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Economic Development Amendments

2025 GENERAL SESSION STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Jon Hawkins

Senate Sponsor:
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 Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity;
 repeals the Unified Economic Opportunity Commission and associated committees and
subcommittees;
 renumbers and amends the Utah Broadband Center and Access Act; and
 makes technical and conforming changes.
Money Appropriated in this Bill:
None
Other Special Clauses:
This bill provides a special effective date.
Utah Code Sections Affected:
AMENDS:
11-59-203, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 413
35A-8-2203, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapters 118, 406
36-12-23, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 506
36-29-109 , as enacted by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 458
53B-34-101, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 362
53B-34-102, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 362
53B-34-111 , as enacted by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 482
63I-1-263, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Third Special Session, Chapter 4
63N-1a-102, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159
63N-1a-301, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159

63N-1a-303, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 362

31	63N-1a-304, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 282
32	63N-1a-305, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 282
33	63N-1a-306, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 362
34	63N-1a-401, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159
35	63N-2-103, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 438
36	63N-2-104.3, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 499
37	63N-2-107, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159
38	63N-16-302, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 157
39	72-1-203, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 517
40	72-1-303, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 498
41	RENUMBERS AND AMENDS:
42	72-19-101, (Renumbered from 63N-17-102, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024,
43	Chapter 159)
44	72-19-201, (Renumbered from 63N-17-201, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024,
45	Chapter 159)
46	72-19-202 , (Renumbered from 63N-17-202, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024,
47	Chapter 159)
48	72-19-203 , (Renumbered from 63N-17-203, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024,
49	Chapter 159)
50	72-19-301 , (Renumbered from 63N-17-301, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024,
51	Chapter 159)
52	72-19-302 , (Renumbered from 63N-17-302, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2021,
53	Chapter 282)
54	72-19-401 , (Renumbered from 63N-17-401, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2024,
55	Chapter 159)
56	REPEALS:
57	63N-1a-201, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159
58	63N-1a-202, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159
59	63N-1b-102, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 118
60	63N-1b-401, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 362
61	63N-1b-402, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 499
62	63N-1b-403, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 499
63	63N-1b-404, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159

63N-3-204, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 362

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65 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:* 66 67 Section 1. Section 11-59-203 is amended to read: 68 11-59-203. Authority duties and responsibilities. 69 (1) As the authority plans, manages, and implements the development of the point of the 70 mountain state land, the authority shall pursue development strategies and objectives 71 designed to: 72 (a) maximize the creation of high-quality jobs and encourage and facilitate a highly 73 trained workforce; 74 (b) ensure strategic residential and commercial growth; 75 (c) promote a high quality of life for residents on and surrounding the point of the 76 mountain state land, including strategic planning to facilitate: 77 (i) jobs close to where people live; 78 (ii) vibrant urban centers; 79 (iii) housing types that incorporate affordability factors and match workforce needs; 80 (iv) parks, connected trails, and open space, including the preservation of natural 81 lands to the extent practicable and consistent with the overall development plan; 82 and 83 (v) preserving and enhancing recreational opportunities; 84 (d) complement the development on land in the vicinity of the point of the mountain 85 state land: 86 (e) improve air quality and minimize resource use; 87 (f) accommodate and incorporate the planning, funding, and development of an 88 enhanced and expanded future transit and transportation infrastructure and other 89 investments, including: 90 (i) the acquisition of rights-of-way and property necessary to ensure transit access to 91 the point of the mountain state land; and 92 (ii) a world class mass transit infrastructure, to service the point of the mountain state 93 land and to enhance mobility and protect the environment; and 94 (g) if appropriate, exercise its land use authority to increase the supply of housing in the 95 state. 96 (2) In planning the development of the point of the mountain state land, the authority shall: 97 (a) consult with applicable governmental planning agencies, including:

(i) relevant metropolitan planning organizations; and

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99	(ii) Draper City and Salt Lake County planning and governing bodies;[-and]
100	[(iii) in regards to the factors described in Subsections (1)(c)(i) and (iii), the Unified
101	Economic Opportunity Commission created in Section 63N-1a-201;]
102	(b) research and explore the feasibility of attracting a nationally recognized research
103	center; and
104	(c) research and explore the appropriateness of including labor training centers and a
105	higher education presence on the point of the mountain state land.
106	Section 2. Section 35A-8-2203 is amended to read:
107	35A-8-2203 . Duties of the commission.
108	(1) The commission shall:
109	[(a) serve as a subcommittee of the Unified Economic Opportunity Commission and
110	assist the Unified Economic Opportunity Commission in performing the Unified
111	Economic Opportunity Commission's duties under Section 63N-1a-202;]
112	[(b)] (a) increase public and government awareness and understanding of the housing
113	affordability needs of the state and how those needs may be most effectively and
114	efficiently met, through empirical study and investigation;
115	[(e)] (b) identify and recommend implementation of specific strategies, policies,
116	procedures, and programs to address the housing affordability needs of the state;
117	[(d)] (c) facilitate the communication and coordination of public and private entities that
118	are involved in developing, financing, providing, advocating for, and administering
119	affordable housing in the state;
120	[(e)] (d) study, evaluate, and report on the status and effectiveness of policies,
121	procedures, and programs that address housing affordability in the state;
122	[(f)] (e) study and evaluate the policies, procedures, and programs implemented by other
123	states that address housing affordability;
124	[(g)] (f) provide a forum for public comment on issues related to housing affordability;
125	[(h)] (g) provide recommendations to the [Unified Economic Opportunity Commission
126	and the]Legislature on strategies, policies, procedures, and programs to address the
127	housing affordability needs of the state; and
128	[(i)] (h) on or before December 31, 2022, approve the methodology developed by the
129	division under Subsection 35A-8-803(1)(a)(ix).
130	(2) To accomplish its duties, the commission may:
131	(a) request and receive from a state or local government agency or institution summary
132	information relating to housing affordability, including:

133	(i) reports;
134	(ii) audits;
135	(iii) projections; and
136	(iv) statistics; and
137	(b) appoint one or more advisory groups to advise and assist the commission.
138	(3)(a) A member of an advisory group described in Subsection (2)(b):
139	(i) shall be appointed by the commission;
140	(ii) may be:
141	(A) a member of the commission; or
142	(B) an individual from the private or public sector; and
143	(iii) notwithstanding Section 35A-8-2202, may not receive reimbursement or pay for
144	any work done in relation to the advisory group.
145	(b) An advisory group described in Subsection (2)(b) shall report to the commission on
146	the progress of the advisory group.
147	Section 3. Section 36-12-23 is amended to read:
148	36-12-23 . Legislative committees Staffing.
149	(1) As used in this section:
150	(a) "Chair" means a presiding officer or a co-presiding officer of a committee.
151	(b) "Committee" means a standing committee, interim committee, subcommittee, special
152	committee, authority, commission, council, task force, panel, or board in which
153	legislative participation is required by statute or legislative rule.
154	(c) "Legislative committee" means a committee:
155	(i) formed by the Legislature to study or oversee subjects of legislative concern; and
156	(ii) that is required by statute or legislative rule to have a chair who is a legislator.
157	(d) "Legislator" means a member of either chamber of the Legislature.
158	(e) "Professional legislative office" means the Office of Legislative Research and
159	General Counsel, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, the Office of the
160	Legislative Auditor General, or similar office of the Legislature.
161	(2)(a) Except as provided in Subsections (3) and (4), a professional legislative office
162	shall provide each legislative committee's staff support, regardless of whether statute
163	or legislative rule directs another entity to provide the staff support.
164	(b) Unless a legislative committee's enacting statute or legislative rule names a particular
165	professional legislative office to provide the legislative committee's staff support, the
166	professional legislative offices shall select, based on subject matter expertise, which

167	professional legislative office will staff the legislative committee.
168	(3)(a) Subject to Subsection (3)(b), the provisions of this section control over any
169	conflicting provision of statute or legislative rule.
170	(b)(i) If another provision of statute or legislative rule directs an entity other than a
171	professional legislative office to provide a legislative committee's staff support,
172	notwithstanding Subsection (2), a legislator who is a chair of the legislative
173	committee may elect to have the other entity provide the legislative committee's
174	staff support.
175	(ii) If the legislative committee has more than one chair who is a legislator, the chairs
176	who are legislators shall collectively make the election under Subsection (3)(b)(i).
177	(iii) A chair or chairs who make an election under Subsection (3)(b)(i) may change
178	the chair's or chairs' election no more than once each calendar year.
179	(4) This section does not apply to:
180	(a) the Point of the Mountain State Land Authority created in Section 11-59-201;
181	(b) the Utah Broadband Center Advisory Commission created in Section 36-29-109;
182	(c) the Blockchain and Digital Innovation Task Force created in Section 36-29-110;
183	(d) the Public Safety Data Management Task Force created in Section 36-29-111;
184	(e) the Constitutional Defense Council created in Section 63C-4a-202;
185	[(f) the Women in the Economy Subcommittee created in Section 63N-1b-402;]
186	[(g)] (f) the House Ethics Committee established under Legislative Joint Rule JR6-2-101;
187	or
188	[(h)] (g) the Senate Ethics Committee established under Legislative Joint Rule JR6-2-101.
189	Section 4. Section 36-29-109 is amended to read:
190	36-29-109 . Utah Broadband Center Advisory Commission.
191	(1) As used in this section:
192	(a) "Broadband infrastructure funds" means the funds available for broadband
193	infrastructure pursuant to:
194	(i) the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Pub. L. No. 115-58;
195	(ii) legislative appropriations; and
196	(iii) state and federal grants.
197	(b) ["Center"] "Broadband center" means the Utah Broadband Center created in Section [
198	63N-17-201] <u>72-19-201</u> .
199	(c) ["Commission"] "Broadband commission" means the Utah Broadband Center
200	Advisory Commission created in Subsection (2)

201	(d) "Strategic plan" means the statewide digital connectivity plan described in Section [
202	63N-17-203] <u>72-19-203</u> .
203	(2) There is created the Utah Broadband Center Advisory Commission consisting of the
204	following nine voting members:
205	(a) two members of the Senate, appointed by the president of the Senate;
206	(b) two members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the speaker of the
207	House of Representatives;
208	(c) the executive director of the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, or the
209	executive director's designee;
210	(d) the governor shall appoint four members who currently work in the public sector and
211	who have professional experience in:
212	(i) broadband or broadband infrastructure;
213	(ii) applying for federal grants; or
214	(iii) financing infrastructure.
215	(3) In addition to the nine voting members, the director of the <u>broadband</u> center, or the
216	director's designee, shall serve on the broadband commission in a nonvoting capacity.
217	(4)(a) The president of the Senate shall designate one of the members described in
218	Subsection (2)(a) to serve as cochair of the <u>broadband</u> commission.
219	(b) The speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate one of the members
220	described in Subsection (2)(b) to serve as cochair of the <u>broadband</u> commission.
221	(5)(a) If a vacancy occurs in the membership of the <u>broadband</u> commission, the member
222	shall be replaced in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.
223	(b) A member shall serve until the member's successor is appointed and qualified.
224	(6)(a) A majority of the members of the <u>broadband</u> commission constitutes a quorum.
225	(b) The action of a majority of a quorum constitutes an action of the <u>broadband</u>
226	commission.
227	(7)(a) Salaries and expenses of the members of the <u>broadband</u> commission who are
228	legislators shall be paid in accordance with:
229	(i) Section 36-2-2;
230	(ii) Legislative Joint Rules, Title 5, Chapter 2, Lodging, Meal, and Transportation
231	Expenses; and
232	(iii) Legislative Joint Rules, Title 5, Chapter 3, Legislator Compensation.
233	(b) A member of the <u>broadband</u> commission who is not a legislator may not receive
234	compensation for the member's work associated with the broadband commission but

235	may receive per diem and reimbursement for travel expenses incurred as a member of
236	the <u>broadband</u> commission at the rates established by the Division of Finance under:
237	(i) Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107; and
238	(ii) rules made by the Division of Finance in accordance with Sections 63A-3-106
239	and 63A-3-107.
240	(8) The <u>broadband</u> center shall provide staff support to the <u>broadband</u> commission.
241	(9) The <u>broadband</u> commission shall:
242	(a) make recommendations to the <u>broadband</u> center with respect to:
243	(i) strategic plan development; and
244	(ii) the application for and use of broadband infrastructure funds;
245	(b) solicit input from relevant stakeholders, including:
246	(i) public and private entities who may assist in developing and implementing the
247	strategic plan; and
248	(ii) public and private entities whom the strategic plan may impact;
249	(c) provide recommendations for strategic plan development and implementation based
250	on the input described in Subsection (9)(b);
251	(d) review strategic plan drafts; and
252	(e) recommend changes.
253	(10) The <u>broadband</u> commission shall meet as needed.
254	Section 5. Section 53B-34-101 is amended to read:
255	53B-34-101 . Definitions.
256	As used in this chapter:
257	(1) "Apprenticeship program" means a program that:
258	(a) combines paid on-the-job learning with formal classroom instruction to prepare
259	students for careers; and
260	(b) includes:
261	(i) structured on-the-job learning for students under the supervision of a skilled
262	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;
265	and
266	(iv) the student receiving an industry-recognized credential or degree upon
267	completion of the program.
268	(2) "Career and technical education region" means an economic service area created in

- 269 Section 35A-2-101.
- 270 (3) "GOEO" means the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity created in Section
- 271 63N-1a-301.
- 272 [(3) "Commission" means the Unified Economic Opportunity Commission created in
- 273 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
- 282 53B-34-105.
- 283 (8) "Participating employer" means an employer that:
- (a) partners with an educational institution on a curriculum for an apprenticeship
- program or work-based learning program; and
- (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
- 289 Section 53B-34-102.
- 290 (11) "Talent program" means the Talent Ready Utah Program created in Section
- 291 53B-34-103.
- 292 (12) "Targeted industry" means an industry or group of industries targeted by [the
- 293 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
- 297 education role described in Section 53B-2a-201.
- 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

303	attained in a program of study that includes an internship, externship, or work
304	experience;
305	(ii) providing an educational institution with objective input from a participating
306	employer regarding the education requirements of the current workforce; and
307	(iii) providing funding for programs that are associated with high-wage, in-demand
308	or emerging occupations.
309	(15) "Workforce programs" means education or industry programs that facilitate training
310	the state's workforce to meet industry demand.
311	Section 6. Section 53B-34-102 is amended to read:
312	53B-34-102 . Talent, Education, and Industry Alignment Board Creation
313	Membership Expenses Duties.
314	(1) There is created the Talent, Education, and Industry Alignment Board composed of the
315	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
320	director's designee;
321	(e) the executive director of the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity or the
322	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
327	of Representatives;
328	(j) the president of the Salt Lake Chamber or the president's designee;
329	(k) six representatives of private industry chosen to represent targeted industries,
330	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
336	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 339 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 347 63A-3-107. 348 (7) The talent board shall: 349 (a)(i) review and develop metrics to measure the progress, performance, 350 effectiveness, and scope of any state operation, activity, program, or service that 351 primarily involves employment training or placement; and 352 (ii) ensure that the metrics described in Subsection (7)(a) are consistent and 353 comparable for each state operation, activity, program, or service that primarily 354 involves employment training or placement; 355 (b) make recommendations to the board and [the commission] GOEO regarding how to 356 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 358 better align technical education with current and future workforce needs; 359 (d) coordinate with the talent program to meet the responsibilities described in [360 Subsection 53B-34-103(4)] Section 53B-34-103; 361 (e) develop a computer science education master plan in accordance with Section 362 53B-34-105;
- 363 (f) coordinate with the talent program to meet the responsibilities described in Section 364 53B-34-107; and
- 365 (g) administer the Utah Works Program in accordance with Section 53B-34-108.
- 366 (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.
- 370 Section 7. Section **53B-34-111** is amended to read:

371	53B-34-111 . Youth	apprenticeship governance study.
372	(1) As used in this section:	
373	(a) "Apprenticeship" n	neans the same as the term is defined in Section 35A-6-102.
374	(b) "Study" means the	study created in Subsection (2).
375	(2) There is created a study	to design a framework and system for maximizing efficiencies
376	and expanding youth a	opprenticeship opportunities for students.
377	(3) The study shall be cond	lucted collaboratively by the following entities:
378	(a) the [Governor's Of	fice] governor's office;
379	(b) the State Board of	Education;
380	(c) the Department of	Workforce Services;
381	(d) the Talent Ready U	Itah Program; and
382	(e) relevant participati	ng employers as determined by the entities described in
383	Subsections (3)(a)	through (d).
384	(4) The study shall examin	e framework and system design recommendations regarding:
385	(a) ways to increase yo	outh apprenticeship offerings;
386	(b) increasing student	and employer participation in youth apprenticeships;
387	(c) formalizing roles a	nd streamlining use of existing infrastructure described in:
388	(i) Title 35A, Chap	oter 6, Apprenticeship Act;
389	(ii) Title 53B, Cha	pter 34, Talent, Education, and Industry Alignment, including the
390	role of the state	e apprenticeship intermediary described in Section 53B-34-103; and
391	(iii) Section 53G-7	7-902;
392	(d) aligning youth app	renticeship efforts to meet the definition of youth apprenticeship
393	defined in Section	35A-6-102;
394	(e) identifying metrics	to assess the success of youth apprenticeship programs;
395	(f) opportunities to lev	erage secondary and post-secondary educational programs in
396	conjunction with y	outh apprenticeships, including:
397	(i) career and tech	nical education;
398	(ii) concurrent enr	ollment; and
399	(iii) stackable cred	entials; and
400	(g) the creation of care	er competencies to prepare a qualified workforce.
401	(5) The staff of the Talent	Ready Utah Program shall staff the study.
402	(6) No later than May 1, 20	225, the entities described in [Subsections (3)(a) through (e)]
403	Subsection (3) shall rep	oort the recommendations described in Subsection (4) to[÷]
404	[(a)] _the talent board[; and] <u>.</u>

- 405 [(b) the Unified Economic Opportunity Commission.]
- Section 8. Section **63I-1-263** is amended to read:
- 407 **63I-1-263** . Repeal dates: Titles **63A** to **63O**.
- 408 (1) Subsection 63A-5b-405(5), regarding prioritizing and allocating capital improvement
- funding, is repealed July 1, 2024.
- 410 (2) Title 63C, Chapter 4a, Constitutional and Federalism Defense Act, is repealed July 1,
- 411 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
- 414 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
- 421 1, 2028.
- 422 (10) Section 63G-6a-805, Purchase from community rehabilitation programs, is repealed
- 423 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,
- 426 2029.
- 427 (13) Title 63H, Chapter 8, Utah Housing Corporation Act, is repealed July 1, 2026.
- 428 (14) 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) Subsection 63J-1-602.2(26), regarding the Utah Seismic Safety Commission, is
- repealed January 1, 2025.
- 432 (16) Section 63L-11-204, Canyon resource management plan, is repealed July 1, 2025.
- 433 (17) Title 63L, Chapter 11, Part 4, Resource Development Coordinating Committee, is
- 434 repealed July 1, 2027.
- 435 (18) Title 63M, Chapter 7, Part 7, Domestic Violence Offender Treatment Board, is
- 436 repealed July 1, 2027.
- 437 (19) Section 63M-7-902, Creation -- Membership -- Terms -- Vacancies -- Expenses, is
- 438 repealed July 1, 2029.

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- 439 (20) Title 63M, Chapter 11, Utah Commission on Aging, is repealed July 1, 2026.
- 440 [(21) Title 63N, Chapter 1b, Part 4, Women in the Economy Subcommittee, is repealed
- 441 January 1, 2030.]
- 442 [(22)] (21) Title 63N, Chapter 2, Part 2, Enterprise Zone Act, is repealed July 1, 2028.
- 443 [(23)] (22) Subsection 63N-2-511(1)(b), regarding the Board of Tourism Development, is
- 444 repealed July 1, 2025.
- 445 [(24)] (23) Section 63N-2-512, Hotel Impact Mitigation Fund, is repealed July 1, 2028.
- 446 [(25)] (24) Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 9, Strategic Innovation Grant Pilot Program, is
- 447 repealed July 1, 2027.
- 448 [(26)] (25) Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 11, Manufacturing Modernization Grant Program, is
- 449 repealed July 1, 2025.
- 450 [(27)] (26) Title 63N, Chapter 4, Part 4, Rural Employment Expansion Program, is repealed
- 451 July 1, 2028.
- 452 [(28)] (27) Section 63N-4-804, which creates the Rural Opportunity Advisory Committee, is
- 453 repealed July 1, 2027.
- 454 [(29)] (28) Subsection 63N-4-805(5)(b), regarding the Rural Employment Expansion
- 455 Program, is repealed July 1, 2028.
- 456 [(30)] (29) Subsection 63N-7-101(1), regarding the Board of Tourism Development, is
- 457 repealed July 1, 2025.
- 458 [(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
- 460 1, 2025.
- 461 [(32)] (31) Title 63N, Chapter 7, Part 2, Board of Tourism Development, is repealed July 1,
- 462 2025.
- Section 9. Section **63N-1a-102** is amended to read:
- 464 **63N-1a-102** . **Definitions**.
- 465 As used in this title:
- 466 (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.
- 469 (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
- 472 board.

473 [(3) "Commission" means the Unified Economic Opportunity Commission created in 474 Section 63N-1a-201.] 475 [(4)] (3) "Economic opportunity agency" includes: 476 (a) the Department of Workforce Services; 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 (i) local government entities; 486 (k) associations of governments; 487 (1) 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 497 who works at least 30 hours per week and: 498 (a) may include an employment position filled by more than one employee, if each 499 employee who works less than 30 hours per week is provided benefits comparable to 500 a full-time employee; and 501 (b) may not include an employment position that is shifted from one jurisdiction in the 502 state to another jurisdiction in the state. 503 [(7)] (6) "GOEO board" means the Board of Economic Opportunity created in Section 63N-1a-401. 504

aggregate average annual gross wage of the employment position, not including health

[(8)] (7) "High paying job" means a newly created full-time employee position where the

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507	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
509	exists; or
510	(b) for an employment position related to a project described in Chapter 2, Part 1,
511	Economic Development Tax Increment Financing, and that is located within the
512	boundary of a county of the third, fourth, fifth, or sixth class, or located within a
513	municipality in a county of the second class and where the municipality has a
514	population of 10,000 or less:
515	(i) at least 100% of the average wage of the county in which the employment position
516	exists; or
517	(ii) an amount determined by rule made by the office in accordance with Title 63G,
518	Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, if the office determines the
519	project is in a county experiencing economic distress.
520	[(9)] (8)(a) "Incremental job" means a full-time employment position in the state that:
521	(i) did not exist within a business entity in the state before the beginning of a project
522	related to the business entity; and
523	(ii) is created in addition to the number of baseline jobs that existed within a business
524	entity.
525	(b) "Incremental job" includes a full-time employment position where the employee is
526	hired:
527	(i) directly by a business entity; or
528	(ii) by a professional employer organization, as defined in Section 31A-40-102, on
529	behalf of a business entity.
530	[(10)] (9) "New state revenue" means the state revenue collected from a business entity or a
531	business entity's employees during a calendar year minus the baseline state revenue
532	calculation.
533	[(11)] (10) "Office" or "GOEO" means the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity.
534	[(12)] (11) "State revenue" means state tax liability paid by a business entity or a business
535	entity's employees under any combination of the following provisions:
536	(a) Title 59, Chapter 7, Corporate Franchise and Income Taxes;
537	(b) Title 59, Chapter 10, Part 1, Determination and Reporting of Tax Liability and
538	Information;
539	(c) Title 59, Chapter 10, Part 2, Trusts and Estates;
540	(d) Title 59, Chapter 10, Part 4, Withholding of Tax; and

541	(e) Title 59, Chapter 12, Sales and Use Tax Act.
542	[(13)] (12) "State strategic goals" means the strategic goals listed in Section 63N-1a-103.
543	[(14)] (13) "Statewide economic development strategy" means the economic development
544	strategy developed by the [commission in accordance with Section 63N-1a-202] office in
545	accordance with Section 63N-1a-301.
546	[(15) "Talent board" means the Talent, Education, and Industry Alignment Board created in
547	Section 53B-34-102.]
548	[(16)] (14) "Targeted industry" means an industry or group of industries targeted by the [
549	commission under Section 63N-1a-202] office under Section 63N-1a-301, for economic
550	development in the state.
551	Section 10. Section 63N-1a-301 is amended to read:
552	63N-1a-301. 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 <u>creating and implementing</u> the statewide economic development
556	strategy [developed 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
559	strategic goals:
560	(iii) establishes reporting and accountability processes for the key performance
561	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
566	into a single effort the activities of the economic opportunity agencies in the field of
567	economic development;
568	(b) provide support and direction to economic opportunity agencies in establishing
569	goals, metrics, and activities that align with the statewide economic development
570	strategy;
571	(c) administer and coordinate state and federal economic development grant programs;
572	(d) promote and encourage the economic, commercial, financial, industrial, agricultural,
573	and civic welfare of the state;
574	(e) develop the statewide economic development strategy consistent with the state water

575	policy 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;
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
585	targeted for economic development in the state;
586	[(e)] (g) promote and encourage the employment of workers in the state and the purchase
587	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
589	state:
590	(i) in accordance with the statewide economic development [plan and commission
591	directives] strategy; and
592	(ii) subject to the restrictions in Section 11-41-103;
593	$[\underline{(g)}]$ (i) act to enhance the state's economy;
594	(j) analyze the state's projected long-term population and economic growth and plan for
595	the anticipated impacts of the projected growth in a manner that improves quality of
596	life and is consistent with the statewide economic development strategy and state
597	strategic goals;
598	$[\frac{h}{2}]$ (k) act to assist strategic industries that are likely to drive future economic growth;
599	[(i)] (1) assist communities in the state in developing economic development capacity and
600	coordination with other communities;
601	(m) develop strategies and plans to ensure comprehensive economic development efforts
602	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
604	improved to support economic and business development;
605	[(k)] (o) [consistent with direction from the commission,]develop core strategic
606	priorities for the office, which may include:
607	(i) enhancing statewide access to entrepreneurship opportunities and small business
608	support;

609	(ii) focusing industry recruitment and expansion of targeted industries;
610	(iii) ensuring that in awarding competitive economic development incentives the
611	office accurately measures the benefits and costs of the incentives; and
612	(iv) assisting communities with technical support to aid those communities in
613	improving economic development opportunities;
614	[(1)] (p) submit an annual written report as described in Section 63N-1a-306; and
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
618	including a municipality, if the contract or agreement is not in violation of state
619	statute or other applicable law;
620	(b) except as provided in Subsection (4)(c), receive and expend funds from a public or
621	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
623	private donor, but may not use the contribution for publicizing the exclusive interest
624	of the donor.
625	(5) Money received under Subsection (4)(c) shall be deposited into the General Fund as
626	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
629	priority, or objective under which the office operates; and]
630	[(ii) provide periodic updates to the commission regarding the office's efforts under
631	Subsections (3)(a) and (b).]
632	[(b) Subsection (6)(a)(i) does not apply to the routine administration by the office of
633	money or services related to the assistance, retention, or recruitment of business,
634	industry, or commerce in the state.]
635	Section 11. Section 63N-1a-303 is amended to read:
636	63N-1a-303 . Powers and duties of executive director.
637	(1) Unless otherwise expressly provided by statute, the executive director may organize the
638	office in any appropriate manner, including the appointment of deputy directors of the
639	office.
640	(2) The executive director may consolidate personnel and service functions for efficiency
641	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
644	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
646	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
648	requirements.
649	(4) With the governor's approval, if a federal program requires the expenditure of state
650	funds as a condition for the state to participate in a fund, property, or service, the
651	executive director may expend necessary funds from money provided by the Legislature
652	for the use of the office.
653	(5) The executive director shall coordinate with the executive directors of the Department
654	of Workforce Services and the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget to review data
655	and metrics to be reported to the Legislature as described in [Subsection
656	63N-1a-306(2)(b)] Section 63N-1a-306.
657	(6) Unless otherwise provided in this title, the executive director may make rules in
658	accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, as
659	necessary for the administration of programs established under state law.
660	Section 12. Section 63N-1a-304 is amended to read:
661	63N-1a-304 . Executive director and the Public Service Commission.
662	(1) The executive director or the executive director's designee shall:
663	(a) become generally informed of significant rate cases and policy proceedings before
664	the Public Service Commission; and
665	(b) monitor and study the potential economic development impact of [these] the
666	proceedings.
667	(2) In the discretion of the executive director or the executive director's designee, the office
668	may appear in a proceeding before the Public Service Commission to testify, advise, or
669	to present argument regarding the economic development impact of a matter that is the
670	subject of the proceeding.
671	Section 13. Section 63N-1a-305 is amended to read:
672	63N-1a-305 . Incentive review process.
673	[The Legislature intends that the] The office [will] shall develop an [incentives] incentive
674	review process under the direction of the speaker of the House of Representatives and the
675	president of the Senate.
676	Section 14. Section 63N-1a-306 is amended to read:

677	63N-1a-306 . Annual report Content Format.	
678	(1) The office shall prepare and submit to the governor and the Leg	gislature, by October 1 of
679	each year, an annual written report of the operations, activities,	programs, and services
680	of the office, including the divisions, sections, boards, commiss	sions, councils, and
681	committees established under this title, for the preceding fiscal	year.
682	(2) For each operation, activity, program, or service provided by the	e office, the annual
683	report shall include:	
684	(a) a description of the operation, activity, program, or service	;
685	(b) data and metrics:	
686	(i) selected and used by the office to measure progress, per	rformance, effectiveness,
687	and scope of the operation, activity, program, or service	e, including summary data
688	and	
689	(ii) that are consistent and comparable for each state opera	tion, activity, program, or
690	service that primarily involves employment training or	placement as determined
691	by the executive directors of the office, the Departmen	t of Workforce Services,
692	and the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget;	
693	(c) budget data, including the amount and source of funding, e	xpenses, and allocation of
694	full-time employees for the operation, activity, program, or	· service;
695	(d) historical data from previous years for comparison with data	ta reported under
696	Subsections (2)(b) and (c);	
697	(e) goals, challenges, and achievements related to the operation	n, activity, program, or
698	service;	
699	(f) relevant federal and state statutory references and requirement	ents;
700	(g) contact information of officials knowledgeable and respons	sible for each operation,
701	activity, program, or service; and	
702	(h) other information determined by the office that:	
703	(i) may be needed, useful, or of historical significance; or	
704	(ii) promotes accountability and transparency for each ope	ration, activity, program,
705	or service with the public and elected officials.	
706	(3) The annual report shall be designed to provide clear, accurate, a	and accessible
707	information to the public, the governor, and the Legislature.	
708	(4) The office shall:	
709	(a) submit the annual report in accordance with Section 68-3-1	4 <u>; and</u>
710	(b) make the annual report, and previous annual reports, access	sible to the public by

711	placing a link to the reports on the office's website[; and] .
712	[(c) provide the data and metrics described in Subsection (2)(b) to the talent board.]
713	Section 15. Section 63N-1a-401 is amended to read:
714	63N-1a-401. Creation of Board of Economic Opportunity.
715	(1)(a) There is created within the office the Board of Economic Opportunity, consisting
716	of nine members appointed by the [chair of the commission] executive director of the
717	office, in consultation with the [executive director] governor, to four-year terms of
718	office with the advice and consent of the Senate in accordance with Title 63G,
719	Chapter 24, Part 2, Vacancies.
720	(b) The nine members described in Subsection (1)(a) shall include:
721	(i) one member associated with the state's rural communities;
722	(ii) one member associated with direct entrepreneurship in the state;
723	(iii) one member associated with higher education in the state;
724	(iv) five members, other than the members described in Subsections (1)(b)(i) through
725	(iii), that are associated with a targeted industry; and
726	(v) one at-large member.
727	(c) Notwithstanding the requirements of Subsection (1)(a), the [chair of the commission]
728	executive director shall, at the time of appointment or reappointment, adjust the
729	length of terms to ensure that the terms of board members are staggered so that
730	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 [
732	ehair of the commission] executive director determines that an additional term is in
733	the best interest of the state.
734	(2) When a vacancy occurs in the membership for any reason, the replacement shall be
735	appointed for the unexpired term in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 24, Part 2,
736	Vacancies.
737	(3) A majority of board members, not including a vacancy, constitutes a quorum for
738	conducting board business and exercising board power.
739	(4) [The chair of the commission-] The executive director shall select one board member as
740	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
742	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,
- 747 Chapter 24, Part 3, Conflicts of Interest.
- 748 Section 16. Section **63N-2-103** is amended to read:
- 749 **63N-2-103** . **Definitions**.
- 750 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
- 753 receive a tax credit under Section 59-7-614.2 or 59-10-1107.
- (b) With respect to a tax credit authorized by the office in accordance with Subsection
- 755 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.
- 759 (3) "Development zone" means an economic development zone created under Section
- 760 63N-2-104.

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- 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:
 - (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].
- [(c) 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 772 new commercial project are required to work; and
- (b) requires employees associated with the new commercial project to:
- (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

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- 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:
- (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.
- 792 Section 17. Section **63N-2-104.3** is amended to read:

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63N-2-104.3. Limitations on tax credit amount.

- 794 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(a), for a new commercial project that is located 795 within the boundary of a county of the first or second class, the office may not authorize 796 a tax credit that exceeds:
- 797 (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].
- 800 [(c) 35% of the new state revenues from the new commercial project over a period of up
 801 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]
- 806 [(iii) the commission approves the tax credit.]
- 807 (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;

813	(b) a county of the third class, the office may authorize a tax credit of up to 50% of new
814	state revenues from the new commercial project over a period of up to 20 years; and
815	(c) a county of the fourth, fifth, or sixth class, the office may authorize a tax credit of
816	50% of new state revenues from the new commercial project over a period of up to
817	20 years.
818	Section 18. Section 63N-2-107 is amended to read:
819	63N-2-107. Reports of new state revenue, partial rebates, and tax credits.
820	(1) Before October 1 of each year, the office shall submit a report to the Governor's Office
821	of Planning and Budget, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, and the Division of
822	Finance identifying:
823	(a)(i) the total estimated amount of new state revenue created from new commercial
824	projects;
825	(ii) the estimated amount of new state revenue from new commercial projects that
826	will be generated from:
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
831	created before any tax credit is awarded; and
832	(b) the total estimated amount of tax credits that the office projects that business entities
833	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
835	Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst,
836	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
839	agreement described in Subsection (2)(a);
840	(c) the estimated maximum amount of tax credits that a business entity could qualify for
841	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
843	created before any tax credit is awarded.
844	(3) At the reasonable request of the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, the Office
845	of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, or the Division of Finance, the office shall provide
846	additional information about the tax credit, new incremental jobs and high paying jobs,

847	C	costs, and economic benefits related to this part, if the information is part of a public
848	r	record as defined in Section 63G-2-103.
849	[(4)	By October 1, the office shall submit to the Economic Development and Workforce
850	Š	Services Interim Committee, the Business, Economic Development, and Labor
851	7	Appropriations Subcommittee, and the governor, a written report that provides an
852	€	overview of the implementation and efficacy of the statewide economic development
853	S	strategy, including an analysis of the extent to which the office's programs are aligned
854	+	with the prevailing economic conditions expected in the next fiscal year.]
855		Section 19. Section 63N-16-302 is amended to read:
856		63N-16-302 . Proactive regulatory relief efforts.
857	(1) A	As used in this section:
858	(a) "Regulatory framework" means a framework for determining the risk level to the
859		public if a law or regulation that inhibits the creation or success of new and existing
860		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
864		inhibit the creation or success of companies or industries other than the occupational
865		regulations of individuals reviewed by the Office of Professional Licensure Review
866		under Title 13, Chapter 1b, Office of Professional Licensure Review; and
867	(b) provide recommendations to the governor and the Legislature on modifying those
868		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
873		Opportunity Commission] office as described in Section [63N-1a-202] 63N-1a-302;
874		or
875		(ii) an industry designated by the General Regulatory Sandbox Program Advisory
876		Committee for study by the regulatory relief office.
877	(4) I	n undertaking the review described in Subsection [(3),] <u>(2),</u> the regulatory relief office
878	S	shall:
879	(a) identify any law or regulation that the regulatory relief office determines inhibits the
880		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
884	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
889	to the potential harm; and
890	(iv) if there are potentially less burdensome alternatives to the existing regulation or
891	law and apply the regulatory framework to that alternative.
892	(5) The regulatory relief office shall submit as part of the report described in Section
893	63N-16-105:
894	(a) a detailed overview of the regulatory relief office's study of the laws and regulations
895	as described in this section, including the reasons why the laws and regulations of a
896	particular industry were selected for study and the strategy the office implemented to
897	study the laws and regulations of that industry; and
898	(b) recommended changes to a law or regulation identified by the regulatory relief office
899	in Subsection (4) that the regulatory relief office determines:
900	(i) is inhibiting the success of businesses, companies, or industries; and
901	(ii) would not present a high risk level to the public if the law or regulation were
902	permanently removed or temporarily waived.
903	Section 20. Section 72-1-203 is amended to read:
904	72-1-203 . Deputy director Appointment Qualifications Other assistants
905	and advisers Salaries.
906	(1) The executive director shall appoint the following deputy directors, who shall serve at
907	the discretion of the executive director:
908	(a) the deputy director of engineering and operation, who shall be a registered
909	professional engineer in the state, and who shall be the chief engineer of the
910	department; and
911	(b) the deputy director of planning and investment.
912	(2) As assigned by the executive director, the deputy directors described in Subsection (1)
913	may assist the executive director with the following departmental responsibilities:
914	(a) project development, including statewide standards for project design and

915	construction, right-of-way, materials, testing, structures, and construction;
916	(b) oversight of the management of the region offices described in Section 72-1-205;
917	(c) operations and traffic management;
918	(d) oversight of operations of motor carriers and ports;
919	(e) transportation systems safety;
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
924	transportation;
925	(ii) coordination with metropolitan planning organizations and local governments;
926	(iii) coordination with a large public transit district, including planning, project
927	development, outreach, programming, environmental studies and impact
928	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
934	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
940	providers described in Section 17B-2a-827;
941	(r) oversight and supervision of any fixed guideway capital development project within
942	the boundaries of a large public transit district for which any state funds are
943	expended, including those responsibilities described in Subsections (2)(a), (h), (j),
944	(k), and (l), and the implementation and enforcement of any federal grant obligations
945	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
948	supervise both the fixed guideway capital development responsibilities described in

949	Subsection (2)(r) and the department's fixed guideway rail safety responsibilities,
950	including the responsibilities described in Section 72-1-214.
951	(4) The executive director shall ensure that the same deputy director does not oversee or
952	supervise both the authorization of a telecommunication provider to have longitudinal
953	access to state right-of-way as described in Section 72-7-108, and the operations and
954	duties of the Utah Broadband Center created in Section 72-19-201.
955	Section 21. Section 72-1-303 is amended to read:
956	72-1-303 . 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
959	transportation systems and the capital development of new public transit facilities for
960	each fiscal year based on project lists compiled by the department and taking into
961	consideration the strategic initiatives described in Section 72-1-211;
962	(b) determining additions and deletions to state highways under Chapter 4, Designation
963	of State Highways Act;
964	(c) holding public meetings and otherwise providing for public input in transportation
965	matters;
966	(d) making policies and rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah
967	Administrative Rulemaking Act, necessary to perform the commission's duties
968	described under this section;
969	(e) in accordance with Section 63G-4-301, reviewing orders issued by the executive
970	director in adjudicative proceedings held in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 4,
971	Administrative Procedures Act;
972	(f) advising the department on state transportation systems policy;
973	(g) approving settlement agreements of condemnation cases subject to Section
974	63G-10-401;
975	(h) in accordance with Section 17B-2a-807, appointing a commissioner to serve as a
976	nonvoting member or a voting member on the board of trustees of a public transit
977	district;
978	(i) in accordance with Section 17B-2a-808, reviewing, at least annually, the short-term
979	and long-range public transit plans;
980	(j) determining the priorities and funding levels of public transit innovation grants, as
981	defined in Section 72-2-401;[-and]
982	(k) approving grant awards administered by the Utah Broadband Center in accordance

983	with Section 17-19-301; and
984	[(k)] (1) reviewing administrative rules made, substantively amended, or repealed by the
985	department.
986	(2)(a) For projects prioritized with funding provided under Sections 72-2-124 and
987	72-2-125, the commission shall annually report to a committee designated by the
988	Legislative Management Committee:
989	(i) a prioritized list of the new transportation capacity projects in the state
990	transportation system and the funding levels available for those projects; and
991	(ii) the unfunded highway construction and maintenance needs within the state.
992	(b) The committee designated by the Legislative Management Committee under
993	Subsection (2)(a) shall:
994	(i) review the list reported by the Transportation Commission; and
995	(ii) make a recommendation to the Legislature on:
996	(A) the amount of additional funding to allocate to transportation; and
997	(B) the source of revenue for the additional funding allocation under Subsection
998	(2)(b)(ii)(A).
999	(3) The commission shall review and may approve plans for the construction of a highway
1000	facility over sovereign lakebed lands in accordance with Chapter 6, Part 3, Approval of
1001	Highway Facilities on Sovereign Lands Act.
1002	(4) One or more associations representing airport operators or pilots in the state shall
1003	annually report to the commission recommended airport improvement projects and any
1004	other information related to the associations' expertise and relevant to the commission's
1005	duties.
1006	Section 22. Section 72-19-101 , which is renumbered from Section 63N-17-102 is renumbered
1007	and amended to read:
1008	CHAPTER 19. UTAH BROADBAND CENTER
1009	Part 1. General Provisions
1010	[63N-17-102] <u>72-19-101</u> . Definitions.
1011	As used in this chapter:
1012	(1) "Broadband center" means the Utah Broadband Center created in Section [63N-17-201]
1013	<u>72-19-201</u> .
1014	(2) "Broadband commission" means the Utah Broadband Center Advisory Commission
1015	created in Section 36-29-109.

1016	[(2)] (3) "Final proposal" means the submission provided by the state to the Assistant
1017	Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information as part of the state's
1018	BEAD Application, as set forth in 47 U.S.C. Sec. 1702(e)(4).
1019	[(3)] (4) "Initial proposal" means the submission provided by the state to the Assistant
1020	Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information as part of the state's
1021	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
1023	Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information as part of the state's
1024	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
1026	government entity and one or more private persons to fund and provide for a public need
1027	through the development or operation of a public project in which the private person or
1028	persons share with the government entity the responsibility or risk of developing,
1029	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 [
1033	63N-17-401] <u>72-19-401</u> .
1034	[(7)] (8) "State BEAD application" means a submission by the state for a grant under the
1035	federal Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program established under 47 U.S.C.
1036	Sec. 1702(b), consisting of a letter of intent, initial proposal, and final proposal.
1037	Section 23. Section 72-19-201 , which is renumbered from Section 63N-17-201 is renumbered
1038	and amended to read:
1039	Part 2. Utah Broadband Center
1040	[63N-17-201] <u>72-19-201</u> . Utah Broadband Center Creation Director
1041	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
1044	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
1047	provide a public benefit;
1048	(b) develop the statewide digital connectivity plan described in Section [63N-17-203]
1049	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,
1052	Broadband Access Grant Program] created in Section 72-19-301; and
1053	(e) administer the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Grant Program [in
1054	accordance with Part 4, Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program] created
1055	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
1060	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
1063	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,
1065	and services of public and private broadband providers.
1066	Section 24. Section 72-19-202, which is renumbered from Section 63N-17-202 is renumbered
1067	and amended to read:
1068	$[63N-17-202]$ $\underline{72-19-202}$. Infrastructure and broadband coordination.
1069	(1) The broadband center shall partner with the Utah Geospatial Resource Center created in
1070	Section 63A-16-505 to collect and maintain a database and interactive map that displays
1071	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,
1079	commuter rail routes, airport locations, and major highways;
1080	(e) lifestyle data, which may include information regarding state parks, national parks
1081	and monuments, United States Forest Service boundaries, ski areas, golf courses, and
1082	hospitals; and
1083	(f) other relevant economic development data as determined by the office, including data

1084 provided by partner organizations. 1085 (2) The broadband center may: 1086 (a) make recommendations to state and federal agencies, local governments, the 1087 governor, and the Legislature regarding policies and initiatives that promote the 1088 development of broadband-related infrastructure in the state and help implement 1089 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 1092 Internet speed, capacity, the number of unique visitors, and the availability of 1093 broadband infrastructure throughout the state; 1094 (d) create a voluntary broadband alliance, which shall include broadband providers and 1095 other public and private stakeholders, to solicit input on broadband-related policy 1096 guidance, best practices, and adoption strategies; (e) work with broadband providers, state and local governments, and other public and 1097 1098 private stakeholders to facilitate and encourage the expansion and maintenance of 1099 broadband infrastructure throughout the state; and 1100 (f) in accordance with the requirements of Title 63J, Chapter 5, Federal Funds 1101 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. Section 25. Section 72-19-203, which is renumbered from Section 63N-17-203 is renumbered 1105 1106 and amended to read: 1107 [63N-17-203] 72-19-203. Statewide digital connectivity plan. 1108 As used in this section: 1109 (1) ["Commission"] "Broadband commission" means the Utah Broadband Center Advisory 1110 Commission created in Section 36-29-109. 1111 (2) "Strategic plan" means the statewide digital connectivity plan created in accordance 1112 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.
1119	(5) In developing the strategic plan, the broadband center shall work with the <u>broadband</u>
1120	commission.
1121	[(6) The broadband center shall provide the commission with quarterly status updates
1122	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	[(c) 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)] <u>(6)</u> The broadband center shall submit the strategic plan to the <u>broadband</u> commission
1135	for the <u>broadband</u> 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
1137	broadband commission and the Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology Interim
1138	Committee regarding status updates.
1139	Section 26. Section 72-19-301 , which is renumbered from Section 63N-17-301 is renumbered
1140	and amended to read:
1141	Part 3. Broadband Access Grant Program
1142	[63N-17-301] 72-19-301 . 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
1147	parties to a public-private partnership established for the purpose of expanding
1148	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
1151	area's access to broadband service, as further defined by rule made by the department

1152	in coordination with the broadband center.
1153	(c) "Unserved area" means an area of the state that is unserved in terms of the area's
1154	access to broadband service, as further defined by rule made by the department in
1155	coordination with the broadband center.
1156	(2) There is established a grant program known as the Broadband Access Grant Program
1157	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
1159	that submits to the broadband center an application that includes a proposed project
1160	to extend broadband service to individuals and businesses in an unserved area or an
1161	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
1163	proposed project that also includes middle-mile elements that are necessary for the
1164	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
1170	impacted community to identify the community's needs and innovative means
1171	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
1173	benefit to the impacted community developed in response to the eligible
1174	applicant's engagement with the community;
1175	(iv) located in an economically distressed area of the state, as measured by indices of
1176	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
1180	the proposed project, with higher priority to proposed projects for which the
1181	eligible applicant provides a greater percentage of the money needed for the
1182	proposed project; and
1183	(b) consider the impact of available funding for the proposed project from other sources,
1184	including money from matching federal grant programs.
1185	(5) For a project that the eligible applicant cannot complete in a single fiscal year, the

1186	broadband center may distribute grant proceeds for the project over the course of the
1187	project's construction.
1188	(6)(a) Before awarding a grant under this part, the broadband center shall present the
1189	application described in Subsection (3) to the Transportation Commission for
1190	approval.
1191	(b) In awarding a grant under this part, the broadband center shall ensure that grant
1192	funds are not used by a subgrantee in a manner that causes competition among
1193	projects that are substantially supported by state funds or federal funds subgranted by
1194	the state[, as determine in accordance with rules made by the broadband center in
1195	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
1197	Records Access and Management Act, a record submitted to the broadband center that
1198	contains a trade secret or confidential commercial information described in Subsection
1199	63G-2-305(2) is a protected record.
1200	Section 27. Section 72-19-302, which is renumbered from Section 63N-17-302 is renumbered
1201	and amended to read:
1202	[63N-17-302] <u>72-19-302</u> . 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
1205	under this part, which application shall include:
1206	(i) a declaration, signed under penalty of perjury, that the application is complete,
1207	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
1210	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
1213	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)
1218	and in accordance with Section [63N-17-301] 72-19-301.
1219	(3) [In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the

1220	broadband center may make rules to administer the grant program] The department, in
1220	coordination with the broadband center, may make rules in accordance with Title 63G,
1222	Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to administer the grant program.
1223	Section 28. Section 72-19-401 , which is renumbered from Section 63N-17-401 is renumbered
12241225	and amended to read: Part 4. Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Grant Program
1226	[63N-17-401] 72-19-401. Creation of Broadband Equity Access and Deployment
1227	Grant Program.
1228	(1) There is established a grant program known as the Broadband Equity Access and
1229	Deployment Grant Program that is administered by the broadband center in accordance
1230	with:
1231	(a) this part; and
1232	(b) the requirements of the National Telecommunications and Information
1233	Administration's Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program, 47 U.S.C. Sec.
1234	1702 et seq.
1235	(2) The broadband center shall:
1236	(a) prepare and submit the state's Broadband Equity Access and Deployment application,
1237	including the letter of intent, initial proposal, and final proposal to the National
1238	Telecommunications and Information Administration;
1239	(b) administer the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Grant Program in
1240	accordance with this section and as approved by the National Telecommunications
1241	and Information Administration;
1242	(c) accept and process an application for subgranted funds; and
1243	[(d) report to the broadband commission quarterly on:]
1244	[(i) the progress of the broadband center's submission described in Subsection (2)(a);]
1245	[(ii) the administration of the program;]
1246	[(iii) applications received for subgranted funding;]
1247	[(iv) approved applications for subgranted funds; and]
1248	[(v) projects supported by subgranted funds;]
1249	[(e)] (d) ensure that a subgrantee complies with the state's final proposal to the National
1250	Telecommunications and Information Administration[; and] .
1251	[(f) make rules, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative
1252	Rulemaking Act, necessary to administer this section.]
1253	(3) The department, in coordination with the broadband center, may make rules in

1254	accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to
1255	administer the grant program.
1256	[(3) The broadband commission shall give the broadband center recommendations during
1257	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
1262	Information Administration's Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program, 47
1263	U.S.C. Sec. 1702 et seq.; and
1264	(d) the broadband center has informed the [broadband commission] Transportation
1265	<u>Commission</u> about the application[$\frac{1}{2}$] described in Subsection [$\frac{1}{2}$] (2)(c).
1266	(5) After the broadband center completes a competitive application process for subgranted
1267	funds but before the broadband center notifies the applicant of the award, the broadband
1268	center shall present to the [broadband commission] Transportation Commission on the
1269	subgrant award.
1270	Section 29. Repealer.
1271	This bill repeals:
1272	Section 63N-1a-201, Creation of commission.
1273	Section 63N-1a-202, Commission duties.
1274	Section 63N-1b-102, Subcommittees generally.
1275	Section 63N-1b-401, Definitions.
1276	Section 63N-1b-402, Women in the Economy Subcommittee created.
1277	Section 63N-1b-403, Purpose Powers and duties of the subcommittee.
1278	Section 63N-1b-404, Annual report.
1279	Section 63N-3-204, Administration Grants and loans.
1280	Section 30. Effective Date.
1281	This bill takes effect on July 1, 2025.