee in a manner that causes competition among projects that are substantially supported
by state funds or federal funds subgranted by the state~~[, as determine in accordance with rules made
by the broadband center in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking
Act].~~
- 1196 (7) As provided in and subject to the requirements of Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records
Access and Management Act, a record submitted to the broadband center that contains a trade secret
or confidential commercial information described in Subsection 63G-2-305(2) is a protected record.
- 1340 Section 31. Section **72-19-302** is renumbered and amended to read:
- 1342 **[63N-17-302] 72-19-302. (Effective 07/01/25) Duties of the broadband center.**
- 1203 (1) The broadband center shall:
- 1204 (a) establish an application process by which an eligible applicant may apply for a grant under this part,
which application shall include:
- 1206 (i) a declaration, signed under penalty of perjury, that the application is complete, true, and correct; and
- 1208 (ii) an acknowledgment that the eligible applicant is subject to audit;
- 1209 (b) establish a method for the broadband center to determine which eligible applicants qualify to receive
a grant;
- 1211 (c) establish a formula to award grant funds; and
- 1212 (d) report the information described in Subsections (1)(a) through (c) to the director of the Division of
Finance.
- 1214 (2) Subject to appropriation, the broadband center shall:
- 1215 (a) collect applications for grant funds from eligible applicants;
- 1216 (b) determine which applicants qualify for receiving a grant; and
- 1217 (c) award the grant funds in accordance with the process established under Subsection (1) and in
accordance with Section ~~[63N-17-301]~~ 72-19-301.
- 1219

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- (3) ~~[In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the broadband center may make rules to administer the grant program]~~ The department, in coordination with the broadband center, may make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to administer the grant program.

Section 32. Section **72-19-401** is renumbered and amended to read:

Part 4. Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Grant Program

~~[63N-17-401]~~ 72-19-401. (Effective 07/01/25) Creation of Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Grant Program.

(1) There is established a grant program known as the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Grant Program that is administered by the broadband center in accordance with:

(a) this part; and

(b) the requirements of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program, 47 U.S.C. Sec. 1702 et seq.

(2) The broadband center shall:

(a) prepare and submit the state's Broadband Equity Access and Deployment application, including the letter of intent, initial proposal, and final proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration;

(b) administer the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Grant Program in accordance with this section and as approved by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration;

(c) accept and process an application for subgranted funds; and

~~[(d) report to the broadband commission quarterly on:]~~

~~[(i) the progress of the broadband center's submission described in Subsection (2)(a);]~~

~~[(ii) the administration of the program;]~~

~~[(iii) applications received for subgranted funding;]~~

~~[(iv) approved applications for subgranted funds; and]~~

~~[(v) projects supported by subgranted funds;]~~

~~[(e)]~~ (d) ensure that a subgrantee complies with the state's final proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration~~[: and]~~ .

~~[(f) make rules, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, necessary to administer this section.]~~

HB0542 compared with HB0542S06

(3) The department, in coordination with the broadband center, may make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to administer the grant program.

1256 [~~(3) The broadband commission shall give the broadband center recommendations during the quarterly~~
reports described in Subsection (2)(d).]

1258 (4) The broadband center may approve an application for subgranted funds if:

1259 (a) the application meets the requirements of this section;

1260 (b) the application meets any rule made pursuant to this section;

1261 (c) the application meets the requirements of the National Telecommunications and Information
Administration's Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program, 47 U.S.C. Sec. 1702 et seq.;
and

1264 (d) the broadband center has informed the [~~broadband commission~~] Transportation Commission about
the application[, as] described in Subsection [(2)(d)] (2)(c).

1266 (5) After the broadband center completes a competitive application process for subgranted funds but
before the broadband center notifies the applicant of the award, the broadband center shall present to
the [~~broadband commission~~] Transportation Commission on the subgrant award.

1410 Section 33. **Repealer.**

This Bill Repeals:

1411 This bill repeals:

1412 Section **63N-1a-201, Creation of commission.**

1413 Section **63N-1a-202, Commission duties.**

1414 Section **63N-1b-102, Subcommittees generally.**

1415 Section **63N-1b-401, Definitions.**

1416 Section **63N-1b-402, Women in the Economy Subcommittee created.**

1417 Section **63N-1b-403, Purpose -- Powers and duties of the subcommittee.**

1418 Section **63N-1b-404, Annual report.**

1419 Section **63N-3-204, Administration -- Grants and loans.**

1420 Section . **FY 2026 Appropriations.**

1421 The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
1422 2025, and ending June 30, 2026. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated for
1423 fiscal year 2026.

1424 Subsection 34(a). **Operating and Capital Budgets**

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1425	Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, the	
1426	Legislature appropriates the following sums of money from the funds or accounts indicated for	
1427	the use and support of the government of the state of Utah.	
1428	To Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity - Economic Prosperity	
1429		(553,600)
1430		(200,000)
1431		(93,700)
1432	Schedule of Programs:	
1433		(847,300)
1434	To Department of Workforce Services - Office of Homeless Services	
1435		1,900,000
1436	Schedule of Programs:	
1437		1,900,000
1438	To Utah Board of Higher Education - Administration	
1439		553,600
1440		200,000
1441		93,700
1442	Schedule of Programs:	
1443		847,300
1444	The Legislature intends, that if H.B. 542,	
1445	Economic Development Amendments, and H.B. 530,	
1446	Utah Innovation Lab Modifications, both pass and	
1447	become law, on July 1, 2025, the funding appropriated in	
1448	H.B. 542 be transferred to the Utah Board of Higher	
1449	Education for the Nucleus Institute. The Legislature	
1450	further intends that the Office of Legislative Fiscal	
1451	Analyst, when preparing the base budget for the 2026	
1452	General Session, create a new line item titled within the	
1453	Utah Board of Higher Education "Nucleus Institute" and	
1454	transfer the funding for the Utah Board of Education -	
1455	Administration line item to the newly created item.	

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1456 Section 35. **Effective date.**

Effective Date.

~~{ This }~~ Except as provided in Subsection (2), this bill takes effect ~~{ on }~~ July 1, 2025.

1458 (2) The actions affecting Section 63N-22-101 (Effective 05/07/25) take effect on May 7, 2025.

3-7-25 1:37 PM