

Surveillance Camera Amendments

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Stephanie Pitcher

House Sponsor: Jordan D. Teuscher

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill concerns a law enforcement officer's ability to tamper with a surveillance camera on private property.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- prohibits a law enforcement officer, or an individual acting on behalf of a law enforcement officer, from tampering with, changing the viewing direction of, or disabling a person's surveillance camera on the person's private property; and
- creates exceptions to the prohibition.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

53-25-1201, Utah Code Annotated 1953

53-25-1202, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

Section 1. Section **53-25-1201** is enacted to read:

Part 12. Law Enforcement Prohibitions

53-25-1201 . Definitions.

Reserved.

Section 2. Section **53-25-1202** is enacted to read:

53-25-1202 . Law enforcement officer prohibition on tampering with a private surveillance camera -- Exceptions.

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2) or (4), a law enforcement officer, or an individual acting on behalf of a law enforcement officer, may not tamper with, change the viewing direction of, or disable a person's surveillance camera that is on the person's private property.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply if the law enforcement officer, or the individual acting on behalf of a law enforcement officer:
- (a) obtains the person's permission before taking the action described in Subsection (1);
 - (b) obtains a court order granting permission to take the action described in Subsection (1) before taking the action described in Subsection (1); or
 - (c) takes the action described in Subsection (1) under a circumstance described in Subsection (3)(a) if the law enforcement officer, or the individual acting on behalf of a law enforcement officer, subsequently takes an action described in Subsection (3)(b).
- (3)(a) The circumstances described in Subsection (2)(c) are:
- (i) the existence of exigent circumstances; or
 - (ii) to protect a law enforcement officer's safety:
 - (A) while executing a warrant; or
 - (B) if the circumstances, as known to the law enforcement officer, present a real, articulable risk to the law enforcement officer's safety.
- (b) The subsequent actions described in Subsection (2)(c) are:
- (i) notifying the affected person within 24 hours after:
 - (A) the exigent circumstances no longer exist;
 - (B) the warrant described in Subsection (3)(a)(ii)(A) has been served; or
 - (C) the circumstances described in Subsection (3)(a)(ii)(B) have been resolved; or
 - (ii) obtaining a court order as soon as practicable after the circumstance described in Subsection (3)(a) no longer exists, and if a court refuses to issue a court order, informing the person about the action taken on the surveillance camera within 24 hours after the court's refusal.
- (4) This section does not apply to a camera that is used for the surveillance or taking of wildlife.

Section 3. Effective Date.

This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.