

1 **Legislative Water Development Commission Amendments**

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Thomas W. Peterson

Senate Sponsor:

2 **LONG TITLE**3 **General Description:**4 This bill addresses membership requirements on the Legislative Water Development  
5 Commission.6 **Highlighted Provisions:**

7 This bill:

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- 9 ▶ establishes a minimum number for commission membership; and
- 10 ▶ removes the partisanship requirements for members on the Legislative Water

11 Development Commission.

12 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

13 None

14 **Other Special Clauses:**

15 None

16 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**17 **AMENDS:**18 **73-27-102**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 22919 

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*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*20 Section 1. Section **73-27-102** is amended to read:21 **73-27-102 . Legislative Water Development Commission created.**22 (1)(a) The Legislative Water Development Commission is created to determine the  
23 state's role in the protection, conservation, and development of the state's water  
24 resources.25 (b) For purposes of this chapter, "commission" means the Legislative Water  
26 Development Commission.

27 (2)(a) The commission membership shall include:

28 (i) ~~[five-]~~ a minimum of two members of the Senate, appointed by the president of the  
29 Senate~~[, no more than four of whom may be from the same political party]~~;

- (ii) [eight] a minimum of two members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives[~~, no more than six of whom may be from the same political party~~]; and
- (iii) subject to Subsections (2)(b) and (c), [-]nonvoting members, appointed by the Legislative Management Committee, from a list recommended by the cochairs of the commission described in Subsection (5).

(b) If the Legislative Management Committee chooses to not appoint an individual on the list described in Subsection (2)(a)(iii), the Legislative Management Committee may ask the cochairs of the commission to submit an additional list of recommendations.

(c) The Legislative Management Committee may not appoint an individual who is not recommended by the cochairs of the commission.

(a) The members appointed by the Legislative Management Committee under Subsection (2)(a)(iii) shall be appointed or reappointed to a two-year term.

(b) When a vacancy occurs in the membership for any reason, the Legislative Management Committee, in consultation with the cochairs of the commission, shall appoint a replacement for the unexpired term.

The president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives shall, to the extent possible, appoint members under Subsections (2)(a)(i) and (ii) that represent both rural and urban areas of the state.

(a) The president of the Senate shall designate a member of the Senate appointed under Subsection (2)(a)(i) as a cochair of the commission.

(b) The speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate a member of the House of Representatives appointed under Subsection (2)(a)(ii) as a cochair of the commission.

What constitutes a quorum of the commission is determined in accordance with Legislative Joint Rules, Title 7, Chapter 1, Part 2, Creation and Organization of Legislative Committees, except nonvoting members of the commission described in Subsection (2)(a)(iii) may not be considered for purposes of determining a quorum.

(a) Compensation and expenses of a member of the commission who is a legislator are governed by Section 36-2-2 and Legislative Joint Rules, Title 5, Legislative Compensation and Expenses.

(b) Commission members who are employees of the state shall receive no additional compensation.

65 (c) Other commission members shall receive no compensation or expenses for their  
66 service on the commission.

67 (8) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall provide staff support to  
68 the commission.

69 **Section 2. Effective Date.**

70 This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.