

Wayne A. Harper proposes the following substitute bill:

Utah-Ireland Trade Commission
 2025 GENERAL SESSION
 STATE OF UTAH
Chief Sponsor: Wayne A. Harper
 House Sponsor:

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill creates the Utah-Ireland Trade Commission within the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ creates the Utah-Ireland Trade Commission (trade commission) within the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity (office);
- ▶ describes the membership, purpose, and duties of the trade commission;
- ▶ provides that the office staff the trade commission;
- ▶ requires an annual report;
- ▶ authorizes the office to solicit funds for certain purposes; and
- ▶ creates the Utah-Ireland Trade Commission Restricted Account.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

This bill appropriates \$10,000 in operating and capital budgets for fiscal year 2026, all of which is from the General Fund.

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

- 63N-22-101**, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 63N-22-102**, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 63N-22-103**, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 63N-22-104**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

29 Section 1. Section **63N-22-101** is enacted to read:

30 **CHAPTER 22. UTAH-IRELAND TRADE COMMISSION**

31 **63N-22-101 . Utah-Ireland Trade Commission - - Creation -- Membership --**
32 **Chairs -- Terms -- Per diem and expenses.**

33 (1) As used in this part, "trade commission" means the Utah-Ireland Trade Commission
34 created in this part.

35 (2) There is created in the office the Utah-Ireland Trade Commission.

36 (3) The trade commission membership consists of 11 members:

37 (a) six members to be selected as follows:

38 (i) three members from the House of Representatives, including:

39 (A) two selected by the speaker of the House of Representatives; and

40 (B) one selected by the speaker of the House of Representatives in consultation
41 with the minority leader of the House of Representatives;

42 (ii) three members from the Senate, including:

43 (A) two selected by the president of the Senate; and

44 (B) one selected by the president of the Senate in consultation with the minority
45 leader of the Senate; and

46 (b) five members to be appointed by the executive director of the office, including:

47 (i) two members from the office who shall oversee the following trade commission
48 activities in accordance with Section 63N-22-102:

49 (A) diplomatic relations; and

50 (B) coordination of office program resources to support the purpose described in
51 Section 63N-22-102;

52 (ii) two members of the World Trade Center, who shall oversee the following trade
53 commission activities:

54 (A) international programming; and

55 (B) trade promotion; and

56 (iii) one member from an institution of higher education, as that term is defined in
57 Section 53B-1-102.

58 (4)(a) Except as provided in Subsection (5), each member shall serve a two-year term.

59 (b) When a vacancy occurs for a member selected under Subsection (3)(a), the
60 replacement shall be selected for the unexpired term.

61 (c) The executive director shall, at the time of appointment or reappointment, adjust the
62 length of terms to ensure that the terms of these members are staggered so that

63 approximately half of the members are appointed or reappointed under Subsection (3)
64 every two years.

65 (d) When a vacancy occurs among members appointed by the executive director, the
66 replacement shall be appointed for the unexpired term.

67 (5) For a member appointed under Subsections (3)(b)(i) and (ii):

68 (a) one member from the office and one member from the World Trade Center shall
69 serve a one-year term; and

70 (b) one member from the office and one member from the World Trade Center shall
71 serve a two-year term.

72 (6) A majority of the trade commission members constitutes a quorum.

73 (7) The trade commission shall designate, by majority vote, a member as chair of the trade
74 commission.

75 (8)(a) State government officer and employee members who do not receive salary, per
76 diem, or expenses from the government officer's or employee's agency for service on
77 the trade commission may receive per diem and expenses at the rates incurred in the
78 performance of official trade commission duties at the rates established by the
79 Division of Finance under Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.

80 (b) Legislators on the trade commission receive compensation and expenses as provided
81 by law and legislative rule.

82 (9) The office shall provide office space and administrative staff support for the trade
83 commission.

84 Section 2. Section **63N-22-102** is enacted to read:

85 **63N-22-102 . Purpose and duties of the trade commission - - Written report.**

86 (1) The purpose of the trade commission shall be to:

87 (a) advance bilateral trade and investment between Utah and Ireland;

88 (b) initiate joint action on policy issues of mutual interest to Utah and Ireland;

89 (c) promote business and academic exchanges between Utah and Ireland;

90 (d) encourage mutual economic support between Utah and Ireland; and

91 (e) encourage mutual investment in the infrastructure of Utah and Ireland.

92 (2) The trade commission shall:

93 (a) maintain active communication with:

94 (i) the office of the United States trade representative;

95 (ii) Utah's state trade representative or state point of contact, if created; and

96 (iii) any other organization whose mission involves international trade in the United

97 States as the trade commission considers appropriate; and
 98 (b) have no more than four paid meetings per year.
 99 (3) Beginning in 2026, and no later than July 1 of each year, the trade commission shall
 100 issue a written report to the governor and the Economic Development and Workforce
 101 Services Interim Committee regarding the trade commission's activities in the preceding
 102 year and any recommendations to further trade and good relations between Utah and
 103 Ireland.

104 Section 3. Section **63N-22-103** is enacted to read:

105 **63N-22-103 . Solicitation of funds.**

- 106 (1) The office shall be authorized to raise funds as described in this section to:
 107 (a) defray administrative expenses; and
 108 (b) carry out the trade commission's purposes.
 109 (2) The office may:
 110 (a) raise funds through direct solicitation or other fund-raising events, alone or with
 111 other groups; and
 112 (b) accept gifts, grants, and bequests from individuals, corporations, foundations,
 113 governmental agencies, and public and private organizations and institutions.
 114 (3) All funds received by the office shall be deposited into the Utah-Ireland Trade
 115 Commission Restricted Account created in Section 63N-22-104.
 116 (4) The office shall receive, manage, and expend funds received under this section in
 117 accordance with Section 63N-1a-301.

118 Section 4. Section **63N-22-104** is enacted to read:

119 **63N-22-104 . Utah-Ireland Trade Commission Restricted Account.**

- 120 (1) There is created a restricted account within the General Fund known as the Utah-Ireland
 121 Trade Commission Restricted Account.
 122 (2) The account consists of:
 123 (a) money deposited into the account, as required by Section 63N-22-103; and
 124 (b) appropriations made by the Legislature.
 125 (3) The Legislature may annually appropriate money from the Utah-Ireland Trade
 126 Commission Restricted Account to fund the activities of the commission described in
 127 Section 63N-22-102.

128 Section 5. **FY 2026 Appropriations.**

129 The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
 130 2025, and ending June 30, 2026. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated for

131 fiscal year 2026.

132 Subsection 5(a). **Operating and Capital Budgets**

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

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

137 From General Fund, One-time 10,000

138 Schedule of Programs:

139 Incentives and Grants 10,000

140 Section 6. **Effective Date.**

141 This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.