

Higher Education Student Housing Study

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Jason E. Thompson

Senate Sponsor: Brady Brammer

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill requires the completion of a feasibility study on higher education student housing.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- requires an employee of the governor's office, in consultation with the commissioner of higher education, to:
 - complete a feasibility study regarding the impact of higher education student housing on surrounding communities; and
 - report to the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

This bill provides a special effective date.

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

53H-9-405, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

Section 1. Section 53H-9-405 is enacted to read:

53H-9-405 . Higher education student housing feasibility study.

An employee of the governor's office who is an expert or advisor on housing strategy shall, in consultation with the commissioner of higher education:

- (1) complete a feasibility study that:
 - (a) examines the impact of higher education student populations on home ownership in communities surrounding institutions of higher education, including the magnitude

- 29 and costs; and
- 30 **(b)** proposes opportunities for state and institutional mitigation of the impacts described
- 31 in Subsection (1)(a), which may include:
- 32 **(i)** a uniform statewide effort to create dedicated student, faculty, and staff housing
- 33 on state- or institution-owned land; or
- 34 **(ii)** state facilitation of negotiated development agreements with third-party
- 35 developers for student housing;
- 36 **(2)** ensure the involvement of presidents of institutions of higher education, the Utah Board
- 37 of Higher Education, developers, municipalities in which an institution of higher
- 38 education is located, and other interested parties in the process of completing the
- 39 feasibility study; and
- 40 **(3)** report to the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee before November 1, 2026,
- 41 regarding the outcome of the feasibility study described in Subsection (1).

42 Section 2. **Effective Date.**

43 This bill takes effect:

- 44 **(1)** except as provided in Subsection (2), May 6, 2026; or
- 45 **(2)** if approved by two-thirds of all members elected to each house:
- 46 **(a)** upon approval by the governor;
- 47 **(b)** without the governor's signature, the day following the constitutional time limit of
- 48 Utah Constitution, Article VII, Section 8; or
- 49 **(c)** in the case of a veto, the date of veto override.