

Chris H. Wilson proposes the following substitute bill:

Economic Development Amendments

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Jon Hawkins

Senate Sponsor: Chris H. Wilson

LONG TITLE

General Description:

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

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ amends and defines terms;
- ▶ amends provisions of the Office of Homeless Services regarding certain legislative appropriations;
- ▶ amends provisions of the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity (office);
- ▶ repeals the Unified Economic Opportunity Commission and associated committees and subcommittees;
- ▶ renumbers and amends the Utah Broadband Center and Access Act;
- ▶ creates the Office of Housing within the office;
- ▶ directs the executive director of the office to coordinate with various departments and officials in order to consolidate certain state housing programs from the Housing and Community Development Division within the office by July 1, 2026;
- ▶ removes the sunset date on the Utah Housing Corporation;
- ▶ makes technical and conforming changes; and
- ▶ provides intent language regarding the transfer of funding from the Utah Board of Higher Education - Administration fund to the Utah Board of Higher Education Nucleus Institute upon passage of this bill and H.B. 530, Utah Innovation Lab Modifications.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

This bill transfers money from the funds or accounts of the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity - Economic Prosperity to the funds or accounts of the Utah Board of Higher Education - Administration.

This bill appropriates \$1,900,000 in operating and capital budgets for fiscal year 2026, all of

29 which is from the General Fund.

30 **Other Special Clauses:**

31 This bill provides a special effective date.

32 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

33 AMENDS:

- 34 **11-59-203 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 413
- 35 **35A-8-2203 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapters 118,
- 36 406
- 37 **36-12-23 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 506
- 38 **36-29-109 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 458
- 39 **53B-34-101 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2022,
- 40 Chapter 362
- 41 **53B-34-102 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2022,
- 42 Chapter 362
- 43 **53B-34-111 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 482
- 44 **63H-8-302 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 164
- 45 and renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 226
- 46 **63I-1-263 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Third Special
- 47 Session, Chapter 4
- 48 **63N-1a-102 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159
- 49 **63N-1a-301 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159
- 50 **63N-1a-303 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 362
- 51 **63N-1a-304 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2021,
- 52 Chapter 282
- 53 **63N-1a-305 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2021,
- 54 Chapter 282
- 55 **63N-1a-306 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 362
- 56 **63N-1a-401 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159
- 57 **63N-2-103 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 438
- 58 **63N-2-104.3 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 499
- 59 **63N-2-107 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159
- 60 **63N-16-302 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 157
- 61 **72-1-203 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 517
- 62 **72-1-303 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 498

63 ENACTS:

64 **35A-16-103 (Effective 07/01/25)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

65 **63N-1a-303.2 (Effective 07/01/25)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

66 **63N-22-101 (Effective 05/07/25)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

67 RENUMBERS AND AMENDS:

68 **72-19-101 (Effective 07/01/25)**, (Renumbered from 63N-17-102, as last amended
69 by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159)

70 **72-19-201 (Effective 07/01/25)**, (Renumbered from 63N-17-201, as last amended
71 by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159)

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

74 **72-19-203 (Effective 07/01/25)**, (Renumbered from 63N-17-203, as last amended
75 by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159)

76 **72-19-301 (Effective 07/01/25)**, (Renumbered from 63N-17-301, as last amended
77 by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159)

78 **72-19-302 (Effective 07/01/25)**, (Renumbered from 63N-17-302, as enacted by
79 Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 282)

80 **72-19-401 (Effective 07/01/25)**, (Renumbered from 63N-17-401, as enacted by
81 Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159)

82 REPEALS:

83 **63N-1a-201 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159

84 **63N-1a-202 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159

85 **63N-1b-102 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 118

86 **63N-1b-401 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2022,
87 Chapter 362

88 **63N-1b-402 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 499

89 **63N-1b-403 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 499

90 **63N-1b-404 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 159

91 **63N-3-204 (Effective 07/01/25)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 362

92

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

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

95 **11-59-203 (Effective 07/01/25). Authority duties and responsibilities.**

96 (1) As the authority plans, manages, and implements the development of the point of the

- 97 mountain state land, the authority shall pursue development strategies and objectives
98 designed to:
- 99 (a) maximize the creation of high-quality jobs and encourage and facilitate a highly
100 trained workforce;
 - 101 (b) ensure strategic residential and commercial growth;
 - 102 (c) promote a high quality of life for residents on and surrounding the point of the
103 mountain state land, including strategic planning to facilitate:
 - 104 (i) jobs close to where people live;
 - 105 (ii) vibrant urban centers;
 - 106 (iii) housing types that incorporate affordability factors and match workforce needs;
 - 107 (iv) parks, connected trails, and open space, including the preservation of natural
108 lands to the extent practicable and consistent with the overall development plan;
109 and
 - 110 (v) preserving and enhancing recreational opportunities;
 - 111 (d) complement the development on land in the vicinity of the point of the mountain
112 state land;
 - 113 (e) improve air quality and minimize resource use;
 - 114 (f) accommodate and incorporate the planning, funding, and development of an
115 enhanced and expanded future transit and transportation infrastructure and other
116 investments, including:
 - 117 (i) the acquisition of rights-of-way and property necessary to ensure transit access to
118 the point of the mountain state land; and
 - 119 (ii) a world class mass transit infrastructure, to service the point of the mountain state
120 land and to enhance mobility and protect the environment; and
 - 121 (g) if appropriate, exercise its land use authority to increase the supply of housing in the
122 state.
 - 123 (2) In planning the development of the point of the mountain state land, the authority shall:
 - 124 (a) consult with applicable governmental planning agencies, including:
 - 125 (i) relevant metropolitan planning organizations; and
 - 126 (ii) Draper City and Salt Lake County planning and governing bodies; ~~and~~
 - 127 ~~[(iii) in regards to the factors described in Subsections (1)(c)(i) and (iii), the Unified~~
128 ~~Economic Opportunity Commission created in Section 63N-1a-201;]~~
 - 129 (b) research and explore the feasibility of attracting a nationally recognized research
130 center; and

131 (c) research and explore the appropriateness of including labor training centers and a
132 higher education presence on the point of the mountain state land.

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

134 **35A-8-2203 (Effective 07/01/25). Duties of the commission.**

135 (1) The commission shall:

136 [~~(a) serve as a subcommittee of the Unified Economic Opportunity Commission and~~
137 ~~assist the Unified Economic Opportunity Commission in performing the Unified~~
138 ~~Economic Opportunity Commission's duties under Section 63N-1a-202;]~~

139 [~~(b)~~] (a) increase public and government awareness and understanding of the housing
140 affordability needs of the state and how those needs may be most effectively and
141 efficiently met, through empirical study and investigation;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

160 (i) reports;

161 (ii) audits;

162 (iii) projections; and

163 (iv) statistics; and

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

- 165 (3)(a) A member of an advisory group described in Subsection (2)(b):
 166 (i) shall be appointed by the commission;
 167 (ii) may be:
 168 (A) a member of the commission; or
 169 (B) an individual from the private or public sector; and
 170 (iii) notwithstanding Section 35A-8-2202, may not receive reimbursement or pay for
 171 any work done in relation to the advisory group.

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

174 Section 3. Section **35A-16-103** is enacted to read:

175 **35A-16-103 (Effective 07/01/25). Applicability.**

176 The provisions of this chapter governing funding for the provision of homeless services
 177 do not apply to money the Legislature appropriates for a direct award grant governed by Title
 178 63G, Chapter 6b, State Grants.

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

180 **36-12-23 (Effective 07/01/25). Legislative committees -- Staffing.**

181 (1) As used in this section:

- 182 (a) "Chair" means a presiding officer or a co-presiding officer of a committee.
 183 (b) "Committee" means a standing committee, interim committee, subcommittee, special
 184 committee, authority, commission, council, task force, panel, or board in which
 185 legislative participation is required by statute or legislative rule.
 186 (c) "Legislative committee" means a committee:
 187 (i) formed by the Legislature to study or oversee subjects of legislative concern; and
 188 (ii) that is required by statute or legislative rule to have a chair who is a legislator.
 189 (d) "Legislator" means a member of either chamber of the Legislature.
 190 (e) "Professional legislative office" means the Office of Legislative Research and
 191 General Counsel, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, the Office of the
 192 Legislative Auditor General, or similar office of the Legislature.

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

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

- 199 professional legislative office will staff the legislative committee.
- 200 (3)(a) Subject to Subsection (3)(b), the provisions of this section control over any
 201 conflicting provision of statute or legislative rule.
- 202 (b)(i) If another provision of statute or legislative rule directs an entity other than a
 203 professional legislative office to provide a legislative committee's staff support,
 204 notwithstanding Subsection (2), a legislator who is a chair of the legislative
 205 committee may elect to have the other entity provide the legislative committee's
 206 staff support.
- 207 (ii) If the legislative committee has more than one chair who is a legislator, the chairs
 208 who are legislators shall collectively make the election under Subsection (3)(b)(i).
- 209 (iii) A chair or chairs who make an election under Subsection (3)(b)(i) may change
 210 the chair's or chairs' election no more than once each calendar year.
- 211 (4) This section does not apply to:
- 212 (a) the Point of the Mountain State Land Authority created in Section 11-59-201;
 213 (b) the Utah Broadband Center Advisory Commission created in Section 36-29-109;
 214 (c) the Blockchain and Digital Innovation Task Force created in Section 36-29-110;
 215 (d) the Public Safety Data Management Task Force created in Section 36-29-111;
 216 (e) the Constitutional Defense Council created in Section 63C-4a-202;
 217 [~~(f) the Women in the Economy Subcommittee created in Section 63N-1b-402;~~]
 218 [~~(g)~~ (f) the House Ethics Committee established under Legislative Joint Rule JR6-2-101;
 219 or
 220 [~~(h)~~ (g) the Senate Ethics Committee established under Legislative Joint Rule JR6-2-101.
- 221 Section 5. Section **36-29-109** is amended to read:
- 222 **36-29-109 (Effective 07/01/25). Utah Broadband Center Advisory Commission.**
- 223 (1) As used in this section:
- 224 (a) "Broadband infrastructure funds" means the funds available for broadband
 225 infrastructure pursuant to:
 226 (i) the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Pub. L. No. 115-58;
 227 (ii) legislative appropriations; and
 228 (iii) state and federal grants.
- 229 (b) [~~"Center"~~] "Broadband center" means the Utah Broadband Center created in Section [
 230 ~~63N-17-201~~] 72-19-201.
- 231 (c) [~~"Commission"~~] "Broadband commission" means the Utah Broadband Center
 232 Advisory Commission created in Subsection (2).

- 233 (d) "Strategic plan" means the statewide digital connectivity plan described in Section [
234 63N-17-203] 72-19-203.
- 235 (2) There is created the Utah Broadband Center Advisory Commission consisting of the
236 following nine voting members:
- 237 (a) two members of the Senate, appointed by the president of the Senate;
- 238 (b) two members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the speaker of the
239 House of Representatives;
- 240 (c) the executive director of the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, or the
241 executive director's designee;
- 242 (d) the governor shall appoint four members who currently work in the public sector and
243 who have professional experience in:
- 244 (i) broadband or broadband infrastructure;
- 245 (ii) applying for federal grants; or
- 246 (iii) financing infrastructure.
- 247 (3) In addition to the nine voting members, the director of the broadband center, or the
248 director's designee, shall serve on the broadband commission in a nonvoting capacity.
- 249 (4)(a) The president of the Senate shall designate one of the members described in
250 Subsection (2)(a) to serve as cochair of the broadband commission.
- 251 (b) The speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate one of the members
252 described in Subsection (2)(b) to serve as cochair of the broadband commission.
- 253 (5)(a) If a vacancy occurs in the membership of the broadband commission, the member
254 shall be replaced in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.
- 255 (b) A member shall serve until the member's successor is appointed and qualified.
- 256 (6)(a) A majority of the members of the broadband commission constitutes a quorum.
- 257 (b) The action of a majority of a quorum constitutes an action of the broadband
258 commission.
- 259 (7)(a) Salaries and expenses of the members of the broadband commission who are
260 legislators shall be paid in accordance with:
- 261 (i) Section 36-2-2;
- 262 (ii) Legislative Joint Rules, Title 5, Chapter 2, Lodging, Meal, and Transportation
263 Expenses; and
- 264 (iii) Legislative Joint Rules, Title 5, Chapter 3, Legislator Compensation.
- 265 (b) A member of the broadband commission who is not a legislator may not receive
266 compensation for the member's work associated with the broadband commission but

267 may receive per diem and reimbursement for travel expenses incurred as a member of
268 the broadband commission at the rates established by the Division of Finance under:
269 (i) Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107; and
270 (ii) rules made by the Division of Finance in accordance with Sections 63A-3-106
271 and 63A-3-107.

272 (8) The broadband center shall provide staff support to the broadband commission.

273 (9) The broadband commission shall:

274 (a) make recommendations to the broadband center with respect to:

275 (i) strategic plan development; and

276 (ii) the application for and use of broadband infrastructure funds;

277 (b) solicit input from relevant stakeholders, including:

278 (i) public and private entities who may assist in developing and implementing the
279 strategic plan; and

280 (ii) public and private entities whom the strategic plan may impact;

281 (c) provide recommendations for strategic plan development and implementation based
282 on the input described in Subsection (9)(b);

283 (d) review strategic plan drafts; and

284 (e) recommend changes.

285 (10) The broadband commission shall meet as needed.

286 Section 6. Section **53B-34-101** is amended to read:

287 **53B-34-101 (Effective 07/01/25). Definitions.**

288 As used in this chapter:

289 (1) "Apprenticeship program" means a program that:

290 (a) combines paid on-the-job learning with formal classroom instruction to prepare
291 students for careers; and

292 (b) includes:

293 (i) structured on-the-job learning for students under the supervision of a skilled
294 employee;

295 (ii) classroom instruction for students related to the on-the-job learning;

296 (iii) ongoing student assessments using established competency and skills standards;
297 and

298 (iv) the student receiving an industry-recognized credential or degree upon
299 completion of the program.

300 (2) "Career and technical education region" means an economic service area created in

- 301 Section 35A-2-101.
- 302 (3) "GOEO" means the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity created in Section
 303 63N-1a-301.
- 304 [~~(3) "Commission" means the Unified Economic Opportunity Commission created in~~
 305 ~~Section 63N-1a-201.]~~
- 306 (4) "High quality professional learning" means the professional learning standards for
 307 teachers and principals described in Section 53G-11-303.
- 308 (5) "Institution of higher education" means the University of Utah, Utah State University,
 309 Southern Utah University, Weber State University, Snow College, Utah Tech
 310 University, Utah Valley University, or Salt Lake Community College.
- 311 (6) "Local education agency" means a school district, a charter school, or the Utah Schools
 312 for the Deaf and the Blind.
- 313 (7) "Master plan" means the computer science education master plan described in Section
 314 53B-34-105.
- 315 (8) "Participating employer" means an employer that:
- 316 (a) partners with an educational institution on a curriculum for an apprenticeship
 317 program or work-based learning program; and
- 318 (b) provides an apprenticeship or work-based learning program for students.
- 319 (9) "State board" means the State Board of Education.
- 320 (10) "Talent board" means the Talent, Education, and Industry Alignment Board created in
 321 Section 53B-34-102.
- 322 (11) "Talent program" means the Talent Ready Utah Program created in Section
 323 53B-34-103.
- 324 (12) "Targeted industry" means an industry or group of industries targeted by [~~the~~
 325 ~~commission-] GOEO for economic development in the state.~~
- 326 (13) "Technical college" means:
- 327 (a) the same as that term is defined in Section 53B-1-101.5; and
- 328 (b) a degree-granting institution acting in the degree-granting institution's technical
 329 education role described in Section 53B-2a-201.
- 330 (14)(a) "Work-based learning program" means a program that combines structured and
 331 supervised learning activities with authentic work experiences and that is
 332 implemented through industry and education partnerships.
- 333 (b) "Work-based learning program" includes the following objectives:
- 334 (i) providing students an applied workplace experience using knowledge and skills

- 335 attained in a program of study that includes an internship, externship, or work
 336 experience;
- 337 (ii) providing an educational institution with objective input from a participating
 338 employer regarding the education requirements of the current workforce; and
- 339 (iii) providing funding for programs that are associated with high-wage, in-demand,
 340 or emerging occupations.

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

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

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

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

- 348 (a) the state superintendent of public instruction or the superintendent's designee;
- 349 (b) the commissioner or the commissioner's designee;
- 350 (c) the chair of the State Board of Education or the chair's designee;
- 351 (d) the executive director of the Department of Workforce Services or the executive
 352 director's designee;
- 353 (e) the executive director of the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity or the
 354 executive director's designee;
- 355 (f) the director of the Division of Professional Licensing or the director's designee;
- 356 (g) the governor's education advisor or the advisor's designee;
- 357 (h) one member of the Senate, appointed by the president of the Senate;
- 358 (i) one member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the speaker of the House
 359 of Representatives;
- 360 (j) the president of the Salt Lake Chamber or the president's designee;
- 361 (k) six representatives of private industry chosen to represent targeted industries,
 362 appointed by [~~the commission~~] GOEO;
- 363 (l) the lieutenant governor or the lieutenant governor's designee; and
- 364 (m) any additional individuals appointed by [~~the commission~~] GOEO who represent:
- 365 (i) one or more individual educational institutions; or
- 366 (ii) education or industry professionals.

367 (2) The talent board shall select a chair and vice chair from among the members of the
 368 talent board.

- 369 (3) The talent board shall meet at least quarterly.
- 370 (4) Attendance of a majority of the members of the talent board constitutes a quorum for
371 the transaction of official talent board business.
- 372 (5) Formal action by the talent board requires the majority vote of a quorum.
- 373 (6) A member of the talent board:
- 374 (a) may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service; and
- 375 (b) who is not a legislator may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:
- 376 (i) Section 63A-3-106;
- 377 (ii) Section 63A-3-107; and
- 378 (iii) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and
379 63A-3-107.
- 380 (7) The talent board shall:
- 381 (a)(i) review and develop metrics to measure the progress, performance,
382 effectiveness, and scope of any state operation, activity, program, or service that
383 primarily involves employment training or placement; and
- 384 (ii) ensure that the metrics described in Subsection (7)(a) are consistent and
385 comparable for each state operation, activity, program, or service that primarily
386 involves employment training or placement;
- 387 (b) make recommendations to the board and [~~the commission~~] GOEO regarding how to
388 better align training and education in the state with industry demand;
- 389 (c) make recommendations to the board and [~~the commission~~] GOEO regarding how to
390 better align technical education with current and future workforce needs;
- 391 (d) coordinate with the talent program to meet the responsibilities described in [
392 ~~Subsection 53B-34-103(4)~~] Section 53B-34-103;
- 393 (e) develop a computer science education master plan in accordance with Section
394 53B-34-105;
- 395 (f) coordinate with the talent program to meet the responsibilities described in Section
396 53B-34-107; and
- 397 (g) administer the Utah Works Program in accordance with Section 53B-34-108.
- 398 (8) Nothing in this section prohibits an individual who, on June 30, 2022, is a member of a
399 subcommittee within the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity known as the
400 Talent, Education, and Industry Alignment Subcommittee from serving as a member of
401 the talent board.
- 402 Section 8. Section **53B-34-111** is amended to read:

- 403 **53B-34-111 (Effective 07/01/25). Youth apprenticeship governance study.**
- 404 (1) As used in this section:
- 405 (a) "Apprenticeship" means the same as the term is defined in Section 35A-6-102.
- 406 (b) "Study" means the study created in Subsection (2).
- 407 (2) There is created a study to design a framework and system for maximizing efficiencies
- 408 and expanding youth apprenticeship opportunities for students.
- 409 (3) The study shall be conducted collaboratively by the following entities:
- 410 (a) the ~~[Governor's Office]~~ governor's office;
- 411 (b) the State Board of Education;
- 412 (c) the Department of Workforce Services;
- 413 (d) the Talent Ready Utah Program; and
- 414 (e) relevant participating employers as determined by the entities described in
- 415 Subsections (3)(a) through (d).
- 416 (4) The study shall examine framework and system design recommendations regarding:
- 417 (a) ways to increase youth apprenticeship offerings;
- 418 (b) increasing student and employer participation in youth apprenticeships;
- 419 (c) formalizing roles and streamlining use of existing infrastructure described in:
- 420 (i) Title 35A, Chapter 6, Apprenticeship Act;
- 421 (ii) Title 53B, Chapter 34, Talent, Education, and Industry Alignment, including the
- 422 role of the state apprenticeship intermediary described in Section 53B-34-103; and
- 423 (iii) Section 53G-7-902;
- 424 (d) aligning youth apprenticeship efforts to meet the definition of youth apprenticeship
- 425 defined in Section 35A-6-102;
- 426 (e) identifying metrics to assess the success of youth apprenticeship programs;
- 427 (f) opportunities to leverage secondary and post-secondary educational programs in
- 428 conjunction with youth apprenticeships, including:
- 429 (i) career and technical education;
- 430 (ii) concurrent enrollment; and
- 431 (iii) stackable credentials; and
- 432 (g) the creation of career competencies to prepare a qualified workforce.
- 433 (5) The staff of the Talent Ready Utah Program shall staff the study.
- 434 (6) No later than May 1, 2025, the entities described in ~~[Subsections (3)(a) through (e)]~~
- 435 Subsection (3) shall report the recommendations described in Subsection (4) to~~[:]~~
- 436 ~~[(a)]~~ the talent board~~[:; and]~~ .

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

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

439 **63H-8-302 (Effective 07/01/25). Corporation -- Additional powers.**

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

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

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

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

453 (d) to provide financial assistance to any housing authority created under Title 35A,
454 Chapter 8, Part 4, Housing Authorities, which housing authorities may enter into
455 commitments for and accept loans for a housing project as defined in Section
456 35A-8-401; and

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

460 (2) The corporation may issue bonds to purchase loans under Subsection (1)(a) only after a
461 determination by the corporation that the loans are not otherwise available upon
462 reasonably equivalent terms and conditions from private lenders.

463 (3) Loans for owner-occupied housing made under Subsection (1)(a) may not include a
464 penalty for prepayment.

465 (4) The corporation shall make rules or adopt policies and procedures to govern the
466 activities authorized under this section, including:

467 (a) procedures for the submission of requests or the invitation of proposals for the
468 purchase and sale of mortgage loans and the making of mortgage loans;

469 (b) rates, fees, charges, and other terms and conditions of originating or servicing
470 mortgage loans in order to protect against a realization of an excessive financial

- 471 return or benefit by the originator or servicer;
- 472 (c) the type and amount of collateral, payment bonds, performance bonds, or other
473 security to be provided for construction loans made by the corporation;
- 474 (d) the nature and amounts of fees to be charged by the corporation to provide for
475 expenses and reserves of the corporation;
- 476 (e) procedures allowing the corporation to prohibit persons who fail to comply with the
477 rules of the corporation with respect to the operations of a program of the corporation
478 from participating, either directly or indirectly, in the programs of the corporation;
- 479 (f) the terms and conditions under which the corporation may purchase and make
480 mortgage loans under each program of the corporation;
- 481 (g) the terms and conditions under which the corporation may provide financial
482 assistance under each program of the corporation;
- 483 (h) the terms and conditions under which the corporation may guarantee mortgage loans
484 under each program of the corporation; and
- 485 (i) any other matters related to the duties or exercise of powers under this section.
- 486 (5)(a)(i) The trustees of the corporation shall elect the directors, trustees, and
487 members, if any, of each subsidiary.
- 488 (ii) Service by a trustee of the corporation in any of these capacities does not
489 constitute a conflict of interest for any purpose.
- 490 (iii) The corporation may delegate any of its powers and duties under this chapter to
491 any subsidiary.
- 492 (iv) Subsidiaries shall constitute legal entities separate and distinct from each other,
493 the corporation, and the state.
- 494 (b) A note, bond, and other obligation of a subsidiary shall contain on its face a
495 statement to the effect that:
- 496 (i) the subsidiary is obligated to pay the note, bond, or other obligation solely from
497 the revenues or other funds of the subsidiary;
- 498 (ii) neither the corporation, nor the state, nor any of its political subdivisions is
499 obligated to pay the note, bond, or other obligation; and
- 500 (iii) neither the faith and credit nor the taxing power of the state or its political
501 subdivisions is pledged to the payment of principal, the redemption price of, or the
502 interest on, the note, bond, or other obligation.
- 503 (c) Upon dissolution of a subsidiary of the corporation, any assets shall revert to the
504 corporation or to a successor to the corporation or, failing this succession, to the state.

- 505 (6)(a) The corporation may, with the approval of the state treasurer:
- 506 (i) enter into interest rate contracts that its trustees determine are necessary,
- 507 convenient, or appropriate for the control or management of debt or for the cost of
- 508 servicing debt; and
- 509 (ii) use corporation funds to satisfy its payment obligations under those contracts.
- 510 (b) An interest rate contract may contain payment, security, default, termination,
- 511 remedy, and other terms and conditions that the trustees consider appropriate.
- 512 (c) An interest rate contract and funds used in connection with an interest rate contract
- 513 may not be considered a deposit or investment.
- 514 (7) The corporation shall coordinate with the commissioner of the Governor's Office of
- 515 Economic Opportunity in fulfilling the corporation's duties.
- 516 Section 10. Section **63I-1-263** is amended to read:
- 517 **63I-1-263 (Effective 07/01/25). Repeal dates: Titles 63A to 63O.**
- 518 (1) Subsection 63A-5b-405(5), regarding prioritizing and allocating capital improvement
- 519 funding, is repealed July 1, 2024.
- 520 (2) Title 63C, Chapter 4a, Constitutional and Federalism Defense Act, is repealed July 1,
- 521 2028.
- 522 (3) Title 63C, Chapter 6, Utah Seismic Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2025.
- 523 (4) Title 63C, Chapter 18, Behavioral Health Crisis Response Committee, is repealed
- 524 December 31, 2026.
- 525 (5) Title 63C, Chapter 23, Education and Mental Health Coordinating Committee, is
- 526 repealed December 31, 2024.
- 527 (6) Title 63C, Chapter 25, State Finance Review Commission, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 528 (7) Title 63C, Chapter 27, Cybersecurity Commission, is repealed July 1, 2032.
- 529 (8) Title 63C, Chapter 28, Ethnic Studies Commission, is repealed July 1, 2026.
- 530 (9) Title 63C, Chapter 31, State Employee Benefits Advisory Commission, is repealed July
- 531 1, 2028.
- 532 (10) Section 63G-6a-805, Purchase from community rehabilitation programs, is repealed
- 533 July 1, 2026.
- 534 (11) Title 63G, Chapter 21, Agreements to Provide State Services, is repealed July 1, 2028.
- 535 (12) Title 63H, Chapter 4, Heber Valley Historic Railroad Authority, is repealed July 1,
- 536 2029.
- 537 [~~(13) Title 63H, Chapter 8, Utah Housing Corporation Act, is repealed July 1, 2026.~~]
- 538 [~~(14)~~] (13) Subsection 63J-1-602.2(16), related to the Communication Habits to reduce

539 Adolescent Threats (CHAT) Pilot Program, is repealed July 1, 2029.

540 [(15)] (14) Subsection 63J-1-602.2(26), regarding the Utah Seismic Safety Commission, is
541 repealed January 1, 2025.

542 [(16)] (15) Section 63L-11-204, Canyon resource management plan, is repealed July 1, 2025.

543 [(17)] (16) Title 63L, Chapter 11, Part 4, Resource Development Coordinating Committee,
544 is repealed July 1, 2027.

545 [(18)] (17) Title 63M, Chapter 7, Part 7, Domestic Violence Offender Treatment Board, is
546 repealed July 1, 2027.

547 [(19)] (18) Section 63M-7-902, Creation -- Membership -- Terms -- Vacancies -- Expenses,
548 is repealed July 1, 2029.

549 [(20)] (19) Title 63M, Chapter 11, Utah Commission on Aging, is repealed July 1, 2026.

550 (20) Section 63N-1a-302.2, Coordination of future Office of Housing, is repealed July 1,
551 2026.

552 [(21) Title 63N, Chapter 1b, Part 4, Women in the Economy Subcommittee, is repealed
553 January 1, 2030.]

554 [(22)] (21) Title 63N, Chapter 2, Part 2, Enterprise Zone Act, is repealed July 1, 2028.

555 [(23)] (22) Subsection 63N-2-511(1)(b), regarding the Board of Tourism Development, is
556 repealed July 1, 2025.

557 [(24)] (23) Section 63N-2-512, Hotel Impact Mitigation Fund, is repealed July 1, 2028.

558 [(25)] (24) Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 9, Strategic Innovation Grant Pilot Program, is
559 repealed July 1, 2027.

560 [(26)] (25) Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 11, Manufacturing Modernization Grant Program, is
561 repealed July 1, 2025.

562 [(27)] (26) Title 63N, Chapter 4, Part 4, Rural Employment Expansion Program, is repealed
563 July 1, 2028.

564 [(28)] (27) Section 63N-4-804, which creates the Rural Opportunity Advisory Committee, is
565 repealed July 1, 2027.

566 [(29)] (28) Subsection 63N-4-805(5)(b), regarding the Rural Employment Expansion
567 Program, is repealed July 1, 2028.

568 [(30)] (29) Subsection 63N-7-101(1), regarding the Board of Tourism Development, is
569 repealed July 1, 2025.

570 [(31)] (30) Subsection 63N-7-102(3)(c), regarding a requirement for the Utah Office of
571 Tourism to receive approval from the Board of Tourism Development, is repealed July
572 1, 2025.

573 [~~(32)~~] (31) Title 63N, Chapter 7, Part 2, Board of Tourism Development, is repealed July 1,
574 2025.

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

576 **63N-1a-102 (Effective 07/01/25). Definitions.**

577 As used in this title:

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

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

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

587 [~~(4)~~] (3) "Economic opportunity agency" includes:

- 588 (a) the Department of Workforce Services;
- 589 (b) the Department of Cultural and Community Engagement;
- 590 (c) the Department of Commerce;
- 591 (d) the Department of Natural Resources;
- 592 (e) the Office of Energy Development;
- 593 (f) the State Board of Education;
- 594 (g) institutions of higher education;
- 595 (h) the Utah Multicultural Commission;
- 596 (i) the World Trade Center Utah;
- 597 (j) local government entities;
- 598 (k) associations of governments;
- 599 (l) the Utah League of Cities and Towns;
- 600 (m) the Utah Association of Counties;
- 601 (n) the Economic Development Corporation of Utah;
- 602 (o) the Small Business Administration;
- 603 (p) chambers of commerce;
- 604 (q) industry associations;
- 605 (r) small business development centers; and
- 606 (s) other entities identified by the commission or the executive director.

- 607 [~~5~~] (4) "Executive director" means the executive director of the office.
- 608 [~~6~~] (5) "Full-time employee" means an employment position that is filled by an employee
609 who works at least 30 hours per week and:
- 610 (a) may include an employment position filled by more than one employee, if each
611 employee who works less than 30 hours per week is provided benefits comparable to
612 a full-time employee; and
- 613 (b) may not include an employment position that is shifted from one jurisdiction in the
614 state to another jurisdiction in the state.
- 615 [~~7~~] (6) "GOEO board" means the Board of Economic Opportunity created in Section
616 63N-1a-401.
- 617 [~~8~~] (7) "High paying job" means a newly created full-time employee position where the
618 aggregate average annual gross wage of the employment position, not including health
619 care or other paid or unpaid benefits, is:
- 620 (a) at least 110% of the average wage of the county in which the employment position
621 exists; or
- 622 (b) for an employment position related to a project described in Chapter 2, Part 1,
623 Economic Development Tax Increment Financing, and that is located within the
624 boundary of a county of the third, fourth, fifth, or sixth class, or located within a
625 municipality in a county of the second class and where the municipality has a
626 population of 10,000 or less:
- 627 (i) at least 100% of the average wage of the county in which the employment position
628 exists; or
- 629 (ii) an amount determined by rule made by the office in accordance with Title 63G,
630 Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, if the office determines the
631 project is in a county experiencing economic distress.
- 632 [~~9~~] (8)(a) "Incremental job" means a full-time employment position in the state that:
- 633 (i) did not exist within a business entity in the state before the beginning of a project
634 related to the business entity; and
- 635 (ii) is created in addition to the number of baseline jobs that existed within a business
636 entity.
- 637 (b) "Incremental job" includes a full-time employment position where the employee is
638 hired:
- 639 (i) directly by a business entity; or
- 640 (ii) by a professional employer organization, as defined in Section 31A-40-102, on

641 behalf of a business entity.

642 [(10)] (9) "New state revenue" means the state revenue collected from a business entity or a
643 business entity's employees during a calendar year minus the baseline state revenue
644 calculation.

645 [(11)] (10) "Office" or "GOEO" means the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity.

646 [(12)] (11) "State revenue" means state tax liability paid by a business entity or a business
647 entity's employees under any combination of the following provisions:

648 (a) Title 59, Chapter 7, Corporate Franchise and Income Taxes;

649 (b) Title 59, Chapter 10, Part 1, Determination and Reporting of Tax Liability and
650 Information;

651 (c) Title 59, Chapter 10, Part 2, Trusts and Estates;

652 (d) Title 59, Chapter 10, Part 4, Withholding of Tax; and

653 (e) Title 59, Chapter 12, Sales and Use Tax Act.

654 [(13)] (12) "State strategic goals" means the strategic goals listed in Section 63N-1a-103.

655 [(14)] (13) "Statewide economic development strategy" means the economic development
656 strategy developed by the [~~commission in accordance with Section 63N-1a-202~~] office in
657 accordance with Section 63N-1a-301.

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

660 [(16)] (14) "Targeted industry" means an industry or group of industries targeted by the [
661 ~~commission under Section 63N-1a-202~~] office under Section 63N-1a-301, for economic
662 development in the state.

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

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

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

666 (2) The office is:

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

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

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

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

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

- 675 (b) the industrial and business promotion authority of the state.
- 676 (3) The office shall:
- 677 (a) consistent with the statewide economic development strategy, coordinate and align
- 678 into a single effort the activities of the economic opportunity agencies in the field of
- 679 economic development;
- 680 (b) provide support and direction to economic opportunity agencies in establishing
- 681 goals, metrics, and activities that align with the statewide economic development
- 682 strategy;
- 683 (c) administer and coordinate state and federal economic development grant programs;
- 684 (d) promote and encourage the economic, commercial, financial, industrial, agricultural,
- 685 and civic welfare of the state;
- 686 (e) develop the statewide economic development strategy consistent with the state water
- 687 policy described in Section 73-1-21, including the state's commitment to appropriate:
- 688 (i) conservation;
- 689 (ii) efficient and optimal use of water resources;
- 690 (iii) infrastructure development and improvement;
- 691 (iv) optimal agricultural use;
- 692 (v) water quality;
- 693 (vi) reasonable access to recreational activities;
- 694 (vii) effective wastewater treatment; and
- 695 (viii) protecting and restoring health ecosystems;
- 696 (f) at least once every five years, identify which industry or groups of industries shall be
- 697 targeted for economic development in the state;
- 698 [(e)] (g) promote and encourage the employment of workers in the state and the purchase
- 699 of goods and services produced in the state by local businesses;
- 700 [(f)] (h) act to create, develop, attract, and retain business, industry, and commerce in the
- 701 state:
- 702 (i) in accordance with the statewide economic development [~~plan and commission~~
- 703 ~~directives~~] strategy; and
- 704 (ii) subject to the restrictions in Section 11-41-103;
- 705 [(g)] (i) act to enhance the state's economy;
- 706 (j) analyze the state's projected long-term population and economic growth and plan for
- 707 the anticipated impacts of the projected growth in a manner that improves quality of
- 708 life and is consistent with the statewide economic development strategy and state

- 709 strategic goals;
- 710 ~~[(h)]~~ (k) act to assist strategic industries that are likely to drive future economic growth;
- 711 ~~[(i)]~~ (l) assist communities in the state in developing economic development capacity and
- 712 coordination with other communities;
- 713 (m) develop strategies and plans to ensure comprehensive economic development efforts
- 714 are targeted to the unique needs of rural areas of the state;
- 715 ~~[(j)]~~ (n) identify areas of education and workforce development in the state that can be
- 716 improved to support economic and business development;
- 717 ~~[(k)]~~ (o) ~~[consistent with direction from the commission,]~~ develop core strategic
- 718 priorities for the office, which may include:
- 719 (i) enhancing statewide access to entrepreneurship opportunities and small business
- 720 support;
- 721 (ii) focusing industry recruitment and expansion of targeted industries;
- 722 (iii) ensuring that in awarding competitive economic development incentives the
- 723 office accurately measures the benefits and costs of the incentives; and
- 724 (iv) assisting communities with technical support to aid those communities in
- 725 improving economic development opportunities;
- 726 ~~[(h)]~~ (p) submit an annual written report as described in Section 63N-1a-306; and
- 727 ~~[(m)]~~ (q) perform other duties as provided by the Legislature.
- 728 (4) To perform the office's duties under this title, the office may:
- 729 (a) enter into a contract or agreement with, or make a grant to, a public or private entity,
- 730 including a municipality, if the contract or agreement is not in violation of state
- 731 statute or other applicable law;
- 732 (b) except as provided in Subsection (4)(c), receive and expend funds from a public or
- 733 private source for any lawful purpose that is in the state's best interest; and
- 734 (c) solicit and accept a contribution of money, services, or facilities from a public or
- 735 private donor, but may not use the contribution for publicizing the exclusive interest
- 736 of the donor.
- 737 (5) Money received under Subsection (4)(c) shall be deposited into the General Fund as
- 738 dedicated credits of the office.
- 739 ~~[(6)(a) The office shall:]~~
- 740 ~~[(i) obtain the advice of the GOEO board before implementing a change to a policy,~~
- 741 ~~priority, or objective under which the office operates; and]~~
- 742 ~~[(ii) provide periodic updates to the commission regarding the office's efforts under~~

743 Subsections (3)(a) and (b).]

744 [(b) Subsection (6)(a)(i) does not apply to the routine administration by the office of
745 money or services related to the assistance, retention, or recruitment of business,
746 industry, or commerce in the state.]

747 Section 13. Section **63N-1a-303** is amended to read:

748 **63N-1a-303 (Effective 07/01/25). Powers and duties of executive director.**

- 749 (1) Unless otherwise expressly provided by statute, the executive director may organize the
750 office in any appropriate manner, including the appointment of deputy directors of the
751 office.
- 752 (2) The executive director may consolidate personnel and service functions for efficiency
753 and economy in the office.
- 754 (3) The executive director, with the approval of the governor:
- 755 (a) may, by following the procedures and requirements of Title 63J, Chapter 5, Federal
756 Funds Procedures Act, seek federal grants, loans, or participation in federal programs;
- 757 (b) may enter into a lawful contract or agreement with another state, a chamber of
758 commerce organization, a service club, or a private entity; and
- 759 (c) shall annually prepare and submit to the governor a budget of the office's financial
760 requirements.
- 761 (4) With the governor's approval, if a federal program requires the expenditure of state
762 funds as a condition for the state to participate in a fund, property, or service, the
763 executive director may expend necessary funds from money provided by the Legislature
764 for the use of the office.
- 765 (5) The executive director shall coordinate with the executive directors of the Department
766 of Workforce Services and the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget to review data
767 and metrics to be reported to the Legislature as described in [~~Subsection~~
768 ~~63N-1a-306(2)(b)~~] Section 63N-1a-306.
- 769 (6) Unless otherwise provided in this title, the executive director may make rules in
770 accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, as
771 necessary for the administration of programs established under state law.

772 Section 14. Section **63N-1a-303.2** is enacted to read:

773 **63N-1a-303.2 (Effective 07/01/25). Coordination of future Office of Housing.**

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

- 777 (a) the governor, or the governor's designee;
 778 (b) the president of the Senate, or the president's designee;
 779 (c) the speaker of the House of Representatives, or the speaker's designee;
 780 (d) the executive director of the Department of Workforce Services;
 781 (e) the executive director of the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget; and
 782 (f) the chairs of the Commission on Housing Affordability, created in Section
 783 35A-8-2202.
- 784 (2) In coordinating with the individuals and entities described in Subsection (1), the
 785 executive director shall provide a written report on the plan in Subsection (1), including
 786 recommended statutory changes, by September 1, 2025, to:
- 787 (a) the Economic Development and Workforce Services Interim Committee;
 788 (b) the Political Subdivisions Interim Committee;
 789 (c) the Economic and Community Development Appropriations Subcommittee; and
 790 (d) the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget.
- 791 (3) The executive director may hire a director for the Office of Housing and the director
 792 may assist in the process described in Subsections (1) and (2).

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

794 **63N-1a-304 (Effective 07/01/25). Executive director and the Public Service**
 795 **Commission.**

- 796 (1) The executive director or the executive director's designee shall:
- 797 (a) become generally informed of significant rate cases and policy proceedings before
 798 the Public Service Commission; and
- 799 (b) monitor and study the potential economic development impact of [~~these~~] the
 800 proceedings.
- 801 (2) In the discretion of the executive director or the executive director's designee, the office
 802 may appear in a proceeding before the Public Service Commission to testify, advise, or
 803 to present argument regarding the economic development impact of a matter that is the
 804 subject of the proceeding.

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

806 **63N-1a-305 (Effective 07/01/25). Incentive review process.**

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

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

811 **63N-1a-306 (Effective 07/01/25). Annual report -- Content -- Format.**

- 812 (1) The office shall prepare and submit to the governor and the Legislature, by October 1 of
813 each year, an annual written report of the operations, activities, programs, and services
814 of the office, including the divisions, sections, boards, commissions, councils, and
815 committees established under this title, for the preceding fiscal year.
- 816 (2) For each operation, activity, program, or service provided by the office, the annual
817 report shall include:
- 818 (a) a description of the operation, activity, program, or service;
 - 819 (b) data and metrics:
 - 820 (i) selected and used by the office to measure progress, performance, effectiveness,
821 and scope of the operation, activity, program, or service, including summary data;
822 and
 - 823 (ii) that are consistent and comparable for each state operation, activity, program, or
824 service that primarily involves employment training or placement as determined
825 by the executive directors of the office, the Department of Workforce Services,
826 and the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget;
 - 827 (c) budget data, including the amount and source of funding, expenses, and allocation of
828 full-time employees for the operation, activity, program, or service;
 - 829 (d) historical data from previous years for comparison with data reported under
830 Subsections (2)(b) and (c);
 - 831 (e) goals, challenges, and achievements related to the operation, activity, program, or
832 service;
 - 833 (f) relevant federal and state statutory references and requirements;
 - 834 (g) contact information of officials knowledgeable and responsible for each operation,
835 activity, program, or service; and
 - 836 (h) other information determined by the office that:
 - 837 (i) may be needed, useful, or of historical significance; or
 - 838 (ii) promotes accountability and transparency for each operation, activity, program,
839 or service with the public and elected officials.
- 840 (3) The annual report shall be designed to provide clear, accurate, and accessible
841 information to the public, the governor, and the Legislature.
- 842 (4) The office shall:
- 843 (a) submit the annual report in accordance with Section 68-3-14; and
 - 844 (b) make the annual report, and previous annual reports, accessible to the public by

- 845 placing a link to the reports on the office's website[; and] .
- 846 [~~(e) provide the data and metrics described in Subsection (2)(b) to the talent board.~~]
- 847 Section 18. Section **63N-1a-401** is amended to read:
- 848 **63N-1a-401 (Effective 07/01/25). Creation of Board of Economic Opportunity.**
- 849 (1)(a) There is created within the office the Board of Economic Opportunity, consisting
- 850 of nine members appointed by the [~~chair of the commission~~] executive director of the
- 851 office, in consultation with the [~~executive director~~] governor, to four-year terms of
- 852 office with the advice and consent of the Senate in accordance with Title 63G,
- 853 Chapter 24, Part 2, Vacancies.
- 854 (b) The nine members described in Subsection (1)(a) shall include:
- 855 (i) one member associated with the state's rural communities;
- 856 (ii) one member associated with direct entrepreneurship in the state;
- 857 (iii) one member associated with higher education in the state;
- 858 (iv) five members, other than the members described in Subsections (1)(b)(i) through
- 859 (iii), that are associated with a targeted industry; and
- 860 (v) one at-large member.
- 861 (c) Notwithstanding the requirements of Subsection (1)(a), the [~~chair of the commission~~]
- 862 executive director shall, at the time of appointment or reappointment, adjust the
- 863 length of terms to ensure that the terms of board members are staggered so that
- 864 approximately half of the board is appointed every two years.
- 865 (d) The members may not serve more than two full consecutive terms except when the [
- 866 ~~chair of the commission~~] executive director determines that an additional term is in
- 867 the best interest of the state.
- 868 (2) When a vacancy occurs in the membership for any reason, the replacement shall be
- 869 appointed for the unexpired term in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 24, Part 2,
- 870 Vacancies.
- 871 (3) A majority of board members, not including a vacancy, constitutes a quorum for
- 872 conducting board business and exercising board power.
- 873 (4) [~~The chair of the commission-~~] The executive director shall select one board member as
- 874 the board's chair and one member as the board's vice chair.
- 875 (5) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but may
- 876 receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:
- 877 (a) Section 63A-3-106;
- 878 (b) Section 63A-3-107; and

879 (c) rules made by the Division of Finance under Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.
 880 (6) A member shall comply with the conflict of interest provisions described in Title 63G,
 881 Chapter 24, Part 3, Conflicts of Interest.

882 Section 19. Section **63N-2-103** is amended to read:

883 **63N-2-103 (Effective 07/01/25). Definitions.**

884 As used in this part:

885 (1)(a) "Business entity" means a person that enters into a written agreement with the
 886 office to initiate a new commercial project in Utah that will qualify the person to
 887 receive a tax credit under Section 59-7-614.2 or 59-10-1107.

888 (b) With respect to a tax credit authorized by the office in accordance with Subsection
 889 63N-2-104.3(2), "business entity" includes a nonprofit entity.

890 (2) "Commercial or industrial zone" means an area zoned agricultural, commercial,
 891 industrial, manufacturing, business park, research park, or other appropriate business
 892 related use in a general plan that contemplates future growth.

893 (3) "Development zone" means an economic development zone created under Section
 894 63N-2-104.

895 (4) "Local government entity" means a county, city, or town.

896 (5) "New commercial project" means an economic development opportunity that:

897 (a) involves a targeted industry; or

898 (b) is located within:

899 (i) a county of the third, fourth, fifth, or sixth class; or

900 (ii) a municipality that has a population of 10,000 or less and the municipality is
 901 located within a county of the second class~~[-or]~~.

902 ~~[(e) involves an economic development opportunity that the commission determines to
 903 be eligible for a tax credit under this part.]~~

904 (6) "Remote work opportunity" means a new commercial project that:

905 (a) does not require a physical office in the state where employees associated with the
 906 new commercial project are required to work; and

907 (b) requires employees associated with the new commercial project to:

908 (i) work remotely from a location within the state; and

909 (ii) maintain residency in the state.

910 (7) "Significant capital investment" means an investment in capital or fixed assets, which
 911 may include real property, personal property, and other fixtures related to a new
 912 commercial project that represents an expansion of existing operations in the state or

- 913 that increases the business entity's existing workforce in the state.
- 914 (8) "Tax credit" means an economic development tax credit created by Section 59-7-614.2
915 or 59-10-1107.
- 916 (9) "Tax credit amount" means the amount the office lists as a tax credit on a tax credit
917 certificate for a taxable year.
- 918 (10) "Tax credit certificate" means a certificate issued by the office that:
- 919 (a) lists the name of the business entity to which the office authorizes a tax credit;
920 (b) lists the business entity's taxpayer identification number;
921 (c) lists the amount of tax credit that the office authorizes the business entity for the
922 taxable year; and
923 (d) may include other information as determined by the office.
- 924 (11) "Written agreement" means a written agreement entered into between the office and a
925 business entity under Section 63N-2-104.2.
- 926 Section 20. Section **63N-2-104.3** is amended to read:
- 927 **63N-2-104.3 (Effective 07/01/25). Limitations on tax credit amount.**
- 928 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(a), for a new commercial project that is located
929 within the boundary of a county of the first or second class, the office may not authorize
930 a tax credit that exceeds:
- 931 (a) 50% of the new state revenues from the new commercial project in any given year; or
932 (b) 30% of the new state revenues from the new commercial project over a period of up
933 to 20 years[; ~~or~~] .
- 934 [~~(c) 35% of the new state revenues from the new commercial project over a period of up~~
935 ~~to 20 years, if:~~]
- 936 [(i) the new commercial project brings 2,500 or more new incremental jobs to the
937 state;]
- 938 [(ii) the amount of capital expenditures associated with the new commercial project is
939 \$1,000,000,000 or more; and]
- 940 [(iii) the commission approves the tax credit.]
- 941 (2) If the office authorizes a tax credit for a new commercial project located within the
942 boundary of:
- 943 (a) a municipality with a population of 10,000 or less located within a county of the
944 second class and that is experiencing economic hardship as determined by the office,
945 the office may authorize a tax credit of up to 50% of new state revenues from the new
946 commercial project over a period of up to 20 years;

- 947 (b) a county of the third class, the office may authorize a tax credit of up to 50% of new
948 state revenues from the new commercial project over a period of up to 20 years; and
949 (c) a county of the fourth, fifth, or sixth class, the office may authorize a tax credit of
950 50% of new state revenues from the new commercial project over a period of up to
951 20 years.

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

953 **63N-2-107 (Effective 07/01/25). Reports of new state revenue, partial rebates,**
954 **and tax credits.**

955 (1) Before October 1 of each year, the office shall submit a report to the Governor's Office
956 of Planning and Budget, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, and the Division of
957 Finance identifying:

- 958 (a)(i) the total estimated amount of new state revenue created from new commercial
959 projects;
960 (ii) the estimated amount of new state revenue from new commercial projects that
961 will be generated from:
962 (A) sales tax;
963 (B) income tax; and
964 (C) corporate franchise and income tax; and
965 (iii) the minimum number of new incremental jobs and high paying jobs that will be
966 created before any tax credit is awarded; and
967 (b) the total estimated amount of tax credits that the office projects that business entities
968 will qualify to claim under this part.

969 (2) By the first business day of each month, the office shall submit a report to the
970 Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst,
971 and the Division of Finance identifying:

- 972 (a) each new written agreement that the office entered into since the last report;
973 (b) the estimated amount of new state revenue that will be generated under each written
974 agreement described in Subsection (2)(a);
975 (c) the estimated maximum amount of tax credits that a business entity could qualify for
976 under each written agreement described in Subsection (2)(a); and
977 (d) the minimum number of new incremental jobs and high paying jobs that will be
978 created before any tax credit is awarded.

979 (3) At the reasonable request of the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, the Office
980 of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, or the Division of Finance, the office shall provide

981 additional information about the tax credit, new incremental jobs and high paying jobs,
 982 costs, and economic benefits related to this part, if the information is part of a public
 983 record as defined in Section 63G-2-103.

984 [~~(4) By October 1, the office shall submit to the Economic Development and Workforce
 985 Services Interim Committee, the Business, Economic Development, and Labor
 986 Appropriations Subcommittee, and the governor, a written report that provides an
 987 overview of the implementation and efficacy of the statewide economic development
 988 strategy, including an analysis of the extent to which the office's programs are aligned
 989 with the prevailing economic conditions expected in the next fiscal year.]~~

990 Section 22. Section **63N-16-302** is amended to read:

991 **63N-16-302 (Effective 07/01/25). Proactive regulatory relief efforts.**

992 (1) As used in this section:

993 (a) "Regulatory framework" means a framework for determining the risk level to the
 994 public if a law or regulation that inhibits the creation or success of new and existing
 995 companies or industries were to be permanently removed or temporarily waived.

996 (b) "Risk level" means a level of risk categorized from low, medium, and high.

997 (2) The regulatory relief office may:

998 (a) review, at any time, any existing state laws or regulations that may unnecessarily
 999 inhibit the creation or success of companies or industries other than the occupational
 1000 regulations of individuals reviewed by the Office of Professional Licensure Review
 1001 under Title 13, Chapter 1b, Office of Professional Licensure Review; and

1002 (b) provide recommendations to the governor and the Legislature on modifying those
 1003 state laws and regulations described in Subsection (2)(a).

1004 (3) The regulatory relief office shall:

1005 (a) create a regulatory framework; and

1006 (b) annually study the laws and regulations of at least two industries selected from:

1007 (i) an industry targeted for economic development by the [~~Unified Economic
 1008 Opportunity Commission~~] office as described in Section [~~63N-1a-202~~] 63N-1a-302;

1009 or

1010 (ii) an industry designated by the General Regulatory Sandbox Program Advisory
 1011 Committee for study by the regulatory relief office.

1012 (4) In undertaking the review described in Subsection [~~(3)~~,] (2), the regulatory relief office
 1013 shall:

1014 (a) identify any law or regulation that the regulatory relief office determines inhibits the

- 1015 creation or success of new and existing companies or industries;
- 1016 (b) apply the regulatory framework to the identified law or regulation; and
- 1017 (c) consider:
- 1018 (i) the history of the identified regulation or law, including the reasons why the
- 1019 regulation or law was originally enacted;
- 1020 (ii) whether the identified regulation or law:
- 1021 (A) creates an unnecessary barrier to industry for businesses; or
- 1022 (B) imposes an unnecessary cost to businesses or consumers;
- 1023 (iii) whether the penalty for violation of the regulation or law, if any, is proportional
- 1024 to the potential harm; and
- 1025 (iv) if there are potentially less burdensome alternatives to the existing regulation or
- 1026 law and apply the regulatory framework to that alternative.

1027 (5) The regulatory relief office shall submit as part of the report described in Section

1028 63N-16-105:

- 1029 (a) a detailed overview of the regulatory relief office's study of the laws and regulations
- 1030 as described in this section, including the reasons why the laws and regulations of a
- 1031 particular industry were selected for study and the strategy the office implemented to
- 1032 study the laws and regulations of that industry; and
- 1033 (b) recommended changes to a law or regulation identified by the regulatory relief office
- 1034 in Subsection (4) that the regulatory relief office determines:
- 1035 (i) is inhibiting the success of businesses, companies, or industries; and
- 1036 (ii) would not present a high risk level to the public if the law or regulation were
- 1037 permanently removed or temporarily waived.

1038 Section 23. Section **63N-22-101** is enacted to read:

1039 **63N-22-101 (Effective 05/07/25). Office of Housing.**

1040 There is created the Office of Housing.

1041 Section 24. Section **72-1-203** is amended to read:

1042 **72-1-203 (Effective 07/01/25). Deputy director -- Appointment -- Qualifications**

1043 **-- Other assistants and advisers -- Salaries.**

1044 (1) The executive director shall appoint the following deputy directors, who shall serve at

1045 the discretion of the executive director:

- 1046 (a) the deputy director of engineering and operation, who shall be a registered
- 1047 professional engineer in the state, and who shall be the chief engineer of the
- 1048 department; and

- 1049 (b) the deputy director of planning and investment.
- 1050 (2) As assigned by the executive director, the deputy directors described in Subsection (1)
- 1051 may assist the executive director with the following departmental responsibilities:
- 1052 (a) project development, including statewide standards for project design and
- 1053 construction, right-of-way, materials, testing, structures, and construction;
- 1054 (b) oversight of the management of the region offices described in Section 72-1-205;
- 1055 (c) operations and traffic management;
- 1056 (d) oversight of operations of motor carriers and ports;
- 1057 (e) transportation systems safety;
- 1058 (f) aeronautical operations;
- 1059 (g) equipment for department engineering and maintenance functions;
- 1060 (h) oversight and coordination of planning, including:
- 1061 (i) development of statewide strategic initiatives for planning across all modes of
- 1062 transportation;
- 1063 (ii) coordination with metropolitan planning organizations and local governments;
- 1064 (iii) coordination with a large public transit district, including planning, project
- 1065 development, outreach, programming, environmental studies and impact
- 1066 statements, construction, and impacts on public transit operations; and
- 1067 (iv) corridor and area planning;
- 1068 (i) asset management;
- 1069 (j) programming and prioritization of transportation projects;
- 1070 (k) fulfilling requirements for environmental studies and impact statements;
- 1071 (l) resource investment, including identification, development, and oversight of
- 1072 public-private partnership opportunities;
- 1073 (m) data analytics services to the department;
- 1074 (n) corridor preservation;
- 1075 (o) employee development;
- 1076 (p) maintenance planning;
- 1077 (q) oversight and facilitation of the negotiations and integration of public transit
- 1078 providers described in Section 17B-2a-827;
- 1079 (r) oversight and supervision of any fixed guideway capital development project within
- 1080 the boundaries of a large public transit district for which any state funds are
- 1081 expended, including those responsibilities described in Subsections (2)(a), (h), (j),
- 1082 (k), and (l), and the implementation and enforcement of any federal grant obligations

- 1083 associated with fixed guideway capital development project funding; and
 1084 (s) other departmental responsibilities as determined by the executive director.
 1085 (3) The executive director shall ensure that the same deputy director does not oversee or
 1086 supervise both the fixed guideway capital development responsibilities described in
 1087 Subsection (2)(r) and the department's fixed guideway rail safety responsibilities,
 1088 including the responsibilities described in Section 72-1-214.
 1089 (4) The executive director shall ensure that the same deputy director does not oversee or
 1090 supervise both the authorization of a telecommunication provider to have longitudinal
 1091 access to state right-of-way as described in Section 72-7-108, and the operations and
 1092 duties of the Utah Broadband Center created in Section 72-19-201.

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

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

- 1095 (1) The commission has the following duties:
- 1096 (a) determining priorities and funding levels of projects and programs in the state
 1097 transportation systems and the capital development of new public transit facilities for
 1098 each fiscal year based on project lists compiled by the department and taking into
 1099 consideration the strategic initiatives described in Section 72-1-211;
 - 1100 (b) determining additions and deletions to state highways under Chapter 4, Designation
 1101 of State Highways Act;
 - 1102 (c) holding public meetings and otherwise providing for public input in transportation
 1103 matters;
 - 1104 (d) making policies and rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah
 1105 Administrative Rulemaking Act, necessary to perform the commission's duties
 1106 described under this section;
 - 1107 (e) in accordance with Section 63G-4-301, reviewing orders issued by the executive
 1108 director in adjudicative proceedings held in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 4,
 1109 Administrative Procedures Act;
 - 1110 (f) advising the department on state transportation systems policy;
 - 1111 (g) approving settlement agreements of condemnation cases subject to Section
 1112 63G-10-401;
 - 1113 (h) in accordance with Section 17B-2a-807, appointing a commissioner to serve as a
 1114 nonvoting member or a voting member on the board of trustees of a public transit
 1115 district;
 - 1116 (i) in accordance with Section 17B-2a-808, reviewing, at least annually, the short-term

1117 and long-range public transit plans;
 1118 (j) determining the priorities and funding levels of public transit innovation grants, as
 1119 defined in Section 72-2-401;[-and]
 1120 (k) approving grant awards administered by the Utah Broadband Center in accordance
 1121 with Section 17-19-301; and
 1122 [~~(k)~~] (l) reviewing administrative rules made, substantively amended, or repealed by the
 1123 department.

1124 (2)(a) For projects prioritized with funding provided under Sections 72-2-124 and
 1125 72-2-125, the commission shall annually report to a committee designated by the
 1126 Legislative Management Committee:

1127 (i) a prioritized list of the new transportation capacity projects in the state
 1128 transportation system and the funding levels available for those projects; and
 1129 (ii) the unfunded highway construction and maintenance needs within the state.

1130 (b) The committee designated by the Legislative Management Committee under
 1131 Subsection (2)(a) shall:

1132 (i) review the list reported by the Transportation Commission; and

1133 (ii) make a recommendation to the Legislature on:

1134 (A) the amount of additional funding to allocate to transportation; and

1135 (B) the source of revenue for the additional funding allocation under Subsection
 1136 (2)(b)(ii)(A).

1137 (3) The commission shall review and may approve plans for the construction of a highway
 1138 facility over sovereign lakebed lands in accordance with Chapter 6, Part 3, Approval of
 1139 Highway Facilities on Sovereign Lands Act.

1140 (4) One or more associations representing airport operators or pilots in the state shall
 1141 annually report to the commission recommended airport improvement projects and any
 1142 other information related to the associations' expertise and relevant to the commission's
 1143 duties.

1144 Section 26. Section **72-19-101**, which is renumbered from Section 63N-17-102 is renumbered
 1145 and amended to read:

1146 **CHAPTER 19. UTAH BROADBAND CENTER**

1147 **Part 1. General Provisions**

1148 **[~~63N-17-102~~] 72-19-101 (Effective 07/01/25). Definitions.**

1149 As used in this chapter:

- 1150 (1) "Broadband center" means the Utah Broadband Center created in Section [~~63N-17-201~~
 1151 72-19-201].
- 1152 (2) "Broadband commission" means the Utah Broadband Center Advisory Commission
 1153 created in Section 36-29-109.
- 1154 [~~(2)~~] (3) "Final proposal" means the submission provided by the state to the Assistant
 1155 Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information as part of the state's
 1156 BEAD Application, as set forth in 47 U.S.C. Sec. 1702(e)(4).
- 1157 [~~(3)~~] (4) "Initial proposal" means the submission provided by the state to the Assistant
 1158 Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information as part of the state's
 1159 BEAD Application, as set forth in 47 U.S.C. Sec. 1702(e)(3).
- 1160 [~~(4)~~] (5) "Letter of intent" means the submission provided by the state to the Assistant
 1161 Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information as part of the state's
 1162 BEAD Application, as set forth in 47 U.S.C. Sec. 1702(e)(1)(B).
- 1163 [~~(5)~~] (6) "Public-private partnership" means an arrangement or agreement between a
 1164 government entity and one or more private persons to fund and provide for a public need
 1165 through the development or operation of a public project in which the private person or
 1166 persons share with the government entity the responsibility or risk of developing,
 1167 owning, maintaining, financing, or operating the project.
- 1168 [~~(6)~~] (7) "Subgrantee" means an entity that receives funds from the state under:
 1169 (a) the Broadband Access Grant Program created in Section [~~63N-17-301~~] 72-19-301; or
 1170 (b) the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Grant Program created in Section [
 1171 ~~63N-17-401~~] 72-19-401].
- 1172 [~~(7)~~] (8) "State BEAD application" means a submission by the state for a grant under the
 1173 federal Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program established under 47 U.S.C.
 1174 Sec. 1702(b), consisting of a letter of intent, initial proposal, and final proposal.
- 1175 Section 27. Section **72-19-201**, which is renumbered from Section 63N-17-201 is renumbered
 1176 and amended to read:

Part 2. Utah Broadband Center

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

- 1180 (1) There is created within the [~~office~~] department the Utah Broadband Center.
- 1181 (2) The executive director shall appoint a director of the broadband center to oversee the
 1182 operations of the broadband center.
- 1183 (3) The broadband center shall:

- 1184 (a) ensure that publicly funded broadband projects continue to be publicly accessible and
 1185 provide a public benefit;
- 1186 (b) develop the statewide digital connectivity plan described in Section [~~63N-17-203~~]
 1187 72-19-203;
- 1188 (c) carry out the duties described in Section [~~63N-17-202~~] 72-19-202;
- 1189 (d) administer the Broadband Access Grant Program [~~in accordance with Part 3,~~
 1190 ~~Broadband Access Grant Program~~] created in Section 72-19-301; and
- 1191 (e) administer the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Grant Program [~~in~~
 1192 ~~accordance with Part 4, Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program~~] created
 1193 in Section 72-19-301.

1194 [(f)] (4) The broadband center shall ensure efficiency with respect to:

1195 [(i)] (a) expenditure of funds; and

1196 [(ii)] (b) avoiding duplication of efforts.

1197 [(g)] (5) The broadband center shall consider administering broadband infrastructure funds
 1198 in a manner that:

1199 [(i)] (a) efficiently maximizes the leverage of federal funding;

1200 [(ii)] (b) avoids the use of public funds for broadband facilities that duplicate existing
 1201 broadband facilities that already meet or exceed federal standards; and

1202 [(iii)] (c) accounts for the benefits and costs to the state of existing facilities, equipment,
 1203 and services of public and private broadband providers.

1204 Section 28. Section **72-19-202**, which is renumbered from Section 63N-17-202 is renumbered
 1205 and amended to read:

1206 [~~63N-17-202~~] 72-19-202 (Effective 07/01/25). **Infrastructure and broadband**
 1207 **coordination.**

1208 (1) The broadband center shall partner with the Utah Geospatial Resource Center created in
 1209 Section 63A-16-505 to collect and maintain a database and interactive map that displays
 1210 economic development data statewide, including:

1211 (a) voluntarily submitted broadband availability, speeds, and other broadband data;

1212 (b) voluntarily submitted public utility data;

1213 (c) workforce data, including information regarding:

1214 (i) enterprise zones designated under Section 63N-2-206;

1215 (ii) public institutions of higher education; and

1216 (iii) APEX accelerators;

1217 (d) transportation data, which may include information regarding railway routes,

- 1218 commuter rail routes, airport locations, and major highways;
- 1219 (e) lifestyle data, which may include information regarding state parks, national parks
1220 and monuments, United States Forest Service boundaries, ski areas, golf courses, and
1221 hospitals; and
- 1222 (f) other relevant economic development data as determined by the office, including data
1223 provided by partner organizations.
- 1224 (2) The broadband center may:
- 1225 (a) make recommendations to state and federal agencies, local governments, the
1226 governor, and the Legislature regarding policies and initiatives that promote the
1227 development of broadband-related infrastructure in the state and help implement
1228 those policies and initiatives;
- 1229 (b) facilitate coordination between broadband providers and public and private entities;
- 1230 (c) collect and analyze data on broadband availability and usage in the state, including
1231 Internet speed, capacity, the number of unique visitors, and the availability of
1232 broadband infrastructure throughout the state;
- 1233 (d) create a voluntary broadband alliance, which shall include broadband providers and
1234 other public and private stakeholders, to solicit input on broadband-related policy
1235 guidance, best practices, and adoption strategies;
- 1236 (e) work with broadband providers, state and local governments, and other public and
1237 private stakeholders to facilitate and encourage the expansion and maintenance of
1238 broadband infrastructure throughout the state; and
- 1239 (f) in accordance with the requirements of Title 63J, Chapter 5, Federal Funds
1240 Procedures Act, and in accordance with federal requirements:
- 1241 (i) apply for federal grants;
- 1242 (ii) participate in federal programs; and
- 1243 (iii) administer federally funded broadband-related programs.

1244 Section 29. Section **72-19-203**, which is renumbered from Section 63N-17-203 is renumbered
1245 and amended to read:

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

1247 As used in this section:

- 1248 (1) [~~"Commission"~~] "Broadband commission" means the Utah Broadband Center Advisory
1249 Commission created in Section 36-29-109.
- 1250 (2) "Strategic plan" means the statewide digital connectivity plan created in accordance
1251 with Subsections [~~(2) and~~](3) and (4).

- 1252 (3) The broadband center shall develop the strategic plan.
- 1253 (4) The strategic plan shall include strategies to:
- 1254 (a) implement broadband connectivity statewide;
- 1255 (b) promote digital [equity] access throughout the state;
- 1256 (c) apply for federal infrastructure funds; and
- 1257 (d) apply for additional funds.
- 1258 (5) In developing the strategic plan, the broadband center shall work with the broadband
- 1259 commission.
- 1260 [~~(6) The broadband center shall provide the commission with quarterly status updates~~
- 1261 ~~regarding:~~]
- 1262 [~~(a) implementation of the commission's recommendations;~~]
- 1263 [~~(b) the grant programs created in Sections 63N-17-301 and 63N-17-401, including:~~]
- 1264 [~~(i) applications received for grant funding;~~]
- 1265 [~~(ii) grant awards about to be made by the broadband center;~~]
- 1266 [~~(iii) grant awards made by the broadband center; and~~]
- 1267 [~~(iv) projects implemented with grant funding;~~]
- 1268 [~~(e) strategic plan development;~~]
- 1269 [~~(d) strategic plan implementation;~~]
- 1270 [~~(e) grants received in addition to those described in Subsection (6)(b);~~]
- 1271 [~~(f) projects funded in addition to those described in Subsection (6)(b); and~~]
- 1272 [~~(g) recommendations for legislation.~~]

1273 [~~(7)~~] (6) The broadband center shall submit the strategic plan to the broadband commission

1274 for the broadband commission's recommendation before finalizing the strategic plan.

1275 [~~(8)~~] (7) On or before October 1 of each year, the broadband center shall report to the

1276 broadband commission and the Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology Interim

1277 Committee regarding status updates.

1278 Section 30. Section **72-19-301**, which is renumbered from Section 63N-17-301 is renumbered

1279 and amended to read:

1280 **Part 3. Broadband Access Grant Program**

1281 **[~~63N-17-301~~] 72-19-301 (Effective 07/01/25). Creation of Broadband Access**

1282 **Grant Program.**

- 1283 (1) As used in this part:
- 1284 (a) "Eligible applicant" means:
- 1285 (i) a telecommunications provider or an Internet service provider;

- 1286 (ii) a local government entity and one or more private entities, collectively, who are
1287 parties to a public-private partnership established for the purpose of expanding
1288 affordable broadband access in the state; or
1289 (iii) a tribal government.
- 1290 (b) "Underserved area" means an area of the state that is underserved in terms of the
1291 area's access to broadband service, as further defined by rule made by the department
1292 in coordination with the broadband center.
- 1293 (c) "Unserved area" means an area of the state that is unserved in terms of the area's
1294 access to broadband service, as further defined by rule made by the department in
1295 coordination with the broadband center.
- 1296 (2) There is established a grant program known as the Broadband Access Grant Program
1297 that is administered by the broadband center in accordance with this part.
- 1298 (3)(a) The broadband center may award a grant under this part to an eligible applicant
1299 that submits to the broadband center an application that includes a proposed project
1300 to extend broadband service to individuals and businesses in an unserved area or an
1301 underserved area by providing last-mile connections to end users.
- 1302 (b) Subsection (3)(a) does not prohibit the broadband center from awarding a grant for a
1303 proposed project that also includes middle-mile elements that are necessary for the
1304 last-mile connections.
- 1305 (4) In awarding grants under this part, the broadband center shall:
- 1306 (a) based on the following criteria and in the order provided, prioritize proposed projects:
- 1307 (i) located in unserved areas;
- 1308 (ii) located in underserved areas;
- 1309 (iii)(A) that the eligible applicant developed after meaningful engagement with the
1310 impacted community to identify the community's needs and innovative means
1311 of providing a public benefit that addresses the community's needs; and
1312 (B) that include, as a component of the proposed project, a long-term public
1313 benefit to the impacted community developed in response to the eligible
1314 applicant's engagement with the community;
- 1315 (iv) located in an economically distressed area of the state, as measured by indices of
1316 unemployment, poverty, or population loss;
- 1317 (v) that make the greatest investment in last-mile connections;
- 1318 (vi) that provide higher speed broadband access to end users; and
1319 (vii) for which the eligible applicant provides at least 25% of the money needed for

1320 the proposed project, with higher priority to proposed projects for which the
 1321 eligible applicant provides a greater percentage of the money needed for the
 1322 proposed project; and

1323 (b) consider the impact of available funding for the proposed project from other sources,
 1324 including money from matching federal grant programs.

1325 (5) For a project that the eligible applicant cannot complete in a single fiscal year, the
 1326 broadband center may distribute grant proceeds for the project over the course of the
 1327 project's construction.

1328 (6)(a) Before awarding a grant under this part, the broadband center shall present the
 1329 application described in Subsection (3) to the Transportation Commission for
 1330 approval.

1331 (b) In awarding a grant under this part, the broadband center shall ensure that grant
 1332 funds are not used by a subgrantee in a manner that causes competition among
 1333 projects that are substantially supported by state funds or federal funds subgranted by
 1334 the state[, as determine in accordance with rules made by the broadband center in
 1335 accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act].

1336 (7) As provided in and subject to the requirements of Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government
 1337 Records Access and Management Act, a record submitted to the broadband center that
 1338 contains a trade secret or confidential commercial information described in Subsection
 1339 63G-2-305(2) is a protected record.

1340 Section 31. Section **72-19-302**, which is renumbered from Section 63N-17-302 is renumbered
 1341 and amended to read:

1342 **[63N-17-302] 72-19-302 (Effective 07/01/25). Duties of the broadband center.**

1343 (1) The broadband center shall:

1344 (a) establish an application process by which an eligible applicant may apply for a grant
 1345 under this part, which application shall include:

1346 (i) a declaration, signed under penalty of perjury, that the application is complete,
 1347 true, and correct; and

1348 (ii) an acknowledgment that the eligible applicant is subject to audit;

1349 (b) establish a method for the broadband center to determine which eligible applicants
 1350 qualify to receive a grant;

1351 (c) establish a formula to award grant funds; and

1352 (d) report the information described in Subsections (1)(a) through (c) to the director of
 1353 the Division of Finance.

- 1354 (2) Subject to appropriation, the broadband center shall:
- 1355 (a) collect applications for grant funds from eligible applicants;
- 1356 (b) determine which applicants qualify for receiving a grant; and
- 1357 (c) award the grant funds in accordance with the process established under Subsection (1)
- 1358 and in accordance with Section ~~[63N-17-301]~~ 72-19-301.

- 1359 (3) ~~[In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the~~
- 1360 ~~broadband center may make rules to administer the grant program]~~ The department, in
- 1361 coordination with the broadband center, may make rules in accordance with Title 63G,
- 1362 Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to administer the grant program.

1363 Section 32. Section **72-19-401**, which is renumbered from Section 63N-17-401 is renumbered

1364 and amended to read:

1365 **Part 4. Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Grant Program**

1366 **~~[63N-17-401]~~ 72-19-401 (Effective 07/01/25). Creation of Broadband Equity**

1367 **Access and Deployment Grant Program.**

- 1368 (1) There is established a grant program known as the Broadband Equity Access and
- 1369 Deployment Grant Program that is administered by the broadband center in accordance
- 1370 with:
- 1371 (a) this part; and
- 1372 (b) the requirements of the National Telecommunications and Information
- 1373 Administration's Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program, 47 U.S.C. Sec.
- 1374 1702 et seq.
- 1375 (2) The broadband center shall:
- 1376 (a) prepare and submit the state's Broadband Equity Access and Deployment application,
- 1377 including the letter of intent, initial proposal, and final proposal to the National
- 1378 Telecommunications and Information Administration;
- 1379 (b) administer the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Grant Program in
- 1380 accordance with this section and as approved by the National Telecommunications
- 1381 and Information Administration;
- 1382 (c) accept and process an application for subgranted funds; and
- 1383 ~~[(d) report to the broadband commission quarterly on:]~~
- 1384 ~~[(i) the progress of the broadband center's submission described in Subsection (2)(a);]~~
- 1385 ~~[(ii) the administration of the program;]~~
- 1386 ~~[(iii) applications received for subgranted funding;]~~
- 1387 ~~[(iv) approved applications for subgranted funds; and]~~

- 1388 ~~[(v) projects supported by subgranted funds;]~~
 1389 ~~[(e)]~~ (d) ensure that a subgrantee complies with the state's final proposal to the National
 1390 Telecommunications and Information Administration~~[-and]~~ .
 1391 ~~[(f) make rules, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative~~
 1392 ~~Rulemaking Act, necessary to administer this section.]~~
 1393 (3) The department, in coordination with the broadband center, may make rules in
 1394 accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to
 1395 administer the grant program.
 1396 ~~[(3) The broadband commission shall give the broadband center recommendations during~~
 1397 ~~the quarterly reports described in Subsection (2)(d).]~~
 1398 (4) The broadband center may approve an application for subgranted funds if:
 1399 (a) the application meets the requirements of this section;
 1400 (b) the application meets any rule made pursuant to this section;
 1401 (c) the application meets the requirements of the National Telecommunications and
 1402 Information Administration's Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program, 47
 1403 U.S.C. Sec. 1702 et seq.; and
 1404 (d) the broadband center has informed the ~~[broadband commission]~~ Transportation
 1405 Commission about the application~~[-as]~~ described in Subsection ~~[(2)(d)]~~ (2)(c).
 1406 (5) After the broadband center completes a competitive application process for subgranted
 1407 funds but before the broadband center notifies the applicant of the award, the broadband
 1408 center shall present to the ~~[broadband commission]~~ Transportation Commission on the
 1409 subgrant award.

1410 Section 33. **Repealer.**

1411 This bill repeals:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1420 Section 34. **FY 2026 Appropriations.**

1421 The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1,

1422 2025, and ending June 30, 2026. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated for
 1423 fiscal year 2026.

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

1425 Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, the
 1426 Legislature appropriates the following sums of money from the funds or accounts indicated for
 1427 the use and support of the government of the state of Utah.

1428 ITEM 1 To Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity - Economic Prosperity

1429 From General Fund (553,600)

1430 From Federal Funds (200,000)

1431 From Dedicated Credits Revenue (93,700)

1432 Schedule of Programs:

1433 Business Services (847,300)

1434 ITEM 2 To Department of Workforce Services - Office of Homeless Services

1435 From General Fund 1,900,000

1436 Schedule of Programs:

1437 Homeless Services 1,900,000

1438 Under the provisions of Utah Code Annotated
 1439 Title 63G, Chapter 6b, the Legislature intends that the
 1440 Department of Workforce Services provide a direct
 1441 award grant of \$1,900,000 ongoing to Family Interim
 1442 Non-congregate Children Housing (FINCH) facility
 1443 located in a county of the first class under the consulta
 1444 tion of the Homeless Coordinator of the Office of
 1445 Homelessness.

1446 ITEM 3 To Utah Board of Higher Education - Administration

1447 From General Fund 553,600

1448 From Federal Funds 200,000

1449 From Dedicated Credits Revenue 93,700

1450 Schedule of Programs:

1451 Administration 847,300

1452 The Legislature intends, that if H.B. 542,
 1453 Economic Development Amendments, and H.B. 530,
 1454 Utah Innovation Lab Modifications, both pass and
 1455 become law, on July 1, 2025, the funding appropriated in

1456 H.B. 542 be transferred to the Utah Board of Higher
1457 Education for the Nucleus Institute. The Legislature
1458 further intends that the Office of Legislative Fiscal
1459 Analyst, when preparing the base budget for the 2026
1460 General Session, create a new line item titled within the
1461 Utah Board of Higher Education "Nucleus Institute" and
1462 transfer the funding for the Utah Board of Education -
1463 Administration line item to the newly created item.

1464 Section 35. **Effective Date.**

1465 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), this bill takes effect July 1, 2025.

1466 (2) The actions affecting Section 63N-22-101 (**Effective 05/07/25**) take effect on May 7,
1467 2025.