

Douglas R. Welton proposes the following substitute bill:

State Park Accessibility Amendments

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Douglas R. Welton

Senate Sponsor:

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill addresses accessibility in state parks.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- modifies the term "outdoor recreation project" to include construction of trails or facilities, improvements of trails or facilities, or equipment for disabled or adaptive users.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

79-8-102, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapters 68, 274

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

Section 1. Section **79-8-102** is amended to read:

79-8-102 . Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Accessible to the general public" in relation to the awarding of an infrastructure grant, means:
 - (a) the public may use the infrastructure in accordance with federal and state regulations;
 - and
 - (b) no community or group retains exclusive rights to access the infrastructure.
- (2) "Advisory committee" means the Utah Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Advisory Committee created in Section 79-7-206.
- (3) "Children," in relation to the awarding of a UCORE grant, means individuals who are

- 30 six years old or older and 18 years old or younger.
- 31 (4) "Director" means the director of the Division of Outdoor Recreation.
- 32 (5) "Division" means the Division of Outdoor Recreation.
- 33 (6) "Executive director" means the executive director of the Department of Natural
34 Resources.
- 35 (7) "Infrastructure grant" means an outdoor recreational infrastructure grant described in
36 Section 79-8-401.
- 37 (8)(a) "Recreational infrastructure project" means an undertaking to build or improve an
38 approved facility or installation needed for the public to access and enjoy the state's
39 outdoors.
- 40 (b) "Recreational infrastructure project" [~~may include~~] includes the:
- 41 (i) establishment, construction, or renovation of a trail, trail infrastructure, or a trail
42 facility;
- 43 (ii) construction of a project for a water-related outdoor recreational activity;
- 44 (iii) development of a project for a wildlife watching opportunity, including bird
45 watching;
- 46 (iv) development of a project that provides a winter recreation amenity;
- 47 (v) construction or improvement of a community park that has an amenity for
48 outdoor recreation;~~and~~
- 49 (vi) construction or improvement of a naturalistic and accessible playground~~;~~ and
- 50 (vii) construction of a trail or facility, improvement of a trail or facility, or acquisition
51 of equipment for disabled or adaptive users.
- 52 (9) "UCORE grant" means a children's outdoor recreation and education grant described in
53 Section 79-8-302.
- 54 (10)(a) "Underserved community" means a group of people, including a municipality,
55 county, or American Indian tribe, that is economically disadvantaged.
- 56 (b) "Underserved community" includes an economically disadvantaged community
57 where in relation to awarding a UCORE grant, the children of the community,
58 including children with disabilities, have limited access to outdoor recreation or
59 education programs.

60 Section 2. **Effective Date.**

61 This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.