

**Local Health Department and Department of Environmental Quality Coordination**

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Scott D. Sandall**

House Sponsor: Karen M. Peterson

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill addresses civil penalties and reporting related to public health and the environment.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- removes a requirement that the Department of Environmental Quality (department) report to the Rules Review and General Oversight Committee regarding the evaluation of a policy or rule that affects a local health department;

- establishes a process for a local government or local health department to submit a reimbursement request to the department for a qualifying extraordinary expense incurred in a qualifying environmental enforcement activity;

- authorizes rulemaking by the department related to the reimbursement for a qualifying extraordinary expense; and

- makes technical and conforming changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**19-1-111 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 156

**19-1-303 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 156

**19-1-507 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 281

**19-2-115 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/29)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2012, Chapter 360

- 28 **19-3-109 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2013, Chapter 330  
 29 **19-4-109 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/29)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah  
 30 2025, First Special Session, Chapter 16  
 31 **19-5-115 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/29)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah  
 32 2025, First Special Session, Chapter 16  
 33 **19-6-113 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/29)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah  
 34 2025, First Special Session, Chapter 16  
 35 **19-6-306 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/30)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah  
 36 2024, Chapter 158  
 37 **19-6-425 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/28)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah  
 38 2024, Chapter 158  
 39 **19-6-721 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/29)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah  
 40 2012, Chapter 360  
 41 **19-6-804 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/30)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah  
 42 2024, Chapter 158  
 43 **19-6-821 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/30)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah  
 44 2012, Chapters 263, 360

45 ENACTS:

46 **19-1-303.5 (Effective 05/06/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

49 Section 1. Section **19-1-111** is amended to read:

50 **19-1-111 (Effective 05/06/26). Governance committee with local health**  
 51 **departments.**

52 (1) As used in this section:

53 (a) "Exempt application" means an application for federal funding that meets the criteria  
 54 established under Subsection (3)(g).

55 (b) "Federal funding" means a grant, contract, or other funding from the federal  
 56 government that could provide funds for a local health department to fulfill the duties  
 57 and responsibilities of the local health department.

58 (c) "Governance committee" means the committee created in Subsection (2).

59 (2) The department shall establish a committee that consists of:

60 (a) the executive director or the executive director's designee;

61 (b) two representatives of the department appointed by the executive director; and

- 62 (c) three representatives of local health departments appointed by a group representing  
63 all the local health departments in the state.
- 64 (3) The governance committee shall:
- 65 (a) review all state and federal funding to the department to identify funding that the  
66 department may use to support:
- 67 (i) the requirements of Subsection 26A-1-106(3); and  
68 (ii) the minimum performance standards created by the department under Subsection  
69 26A-1-106(4);
- 70 (b) review the allocation of environmental quality resources between the department and  
71 the local health departments, including whether funds allocated by contract or  
72 cooperative agreement were:
- 73 (i) allocated in accordance with the formula described in Section 26A-1-116; and  
74 (ii) subject to requirements satisfying or exceeding the minimum performance  
75 standards created by the department under Section 26A-1-106;
- 76 (c) evaluate rules and department policies that affect a local health department in  
77 accordance with Subsection (4);
- 78 (d) consider policy changes proposed by the department or by a local health department;
- 79 (e) coordinate the implementation of environmental quality programs to maximize  
80 environmental quality resources;
- 81 (f) except as provided by Subsection (3)(g), review each department application for any  
82 federal funding that affects a local health department before the department submits  
83 the application; and
- 84 (g) establish a process by which the committee may exempt an application for federal  
85 funding from the review required under Subsection (3)(f).
- 86 (4) When evaluating a policy or rule that affects a local health department, the governance  
87 committee shall:
- 88 (a) compute an estimate of the cost a local health department will bear to comply with  
89 the policy or rule;
- 90 (b) specify whether there is any funding provided to a local health department to  
91 implement the policy or rule; and
- 92 (c) advise whether the policy or rule is needed.
- 93 (5) The governance committee shall create bylaws to govern the committee's operations.  
94 ~~[(6) Before November 1 of each year, the department shall provide a report to the Rules  
95 Review and General Oversight Committee regarding the determinations made under~~

96 Subsection (4).]

97 Section 2. Section **19-1-303** is amended to read:

98 **19-1-303 (Effective 05/06/26). Criminal and civil penalties -- Liability for**  
 99 **violations -- Reimbursement.**

100 (1)(a) Any person who violates [any] a provision of this title or [~~lawful orders or rules~~  
 101 ~~adopted under~~] a lawful order or rule made under the authority of this title by the  
 102 department shall:

103 (i) in a civil proceeding, be assessed a penalty not to exceed the sum of \$5,000; or

104 (ii) in a criminal proceeding:

105 (A) for the first violation, be guilty of a class B misdemeanor; and

106 (B) for a subsequent similar violation within two years, be guilty of a class A  
 107 misdemeanor.

108 (b) In addition, a person is liable for any expense incurred by the department in  
 109 removing or abating any violation.

110 (2) Assessment or conviction under this title does not relieve the person assessed or  
 111 convicted from civil liability for any act which was also a violation of [~~the~~] a public  
 112 health [~~laws~~] law.

113 (3) Each day of violation of this title or [~~rules~~] a rule made by the department may be  
 114 considered a separate violation.

115 (4) The enforcement procedures and penalties provided in Subsections (1) through (3) do  
 116 not apply to chapters in this title which provide for other specific enforcement  
 117 procedures and penalties.

118 (5) Except as provided in Subsection 19-1-303.5(2) or otherwise in this title, and unless  
 119 prohibited by federal law, the department shall deposit all money collected from a civil  
 120 penalty or fine imposed under this title into the General Fund.

121 [~~(5)(a) Except as provided in this Subsection (5) or otherwise in this title, the~~  
 122 ~~department shall deposit all civil penalties and fines imposed and collected under this~~  
 123 ~~title into the General Fund.]~~

124 [~~(b) The department shall reimburse a local health department for costs associated with~~  
 125 ~~collecting a civil penalty under this title by the local health department.]~~

126 [~~(c) The department may reimburse the department, a local government, or a local health~~  
 127 ~~department from money collected:]~~

128 [~~(i) from a civil penalty for a qualifying extraordinary expense incurred in a~~  
 129 ~~qualifying environmental enforcement activity; and]~~

130            [(ii) notwithstanding the provisions of Section 78A-5-110, from a criminal fine for a  
 131            qualifying extraordinary expense incurred in a prosecution for a violation of this  
 132            title.]

133            [(d) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the  
 134            department shall make rules to define:]

135            [(i) a qualifying environmental enforcement activity; and]

136            [(ii) a qualifying extraordinary expense.]

137            Section 3. Section **19-1-303.5** is enacted to read:

138            **19-1-303.5 (Effective 05/06/26). Reimbursement of extraordinary expenses from**  
 139            **civil penalty -- Requirements -- Rulemaking.**

140            (1) The provisions of this section apply to a civil penalty and fine collected under the  
 141            authority of this title.

142            (2)(a) The department may reimburse the department, a local government, or a local  
 143            health department from money collected from a civil penalty or fine for a qualifying  
 144            extraordinary expense incurred in a qualifying environmental enforcement activity.

145            (b) To request reimbursement for a qualifying extraordinary expense incurred in a  
 146            qualifying environmental enforcement activity, a local government or local health  
 147            department shall submit to the department:

148            (i) documentation necessary to support a claim for a qualifying extraordinary  
 149            expense, as defined in department rule;

150            (ii) proof of a request by the department for assistance in the qualifying  
 151            environmental enforcement activity; and

152            (iii) timely written notice of the expected extraordinary expense.

153            (3) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the  
 154            department shall make rules to:

155            (a) establish a procedure for a local government or local health department to claim a  
 156            reimbursement described in Subsection (2);

157            (b) define a qualifying environmental enforcement activity;

158            (c) define a qualifying extraordinary expense;

159            (d) define timely written notice described in Subsection (2)(b)(iii); and

160            (e) establish the documentation necessary to support a claim for an extraordinary  
 161            expense as described in Subsection (2)(b)(i).

162            Section 4. Section **19-1-507** is amended to read:

163            **19-1-507 (Effective 05/06/26). Civil action.**

- 164 (1) The attorney general or a person may bring a civil action in a court of competent  
 165 jurisdiction to seek:  
 166 (a) an injunction to enforce this part; and  
 167 (b) if the action is brought by the attorney general, a civil penalty not to exceed \$500 for  
 168 each day this part is violated.

- 169 (2) In an action brought under this section, a court may:  
 170 (a) order injunctive relief;  
 171 (b) impose a civil penalty to the extent provided in Subsection (1);  
 172 (c) award attorney fees and costs to the attorney general or person who brings the civil  
 173 action, if the attorney general or person prevails; or  
 174 (d) take a combination of actions under this Subsection (2).

175 [~~(3) A civil penalty imposed under this section shall be deposited into the General Fund.~~]

- 176 (3) Except as provided in Subsection 19-1-303.5(2) and unless prohibited by federal law,  
 177 the department shall deposit all money collected from a civil penalty imposed under this  
 178 section into the General Fund.

179 Section 5. Section **19-2-115** is amended to read:

180 **19-2-115 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/29). Violations -- Penalties --**  
 181 **Reimbursement for expenses.**

- 182 (1) As used in this section, the terms "knowingly," "willfully," and "criminal negligence"  
 183 shall mean as defined in Section 76-2-103.
- 184 (2)(a) A person who violates this chapter, or any rule, order, or permit issued or made  
 185 under this chapter is subject in a civil proceeding to a penalty not to exceed \$10,000  
 186 per day for each violation.
- 187 (b) Subsection (2)(a) also applies to rules made under the authority of Section 19-2-104,  
 188 for implementation of 15 U.S.C.A. 2601 et seq., Toxic Substances Control Act,  
 189 Subchapter II - Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response.
- 190 (c) Penalties assessed for violations described in 15 U.S.C.A. 2647, Toxic Substances  
 191 Control Act, Subchapter II - Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response, may not exceed  
 192 the amounts specified in that section and shall be used in accordance with that section.
- 193 (3) A person is guilty of a class A misdemeanor and is subject to imprisonment under  
 194 Section 76-3-204 and a fine of not more than \$25,000 per day of violation if that person  
 195 knowingly violates any of the following under this chapter:  
 196 (a) an applicable standard or limitation;  
 197 (b) a permit condition; or

- 198 (c) a fee or filing requirement.
- 199 (4) A person is guilty of a third degree felony and is subject to imprisonment under Section  
200 76-3-203 and a fine of not more than \$25,000 per day of violation who knowingly:
- 201 (a) makes any false material statement, representation, or certification, in any notice or  
202 report required by permit; or
- 203 (b) renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained by  
204 this chapter or applicable rules made under this chapter.
- 205 (5) Any fine or penalty assessed under Subsections (2) or (3) is in lieu of any penalty under  
206 Section 19-2-109.1.
- 207 (6) A person who willfully violates Section 19-2-120 is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.
- 208 (7) A person who knowingly violates any requirement of an applicable implementation plan  
209 adopted by the board, more than 30 days after having been notified in writing by the  
210 director that the person is violating the requirement, knowingly violates an order issued  
211 under Subsection 19-2-110(1), or knowingly handles or disposes of asbestos in violation  
212 of a rule made under this chapter is guilty of a third degree felony and subject to  
213 imprisonment under Section 76-3-203 and a fine of not more than \$25,000 per day of  
214 violation in the case of the first offense, and not more than \$50,000 per day of violation  
215 in the case of subsequent offenses.
- 216 (8)(a) As used in this section:
- 217 (i) "Hazardous air pollutant" means any hazardous air pollutant listed under 42  
218 U.S.C. Sec. 7412 or any extremely hazardous substance listed under 42 U.S.C.  
219 Sec. 11002(a)(2).
- 220 (ii) "Organization" means a legal entity, other than a government, established or  
221 organized for any purpose, and includes a corporation, company, association,  
222 firm, partnership, joint stock company, foundation, institution, trust, society,  
223 union, or any other association of persons.
- 224 (iii) "Serious bodily injury" means bodily injury which involves a substantial risk of  
225 death, unconsciousness, extreme physical pain, protracted and obvious  
226 disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily  
227 member, organ, or mental faculty.
- 228 (b)(i) A person is guilty of a class A misdemeanor and subject to imprisonment under  
229 Section 76-3-204 and a fine of not more than \$25,000 per day of violation if that  
230 person with criminal negligence:
- 231 (A) releases into the ambient air any hazardous air pollutant; and

- 232 (B) places another person in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury.
- 233 (ii) As used in this Subsection (8)(b), "person" does not include an employee who is  
234 carrying out the employee's normal activities and who is not a part of senior  
235 management personnel or a corporate officer.
- 236 (c) A person is guilty of a second degree felony and is subject to imprisonment under  
237 Section 76-3-203 and a fine of not more than \$50,000 per day of violation if that  
238 person:
- 239 (i) knowingly releases into the ambient air any hazardous air pollutant; and  
240 (ii) knows at the time that the person is placing another person in imminent danger of  
241 death or serious bodily injury.
- 242 (d) If a person is an organization, it shall, upon conviction of violating Subsection (8)(c),  
243 be subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000,000.
- 244 (e)(i) A defendant who is an individual is considered to have acted knowingly under  
245 Subsections (8)(c) and (d), if:
- 246 (A) the defendant's conduct placed another person in imminent danger of death or  
247 serious bodily injury; and  
248 (B) the defendant was aware of or believed that there was an imminent danger of  
249 death or serious bodily injury to another person.
- 250 (ii) Knowledge possessed by a person other than the defendant may not be attributed  
251 to the defendant.
- 252 (iii) Circumstantial evidence may be used to prove that the defendant possessed  
253 actual knowledge, including evidence that the defendant took affirmative steps to  
254 be shielded from receiving relevant information.
- 255 (f)(i) It is an affirmative defense to prosecution under this Subsection (8) that the  
256 conduct charged was freely consented to by the person endangered and that the  
257 danger and conduct charged were reasonably foreseeable hazards of:
- 258 (A) an occupation, a business, a profession; or  
259 (B) medical treatment or medical or scientific experimentation conducted by  
260 professionally approved methods and the other person was aware of the risks  
261 involved prior to giving consent.
- 262 (ii) The defendant has the burden of proof to establish any affirmative defense under  
263 this Subsection (8)(f) and shall prove that defense by a preponderance of the  
264 evidence.
- 265 ~~[(9)(a) Except as provided in Subsection (9)(b), and unless prohibited by federal law,~~

266 all penalties assessed and collected under the authority of this section shall be  
 267 deposited in the General Fund.]

268 [(b) The department may reimburse itself and local governments from money collected  
 269 from civil penalties for extraordinary expenses incurred in environmental  
 270 enforcement activities.]

271 [(c) The department shall regulate reimbursements by making rules in accordance with  
 272 Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, that:]

273 [(i) define qualifying environmental enforcement activities; and]

274 [(ii) define qualifying extraordinary expenses.]

275 (9) Except as provided in Subsection 19-1-303.5(2) and unless prohibited by federal law,  
 276 the department shall deposit all money collected from a civil penalty or fine imposed  
 277 under this section into the General Fund.

278 Section 6. Section **19-3-109** is amended to read:

279 **19-3-109 (Effective 05/06/26). Civil penalties -- Appeals -- Reimbursement for**  
 280 **expenses.**

281 (1) A person who violates a provision of this part, a rule or order issued under the authority  
 282 of this part, or the terms of a license, permit, or registration certificate issued under the  
 283 authority of this part is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000 for each violation.

284 (2) The director may assess and make a demand for payment of a penalty under this section  
 285 and may compromise or remit that penalty.

286 (3) In order to make demand for payment of a penalty assessed under this section, the  
 287 director shall issue a notice of agency action, specifying, in addition to the requirements  
 288 for notices of agency action contained in Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative  
 289 Procedures Act:

290 (a) the date, facts, and nature of each act or omission charged;

291 (b) the provision of the statute, rule, order, license, permit, or registration certificate that  
 292 is alleged to have been violated;

293 (c) each penalty that the director proposes to impose, together with the amount and date  
 294 of effect of that penalty; and

295 (d) that failure to pay the penalty or respond may result in a civil action for collection.

296 (4) A person notified according to Subsection (3) may request an adjudicative proceeding.

297 (5) Upon request by the director, the attorney general may institute a civil action to collect a  
 298 penalty imposed under this section.

299 [~~(6)(a) Except as provided in Subsection (6)(b), the department shall deposit all money~~

- 300 collected from civil penalties imposed under this section into the General Fund.]
- 301 ~~[(b) The department may reimburse itself and local governments from money collected~~
- 302 ~~from civil penalties for extraordinary expenses incurred in environmental~~
- 303 ~~enforcement activities.]~~
- 304 ~~[(e) The department shall regulate reimbursements by making rules that:]~~
- 305 ~~[(i) define qualifying environmental enforcement activities; and]~~
- 306 ~~[(ii) define qualifying extraordinary expenses.]~~
- 307 (6) Except as provided in Subsection 19-1-303.5(2) and unless prohibited by federal law,
- 308 the department shall deposit all money collected from a civil penalty or fine imposed
- 309 under this section into the General Fund.

310 Section 7. Section **19-4-109** is amended to read:

311 **19-4-109 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/29). Violations -- Penalties --**

312 **Reimbursement for expenses.**

- 313 (1) As used in this section, "criminal negligence" means the same as that term is defined in
- 314 Section 76-2-103.
- 315 (2)(a) A person who violates this chapter, a rule or order issued under the authority of
- 316 this chapter, or the terms of a permit or other administrative authorization issued
- 317 under the authority of this chapter is subject to ~~[an administrative]~~ a civil penalty:
- 318 (i) not to exceed \$1,000 per day per violation, with respect to a public water system
- 319 serving a population of less than 10,000 individuals; or
- 320 (ii) exactly \$1,000 per day per violation, with respect to a public water system
- 321 serving a population of more than 10,000 individuals.
- 322 (b) In all cases, each day of violation is considered a separate violation.
- 323 (3) The director may assess and make a demand for payment of ~~[an administrative]~~ a civil
- 324 penalty under this section and may compromise or settle that penalty.
- 325 (4) To make a demand for payment of ~~[an administrative]~~ a civil penalty assessed under this
- 326 section, the director shall issue a notice of agency action, specifying, in addition to the
- 327 requirements for notices of agency action contained in Title 63G, Chapter 4,
- 328 Administrative Procedures Act:
- 329 (a) the date, facts, and nature of each act or omission charged;
- 330 (b) the provision of the statute, rule, order, permit, or administrative authorization that is
- 331 alleged to have been violated;
- 332 (c) each penalty that the director proposes to assess, together with the amount and date
- 333 of effect of that penalty; and

- 334 (d) that failure to pay the penalty or respond may result in a civil action for collection.
- 335 (5) A person notified according to Subsection (4) may request an adjudicative proceeding.
- 336 (6) Upon request by the director, the attorney general may institute a civil action to collect a  
337 penalty assessed under this section.
- 338 (7)(a) A person who, with criminal negligence, violates any rule or order made or issued  
339 pursuant to this chapter, or with criminal negligence fails to take corrective action  
340 required by an order, is guilty of a class B misdemeanor and subject to a fine of not  
341 more than \$5,000 per day for each day of violation.
- 342 (b) ~~[In addition, the person is subject, in a civil proceeding, to a penalty]~~ A person  
343 described in Subsection (7)(a) is subject in a civil proceeding to a civil penalty of not  
344 more than \$5,000 per day for each day of violation.
- 345 (8)(a) The director may bring a civil action for appropriate relief, including a permanent  
346 or temporary injunction, for a violation for which the director is authorized to issue a  
347 compliance order under Section 19-4-107.
- 348 (b) Notwithstanding Title 78B, Chapter 3a, Venue for Civil Actions, the director shall  
349 bring an action under this Subsection (8) in the county where the violation occurs if  
350 the director brings the action in a district court.
- 351 (9)(a) The attorney general is the legal advisor for the board and the director and shall  
352 defend them in an action or proceeding brought against the board or director.
- 353 (b) The county attorney or district attorney, as appropriate under Section 17-68-302 or  
354 17-68-303, in the county in which a cause of action arises, shall bring an action, civil  
355 or criminal, requested by the director, to abate a condition that exists in violation of,  
356 or to prosecute for the violation of, or to enforce the laws or the standards, orders,  
357 and rules of the board or the director issued under this chapter.
- 358 (c) The director may initiate action under this section and be represented by the attorney  
359 general.
- 360 (10) If a person fails to comply with a cease and desist order that is not subject to a stay  
361 pending administrative or judicial review, the director may initiate an action for and be  
362 entitled to injunctive relief to prevent further or continued violation of the order.
- 363 (11) A bond may not be required for injunctive relief under this chapter.
- 364 ~~[(12)(a) Except as provided in Subsection (12)(b), a penalty assessed and collected~~  
365 ~~under the authority of this section shall be deposited into the General Fund.]~~
- 366 ~~[(b) The department may reimburse itself and local governments from money collected~~  
367 ~~from civil penalties for extraordinary expenses incurred in environmental~~

368 enforcement activities.]

369 [(e) The department shall regulate reimbursements by making rules that define:]

370 [(i) qualifying environmental enforcement activities; and]

371 [(ii) qualifying extraordinary expenses.]

372 (12) Except as provided in Subsection 19-1-303.5(2) and unless prohibited by federal law,  
 373 the department shall deposit all money collected from a civil penalty or fine imposed  
 374 under this section into the General Fund.

375 Section 8. Section **19-5-115** is amended to read:

376 **19-5-115 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/29). Violations -- Civil and**  
 377 **criminal penalties -- Ordinances and rules of political subdivisions -- Reimbursement for**  
 378 **expenses.**

379 (1) As used in this section:

380 (a) "Criminal negligence" means the same as that term is defined in Section 76-2-103.

381 (b) "Knowingly" means the same as that term is defined in Section 76-2-103.

382 (c)(i) "Organization" means a legal entity, other than a government, established or  
 383 organized for any purpose.

384 (ii) "Organization" includes a corporation, company, association, firm, partnership,  
 385 joint stock company, foundation, institution, trust, society, union, or any other  
 386 association of persons.

387 (d) "Serious bodily injury" means bodily injury that involves a substantial risk of death,  
 388 unconsciousness, extreme physical pain, protracted and obvious disfigurement, or  
 389 protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ, or mental  
 390 faculty.

391 (e) "Willfully" means the same as that term is defined in Section 76-2-103.

392 (2)(a) A person that violates this chapter, or any permit, rule, or order adopted under this  
 393 chapter, is subject in a civil proceeding to a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000 per  
 394 day of violation.

395 (b) The department shall retain the revenue from an administrative fine under Subsection  
 396 19-5-108.3(7) as a dedicated credit for the purposes of outreach and education to  
 397 applicants.

398 (c) The division may issue an order to stop construction in accordance with Subsection  
 399 19-5-108.3(7).

400 (3)(a) A person is guilty of a class A misdemeanor, subject to imprisonment under  
 401 Section 76-3-204, and subject to a fine not exceeding \$25,000 per day, if the person

- 402 with criminal negligence:
- 403 (i) discharges pollutants in violation of Subsection 19-5-107(1) or in violation of any  
404 condition or limitation included in a permit issued under Subsection 19-5-107(3);  
405 (ii) violates Section 19-5-113;  
406 (iii) violates a pretreatment standard or toxic effluent standard for publicly owned  
407 treatment works; or  
408 (iv) manages sewage sludge in violation of this chapter or rules adopted under this  
409 chapter.
- 410 (b) A person is guilty of a third degree felony, subject to imprisonment under Section  
411 76-3-203, and subject to a fine not to exceed \$50,000 per day of violation, if the  
412 person knowingly:
- 413 (i) discharges pollutants in violation of Subsection 19-5-107(1) or in violation of any  
414 condition or limitation included in a permit issued under Subsection 19-5-107(3);  
415 (ii) violates Section 19-5-113;  
416 (iii) violates a pretreatment standard or toxic effluent standard for publicly owned  
417 treatment works; or  
418 (iv) manages sewage sludge in violation of this chapter or rules adopted under this  
419 chapter.
- 420 (4) A person is guilty of a third degree felony, subject to imprisonment under Section  
421 76-3-203, and subject to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 per day of violation, if the person  
422 knowingly:
- 423 (a) makes a false material statement, representation, or certification in any application,  
424 record, report, plan, or other document filed or required to be maintained under this  
425 chapter, or by any permit, rule, or order issued under this chapter; or  
426 (b) falsifies, tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate a monitoring device or  
427 method required to be maintained under this chapter.
- 428 (5)(a) A person is guilty of a second degree felony, subject to imprisonment under  
429 Section 76-3-203, and subject to a fine of not more than \$250,000 if the person:
- 430 (i) knowingly violates this chapter, or any permit, rule, or order adopted under this  
431 chapter; and  
432 (ii) knows at that time that the person is placing another person in imminent danger  
433 of death or serious bodily injury.
- 434 (b) If a person is an organization, the organization shall, upon conviction of violating  
435 Subsection (5)(a), be subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000,000.

- 436 (c)(i) A defendant who is an individual is considered to have acted knowingly if:
- 437 (A) the defendant's conduct placed another person in imminent danger of death or
- 438 serious bodily injury; and
- 439 (B) the defendant was aware of or believed that there was an imminent danger of
- 440 death or serious bodily injury to another person.
- 441 (ii) Knowledge possessed by a person other than the defendant may not be attributed
- 442 to the defendant.
- 443 (iii) Circumstantial evidence may be used to prove that the defendant possessed
- 444 actual knowledge, including evidence that the defendant took affirmative steps to
- 445 be shielded from receiving relevant information.
- 446 (d)(i) It is an affirmative defense to prosecution under this Subsection (5) that the
- 447 conduct charged was consented to by the person endangered and that the danger
- 448 and conduct charged were reasonably foreseeable hazards of:
- 449 (A) an occupation, a business, or a profession; or
- 450 (B) medical treatment or medical or scientific experimentation conducted by
- 451 professionally approved methods and the other person was aware of the risks
- 452 involved before giving consent.
- 453 (ii) The defendant has the burden of proof to establish an affirmative defense under
- 454 this Subsection (5)(d) and shall prove that defense by a preponderance of the
- 455 evidence.
- 456 (6) For purposes of Subsections (3) through (5), a single operational upset that leads to
- 457 simultaneous violations of more than one pollutant parameter shall be treated as a single
- 458 violation.
- 459 (7)(a) The director may bring a civil action for appropriate relief, including a permanent
- 460 or temporary injunction, for any violation or threatened violation for which the
- 461 director is authorized to issue a compliance order under Section 19-5-111.
- 462 (b) Notwithstanding Title 78B, Chapter 3a, Venue for Civil Actions, the director shall
- 463 bring a civil action in the district court where the violation or threatened violation
- 464 occurs if the director brings the action in a district court.
- 465 (8)(a) The attorney general is the legal advisor for the board and the director and shall
- 466 defend the board or director in an action or proceeding brought against the board or
- 467 director.
- 468 (b) The county attorney or district attorney, as appropriate under Section 17-68-302 or
- 469 17-68-303, in the county in which a cause of action arises, shall bring an action, civil

470 or criminal, requested by the director, to abate a condition that exists in violation of,  
471 or to prosecute for the violation of, or to enforce, the laws or the standards, orders,  
472 and rules of the board or the director issued under this chapter.

473 (c) The director may initiate an action under this section and be represented by the  
474 attorney general.

475 (9) If a person fails to comply with a cease and desist order that is not subject to a stay  
476 pending administrative or judicial review, the director may initiate an action for and be  
477 entitled to injunctive relief to prevent any further or continued violation of the order.

478 (10) A political subdivision of the state may enact and enforce ordinances or rules for the  
479 implementation of this chapter that are not inconsistent with this chapter.

480 ~~[(11)(a) Except as provided in Subsections 19-5-108.3(7)(d) and 19-5-115(11)(b) and  
481 (c), the department shall deposit penalties imposed and collected under the authority  
482 of this section into the General Fund.]~~

483 ~~[(b) The department may reimburse itself and local governments from money collected  
484 from civil penalties for extraordinary expenses incurred in environmental  
485 enforcement activities.]~~

486 ~~[(c) The department shall regulate reimbursements by making rules, in accordance with  
487 Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, that:]~~

488 ~~[(i) define qualifying environmental enforcement activities; and]~~

489 ~~[(ii) define qualifying extraordinary expenses.]~~

490 ~~[(12)]~~ (11)(a) For purposes of this section or an ordinance or rule enacted by a political  
491 subdivision under Subsection (10), an act performed by an individual wholly within  
492 the scope of the individual's employment with an organization, is attributed to the  
493 organization.

494 (b) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section, an action may not be brought  
495 against an individual acting wholly within the scope of the individual's employment  
496 with an organization if the action is brought under:

497 (i) this section;

498 (ii) an ordinance or rule issued by a political subdivision under Subsection (10); or

499 (iii) any local law or ordinance governing discharge.

500 (12) Except as provided in Subsections 19-1-303.5(2) and 19-5-108.3(7)(d), and unless  
501 prohibited by federal law, the department shall deposit all money collected from a civil  
502 penalty or fine imposed under this section into the General Fund.

503 Section 9. Section **19-6-113** is amended to read:

504           **19-6-113 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/29). Violations -- Penalties --**  
505           **Reimbursement for expenses.**

- 506           (1) As used in this section, "RCRA" means the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act,  
507           42 U.S.C. Section 6901, et seq.
- 508           (2) Any person who violates any order, plan, rule, or other requirement issued or adopted  
509           under this part is subject in a civil proceeding to a penalty of not more than \$13,000 per  
510           day for each day of violation.
- 511           (3) On or after July 1, 1990, no person shall knowingly:
- 512           (a) transport or cause to be transported any hazardous waste identified or listed under  
513           this part to a facility that does not have a hazardous waste operation plan or permit  
514           under this part or RCRA;
- 515           (b) treat, store, or dispose of any hazardous waste identified or listed under this part:
- 516           (i) without having obtained a hazardous waste operation plan or permit as required by  
517           this part or RCRA;
- 518           (ii) in knowing violation of any material condition or requirement of a hazardous  
519           waste operation plan or permit; or
- 520           (iii) in knowing violation of any material condition or requirement of any rules or  
521           regulations under this part or RCRA;
- 522           (c) omit material information or make any false material statement or representation in  
523           any application, label, manifest, record, report, permit, operation plan, or other  
524           document filed, maintained, or used for purposes of compliance with this part or  
525           RCRA or any rules or regulations made under this part or RCRA; and
- 526           (d) transport or cause to be transported without a manifest any hazardous waste  
527           identified or listed under this part and required by rules or regulations made under  
528           this part or RCRA to be accompanied by a manifest.
- 529           (4)(a)(i) Any person who knowingly violates any provision of Subsection (3)(a) or (b)  
530           is guilty of a felony.
- 531           (ii) Notwithstanding Sections 76-3-203, 76-3-301, and 76-3-302, a person convicted  
532           of a felony under Subsection (3)(a) or (b) is subject to a fine of not more than  
533           \$50,000 for each day of violation, or imprisonment for a term not to exceed five  
534           years, or both.
- 535           (iii) If a person is convicted of a second or subsequent violation under Subsection  
536           (3)(a) or (b), the maximum punishment is double both the fine and the term of  
537           imprisonment authorized in Subsection (4)(a)(ii).

- 538 (b)(i) Any person who knowingly violates any of the provisions of Subsection (3)(c)  
539 or (d) is guilty of a felony.
- 540 (ii) Notwithstanding Sections 76-3-203, 76-3-301, and 76-3-302, a person convicted  
541 of a felony for a violation of Subsection (3)(c) or (d) is subject to a fine of not  
542 more than \$50,000 for each day of violation, or imprisonment for a term not to  
543 exceed two years, or both.
- 544 (iii) If a person is convicted of a second or subsequent violation under Subsection  
545 (3)(c) or (d), the maximum punishment is double both the fine and the  
546 imprisonment authorized in Subsection (4)(b)(ii).
- 547 (c)(i) Any person who knowingly transports, treats, stores, or disposes of any  
548 hazardous waste identified or listed under this part in violation of Subsection (3)(a),  
549 (b), (c), or (d), who knows at that time that the person thereby places another  
550 person in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury, is guilty of a felony.
- 551 (ii) Notwithstanding Sections 76-3-203, 76-3-301, and 76-3-302, a person convicted  
552 of a felony described in Subsection (4)(c)(i) is subject to a fine of not more than  
553 \$250,000, or imprisonment for a term not to exceed 15 years, or both.
- 554 (iii) A corporation, association, partnership, or governmental instrumentality, upon  
555 conviction of violating Subsection (4)(c)(i), is subject to a fine of not more than  
556 \$1,000,000.
- 557 ~~[(5)(a) Except as provided in Subsections (5)(b) and (e) and Section 19-6-722, all~~  
558 ~~penalties assessed and collected under authority of this section shall be deposited in~~  
559 ~~the General Fund.]~~
- 560 ~~[(b) The department may reimburse itself and local governments from money collected~~  
561 ~~from civil penalties for qualifying extraordinary expenses incurred in qualifying~~  
562 ~~environmental enforcement activities.]~~
- 563 ~~[(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 78A-5-110, the department may~~  
564 ~~reimburse itself and local governments from money collected from criminal fines for~~  
565 ~~qualifying extraordinary expenses incurred in prosecutions for violations of this part.]~~
- 566 ~~[(d) The department shall regulate reimbursements by making rules that define:]~~  
567 ~~[(i) qualifying environmental enforcement activities; and]~~  
568 ~~[(ii) qualifying extraordinary expenses.]~~
- 569 ~~[(6)]~~ (5) The attorney general, the county attorney, or the district attorney, as appropriate  
570 under Section 17-68-302 or 17-68-303, may commence prosecution for a criminal  
571 violation of this part in any county where venue is proper.

572 (6) Except as provided in Subsections 19-1-303.5(2) and 19-6-722(3), and unless prohibited  
 573 by federal law, the department shall deposit all money collected from a civil penalty or  
 574 fine imposed under this section into the General Fund.

575 Section 10. Section **19-6-306** is amended to read:

576 **19-6-306 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/30). Civil penalty -- Lawsuits.**

577 (1) Any person who violates any final order or rule issued or made under this part is subject  
 578 in a civil proceeding to a penalty of not more than \$10,000 per day for each day of  
 579 violation.

580 (2) Any person who violates the terms of any agreement made under authority of this part is  
 581 subject in a civil proceeding to pay:

582 (a) any penalties stipulated in the agreement; or

583 (b) if no penalties are stipulated in the agreement, a penalty of not more than \$10,000  
 584 per day for each day of violation.

585 (3) [~~The executive director shall deposit all civil penalties collected under the authority of~~  
 586 ~~this section into~~] Except as provided in Subsection 19-1-303.5(2) and unless prohibited  
 587 by federal law, the executive director shall deposit all money collected from a civil  
 588 penalty under this section into the General Fund.

589 (4)(a) The executive director may enforce any orders issued under authority of this part  
 590 by bringing a suit to enforce the order in a court with jurisdiction under Title 78A,  
 591 Judiciary and Judicial Administration.

592 (b) Notwithstanding Title 78B, Chapter 3a, Venue for Civil Actions, if the executive  
 593 director brings a suit described in Subsection (4)(a) in the district court, the executive  
 594 director shall bring the suit in:

595 (i) Salt Lake County; or

596 (ii) the county where the hazardous substances release occurred.

597 (c) After a remedial investigation has been completed, the executive director may bring  
 598 a suit in a court with jurisdiction under Title 78A, Judiciary and Judicial  
 599 Administration, against all responsible parties, asking the court for injunctive relief  
 600 and to apportion liability among the responsible parties for performance of remedial  
 601 action.

602 Section 11. Section **19-6-425** is amended to read:

603 **19-6-425 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/28). Violation of part -- Civil**  
 604 **penalty -- Civil action -- Reimbursement for expenses.**

605 (1) Except as provided in Section 19-6-407, any person who violates any requirement of

606 this part or any order issued or rule made under the authority of this part is subject to a  
607 civil penalty of not more than \$10,000 per day for each day of violation.

608 (2)(a) The director may enforce any requirement, rule, agreement, or order issued under  
609 this part by bringing an action in a court with jurisdiction under Title 78A, Judiciary  
610 and Judicial Administration.

611 (b) Notwithstanding Title 78B, Chapter 3a, Venue for Civil Actions, the director shall  
612 bring an action in the county where the underground storage tank or petroleum  
613 storage tank is located if the director brings the action in the district court.

614 (3) ~~[The] Except as provided in Subsection 19-1-303.5(2) and unless prohibited by federal~~  
615 ~~law, the department shall deposit [the penalties collected under this part in] all money~~  
616 ~~collected from a civil penalty imposed under this section into the Petroleum Storage~~  
617 ~~Tank Restricted Account created [under] in Section 19-6-405.5.~~

618 Section 12. Section **19-6-721** is amended to read:

619 **19-6-721 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/29). Violations -- Proceedings --**  
620 **Orders -- Reimbursement for expenses.**

621 (1) A person who violates any provision of this part or any order, permit, rule, or other  
622 requirement issued or adopted under this part is subject in a civil proceeding to a penalty  
623 of not more than \$10,000 per day for each day of violation, in addition to any fine  
624 otherwise imposed for violation of this part.

625 (2)(a) The director may bring suit in the name of the state to restrain the person from  
626 continuing the violation and to require the person to perform necessary remediation.

627 (b) Suit under Subsection (2)(a) may be brought in any court in the state having  
628 jurisdiction in the county of residence of the person charged or in the county where  
629 the violation is alleged to have occurred.

630 (c) The court may grant prohibitory and mandatory injunctions, including temporary  
631 restraining orders.

632 (3) When the director finds a situation exists in violation of this part that presents an  
633 immediate threat to the public health or welfare, the director may issue an emergency  
634 order under Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act.

635 (4) ~~[All penalties collected under this section shall be deposited in]~~ Except as provided in  
636 Subsection 19-1-303.5(2) and unless prohibited by federal law, the department shall  
637 deposit all money collected from a civil penalty under this section into the account  
638 created in Section 19-6-719.

639 Section 13. Section **19-6-804** is amended to read:

640 **19-6-804 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/30). Restrictions on disposal and**  
641 **transfer of tires -- Penalties -- Reimbursement for expenses.**

- 642 (1)(a) An individual, including a waste tire transporter, may not transfer for temporary  
643 storage more than 12 whole tires at one time to a landfill or other location in the state  
644 authorized by the director to receive waste tires, except for purposes authorized by  
645 board rule.
- 646 (b) Tires are exempt from this Subsection (1) if the original tire has a rim diameter  
647 greater than 24.5 inches.
- 648 (c) A person, including a waste tire transporter, may not dispose of waste tires or store  
649 waste tires in any manner not allowed under this part or rules made under this part.
- 650 (2) The operator of the landfill or other authorized location shall direct that the waste tires  
651 be stored in a designated area to facilitate retrieval if a market becomes available for the  
652 disposed waste tires or material derived from waste tires.
- 653 (3) An individual, including a waste tire transporter, may dispose of shredded waste tires in  
654 a landfill in accordance with Section 19-6-812, and may also, without reimbursement,  
655 dispose in a landfill materials derived from waste tires that do not qualify for  
656 reimbursement under Section 19-6-812, but the landfill shall dispose of the material in  
657 accordance with Section 19-6-812.
- 658 (4) A tire retailer may only transfer ownership of a waste tire described in Subsection  
659 19-6-803(28)(b) to:
- 660 (a) a person who purchases it for the person's own use and not for resale; or  
661 (b) a waste tire transporter that:
- 662 (i) is registered in accordance with Section 19-6-806; and  
663 (ii) agrees to transport the tire to:
- 664 (A) a tire retailer that sells the tire wholesale or retail; or  
665 (B) a recycler.
- 666 (5)(a)(i) An individual, including a waste tire transporter, violating this section is  
667 subject to enforcement proceedings and a civil penalty of not more than \$100 per  
668 waste tire or per passenger tire equivalent disposed of in violation of this section.
- 669 (ii) A warning notice may be issued before taking further enforcement action under  
670 this Subsection (5).
- 671 (b) The director, the local health department, or the county attorney with jurisdiction  
672 over the location where the tires were disposed in violation of this section, may bring  
673 an action to enforce this section and collect penalties in a court with jurisdiction

- 674 under Title 78A, Judiciary and Judicial Administration.
- 675 (c) Notwithstanding Title 78B, Chapter 3a, Venue for Civil Actions, the director, local  
676 health department, or county attorney shall bring an action described in Subsection  
677 (5)(b) in the county where the violation occurred if the action is brought in the district  
678 court.
- 679 (d) ~~[Penalties collected under this section shall be deposited]~~ Except as provided in  
680 Subsection 19-1-303.5(2) and unless prohibited by federal law, the department shall  
681 deposit all money collected from a civil penalty under this section into the fund.

682 Section 14. Section **19-6-821** is amended to read:

683 **19-6-821 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/30). Violations -- Civil proceedings**  
684 **and penalties -- Orders -- Reimbursement for expenses.**

- 685 (1) A person who violates any provision of this part or any order, permit, plan approval, or  
686 rule issued or adopted under this part is subject to a civil penalty of not more than  
687 \$10,000 per day for each day of violation as determined in a civil hearing under Title  
688 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act, except:
- 689 (a) any violation of Subsection 19-6-804(1), (3), or (4) is subject to the penalty under  
690 Subsection 19-6-804(5) rather than the penalties under this section; and
- 691 (b) any violation of Subsection 19-6-808(1), (2), or (3) regarding payment of the  
692 recycling fee by the tire retailer is subject to penalties as provided in Subsection  
693 19-6-808(4) rather than the penalties under this section.
- 694 (2) The director may bring an action in the name of the state to restrain a person from  
695 continuing a violation of this part and to require the person to perform necessary  
696 remediation regarding a violation of this part.
- 697 (3) When the director finds a situation exists in violation of this part that presents an  
698 immediate threat to the public health or welfare, the director may issue an emergency  
699 order under Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act.
- 700 (4) The director may revoke the registration of a waste tire recycler or transporter who  
701 violates any provision of this part or any order, plan approval, permit, or rule issued or  
702 adopted under this part.
- 703 (5) The director may revoke the tire storage permit for a storage facility that is in violation  
704 of any provision of this part or any order, plan approval, permit, or rule issued or  
705 adopted under this part.
- 706 (6) If a person has been convicted of violating a provision of this part prior to a finding by  
707 the director of a violation of the same provision in an administrative hearing, the director

708 may not assess a civil monetary penalty under this section for the same offense for  
709 which the conviction was obtained.

710 (7) [~~All penalties collected under this section shall be deposited in~~] Except as provided in  
711 Subsection 19-1-303.5(2) and unless prohibited by federal law, the department shall  
712 deposit all money collected from a civil penalty under this section into the fund.

713 Section 15. **Effective Date.**

714 This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.