

SB0254S04 compared with SB0254

~~{Omitted text}~~ shows text that was in SB0254 but was omitted in SB0254S04

inserted text shows text that was not in SB0254 but was inserted into SB0254S04

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1 ~~{Critical Minerals}~~ Extracted Natural Resources Amendments

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Ann Millner

House Sponsor:David Shallenberger



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3 **LONG TITLE**

4 **General Description:**

5 This bill addresses ~~{critical minerals}~~ natural resources within the state.

6 **Highlighted Provisions:**

7 This bill:

8 ▶ facilitates faster permitting by the Department of Environmental Quality and the Division of Oil,
Gas, and Mining;

10 ▶ ~~{provides for}~~ modifies the ~~{diversion of new growth from the mineral severance}~~ tax credit for
mining exploration;

11 ▶ creates the State Reinvestment Restricted Account and diverts various streams of income
related to severance taxes into the State Reinvestment Restricted Account;

13 ▶ addresses property tax differentials based on critical minerals zones;

11 ▶ defines terms;

12 ▶ establishes the state critical minerals objectives and policy, including providing for annual
reviews;

14 ▶

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creates the Critical Minerals Council (council), including establishing the council's operations, powers, and duties;

- 19 ▶ **makes money appropriated to the council nonlapsing;**
- 16 ▶ addresses areas of coordination by certain council members;
- 17 ▶ establishes a process to designate critical { ~~mineral~~ } minerals zones, including providing for property tax differential revenue;
- 19 ▶ provides for the creation of a clearinghouse of data to be known as the "Critical Minerals Atlas";
- 21 ▶ addresses the creation of the Minerals for Industrial, National, and Economic Security Center;
- 23 ▶ creates the Critical Minerals Development Account; { ~~and~~ }
- 28 ▶ **coordinates with H.B. 373, Higher Education Innovation, to address inclusion of critical minerals projects in the eligible research areas for research grants; and**
- 24 ▶ makes technical and conforming amendments.

31 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

- 32 ▶ **This bill appropriates \$400,000 in operating and capital budgets for fiscal year 2026, all of**
- 33 **which is from the General Fund.**
- 34 ▶ **This bill appropriates \$14,016,200 in restricted fund and account transfers for fiscal year 2026,**
- 35 **all of which is from the various sources as detailed in this bill.**
- 36 ▶ **This bill appropriates \$11,400,000 in operating and capital budgets for fiscal year 2027, including:**
- 37 • **\$400,000 from General Fund; and**
- 38 • **\$11,000,000 from various sources as detailed in this bill.**

40 **Other Special Clauses:**

- 41 This bill provides a special effective date.
- 42 This bill provides coordination clauses.
- 43 This bill provides retrospective operation.

44 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

45 AMENDS:

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40-6-24 (Effective 05/06/26) (Applies beginning 01/01/26) (Repealed 07/01/37), as repealed and reenacted by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 159

48 **51-9-202 (Effective 07/01/26), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 401**

49 **51-9-302 (Effective 07/01/26), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2010, Chapter 219**

50 **51-9-305 (Effective 07/01/26), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2014, Chapter 241**

51 **59-2-924 ~~{(Effective 05/06/26)}~~(Effective 05/06/26) (Applies beginning 01/01/26), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special Session, Chapter 15**

53 **59-5-115 (Effective 05/06/26) (Applies beginning 01/01/26), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 446, 537**

55 **59-5-116 (Effective 05/06/26) (Applies beginning 01/01/26), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 401**

57 **59-5-119 (Effective 05/06/26) (Applies beginning 01/01/26), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 401**

59 **59-5-215 ~~{(Effective 05/06/26)}~~(Effective 05/06/26) (Applies beginning 01/01/26), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 25**

61 **63J-1-602.2 (Effective 05/06/26) (Partially Repealed 07/01/29), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special Session, Chapter 17**

63 **79-2-201 (Effective 05/06/26) (Partially Repealed 07/01/29), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 93**

65 ENACTS:

66 **19-1-209 (Effective 05/06/26), Utah Code Annotated 1953**

67 **40-8-5.5 (Effective 05/06/26), Utah Code Annotated 1953**

68 **51-9-1001 (Effective 07/01/26), Utah Code Annotated 1953**

69 **51-9-1002 (Effective 07/01/26), Utah Code Annotated 1953**

70 **51-9-1003 (Effective 07/01/26), Utah Code Annotated 1953**

71 **79-10-101 (Effective 05/06/26), Utah Code Annotated 1953**

72 **79-10-201 (Effective 05/06/26), Utah Code Annotated 1953**

73 **79-10-202 (Effective 05/06/26), Utah Code Annotated 1953**

74 **79-10-301 (Effective 05/06/26), Utah Code Annotated 1953**

75 **79-10-302 (Effective 05/06/26), Utah Code Annotated 1953**

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76 **79-10-303** (Effective **05/06/26**), Utah Code Annotated 1953

77 **79-10-401** (Effective **05/06/26**), Utah Code Annotated 1953

78 **79-10-402** (Effective **05/06/26**), Utah Code Annotated 1953

79 **79-10-403** (Effective **05/06/26**), Utah Code Annotated 1953

80 **79-10-501** (Effective **05/06/26**), Utah Code Annotated 1953

81 **79-10-601** (Effective **05/06/26**), Utah Code Annotated 1953

82 **79-10-602** (Effective **05/06/26**), Utah Code Annotated 1953

83 **79-10-701** (Effective **05/06/26**), Utah Code Annotated 1953

84 REPEALS:

85 **51-9-301** (Effective **07/01/26**), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 401

86 **51-9-303** (Effective **07/01/26**), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2016, Chapter 128

87 **51-9-307** (Effective **07/01/26**), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 25

88 Utah Code Sections affected by Coordination Clause:

89 **53H-8-211** (07/01/26) , Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

92 Section 1. Section 1 is enacted to read:

93 **19-1-209. Fast track permitting for critical minerals.**

56 (1) As used in this section:

57 (a) "Critical mineral" means the same as that term is defined in Section 79-10-101.

58 (b) "Critical minerals project" means an activity requiring one or more state permits related to the extraction or processing of a critical mineral.

60 (c) "Critical minerals zone" means the same as that term is defined in Section 79-10-101.

61 (d) "Permit" means the same as that term is defined in Section 79-10-101.

62 (2)

(a) A division within the department shall prioritize division resources to process a permit that is:

64 (i) requested to be issued by the division; and

65 (ii) related to a critical minerals project described in Subsection (2)(b).

66 (b) This Subsection (2) applies to a critical mineral project that is:

67 (i) for the extraction or processing of a critical mineral within a critical minerals zone; or

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(ii) included in the strategic plan developed by the Critical Minerals Council under Subsection 79-10-302(1).

71 (3) The department shall work cooperatively with the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining to develop processes under which permits for a critical minerals project described in Subsection (2)(b) that are issued by a division within the department and the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining:

75 (a) may be issued at parallel times rather than sequentially; and

76 (b) minimize the need for a person to comply with duplicative, overlapping, or conflicting requirements.

78 (4) Nothing in this section abrogates or interferes with the powers or duties of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining.

118 Section 2. Section 40-6-24 is amended to read:

119 **40-6-24. Tax credit for mining exploration -- Division to issue certificates.**

121 (1) As used in this section:

122 (a) "Activity" means:

123 (i) surveying by a geophysical method or by a geochemical method;

124 (ii) drilling one or more exploration holes;

125 (iii) conducting underground exploration;

126 (iv) surface trenching or bulk sampling;

127 (v) taking aerial photographs;

128 (vi) geological and geophysical logging;

129 (vii) sample analysis; or

130 (viii) metallurgical testing.

131 (b) "Assigned tax credit certificate" means a tax credit certificate the division issues to a person to which a claimant assigns the claimant's tax credit.

133 (c)

(i) "Certified expenditure" means a cost incurred for an activity in direct support of an eligible exploration activity conducted at a specific site.

135 (ii) "Certified expenditure" includes:

136 (A) the cost of obtaining an approval, a permit, a license, or a certificate for an eligible exploration activity;

138 (B) a direct labor cost and the cost of benefits for employees directly associated with work described in Subsection (1)(c)(i);

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- 140 (C) the cost of leasing equipment from a third party;
- 141 (D) the cost of owning, maintaining, or operating equipment;
- 142 (E) insurance and bond premiums associated with the activities described in Subsections (1)(c)(ii)(A)
through (D);
- 144 (F) the cost of a consultant or an independent contractor; and
- 145 (G) any general expense related to operating the business engaged in the eligible exploration activity to
the extent the expense is directly attributable to the work described in Subsection (1)(c)(i).
- 148 (iii) "Certified expenditure" does not include:
- 149 (A) return on investment; or
- 150 (B) insurance or bond premiums not described in Subsection (1)(c)(ii)(E).
- 151 (d)
- (i) "Claimant" means a person that:
- 152 (A) is engaged in the business of mining or extracting minerals;
- 153 (B) is subject to a severance tax, for the taxable year in which the person applies for a tax credit
certificate, under Title 59, Chapter 5, Part 2, Mining Severance Tax, as a direct result of
minerals produced from eligible exploration activities; and
- 157 (C) makes a certified expenditure.
- 158 (ii) "Claimant" does not include a person in the business of mining or extracting minerals on the Great
Salt Lake from:
- 160 (A) the brines of the Great Salt Lake, except for a person using a nonevaporative mining or extraction
method; or
- 162 (B) a material or secondary source, including tails, slag, waste dumps, or another similar secondary
source, derived from the brines of the Great Salt Lake.
- 164 (e) "Eligible claimant" means a claimant or a person to which a claimant assigns a tax credit in
accordance with Subsections (4)(a)(vi)~~]~~, (7), and (11).
- 166 (f) "Eligible exploration activity" means an activity performed in the state that is associated with:
- 168 (i) producing a mineral from a natural deposit that is not part of a mine that exists at the time the
activity begins;
- 170 (ii) producing a mineral not under production within a mine that exists at the time the activity begins;
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- (iii) recovering a mineral not under production from a secondary source at the time the activity begins, including tails, slag, waste dumps, or another similar secondary source, whether in solution or otherwise; or
- 175 (iv) expanding production of a mineral using a mining method not used within a mine that exists at the
time the activity begins[; or] as certified by the division in accordance with Subsection (10).
- 178 [~~(v) expanding existing production of a mineral that requires a new exploration or mining permit or the
modification of a permit issued before the activity begins.~~]
- 180 (g) "Geochemical method" means a method of gathering geochemical data, including collecting soil,
rock, water, air, vegetation, or any other similar item and performing a chemical analysis on the
item.
- 183 (h) "Geophysical method" means a method of gathering geophysical data that is used in mineral
exploration, including seismic, gravity, magnetic, radiometric, radar, electromagnetic, and other
remote sensing measurements.
- 186 (i) "Mine" means the same as that term is defined in Section 59-5-201.
- 187 (j) "Mineral" means:
- 188 (i) a metalliferous mineral as defined in Section 59-5-201; or
- 189 (ii) a metalliferous compound as defined in Section 59-5-202.
- 190 (k) "Tax credit certificate" means a certificate the division issues that:
- 191 (i) lists the claimant's name and taxpayer identification number;
- 192 (ii) lists the amount of the claimant's tax credit authorized under this section for a taxable year; and
- 194 (iii) includes other information as determined by the division.
- 195 (2) Before claiming a tax credit under Section 59-5-304, a person shall apply to the division to enter
into an agreement and, upon becoming an eligible claimant, to receive a tax credit certificate.
- 198 (3)
- (a) Except as provided in Subsection (3)(b), a person shall enter into an agreement with the division
before beginning eligible exploration activities.
- 200 (b) A person that has certified expenditures from an eligible exploration activity for a taxable year
beginning on or after January 1, 2025, and beginning before January 1, 2026, shall enter an
agreement with the division as provided by rule.
- 203 (4)
- (a) The agreement shall provide:

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- 204 (i) the eligible exploration activities for which the person may incur certified expenditures eligible
to receive a tax credit certificate, which may include certified expenditures from a taxable year
beginning on or after January 1, 2025, and beginning before January 1, 2027;
- 208 (ii) the type of mineral the person intends to produce;
- 209 (iii) the maximum number of years a person has between the beginning of eligible exploration
activities and the production of minerals as a direct result of the eligible exploration activities;
- 212 (iv) the maximum number of years, which may not exceed [~~20~~] 10 years, that a person may receive
a tax credit certificate; and
- 214 (v) the requirements for reporting certified expenditures and production of minerals as a direct
result of eligible exploration activity, including:
- 216 (A) a description of the mine where the eligible exploration activity occurred;
- 217 (B) evidence that the certified expenditure occurred and the amount of the certified expenditure; and
- 219 (C) the means for verifying that severance tax liability occurs as a direct result of an eligible exploration
activity; and
- 221 (vi) subject to Subsection (11), a requirement that, if a claimant intends to assign a tax credit, the
claimant shall provide to the division a written notice of intent to assign the tax credit to another
person, in a form the division approves, that includes:
- 225 (A) written certification or other proof that the claimant irrevocably elects not to claim the tax credit
authorized by the tax credit certificate; and
- 227 (B) contact information for the person to which the claimant is assigning the tax credit.
- 229 (b) The parties to the agreement may modify the terms of the agreement.
- 230 (c)
- (i) The division shall approve certified expenditures upon receiving a report of a certified expenditure
unless the division determines that the expenditure does not meet the definition of certified
expenditure.
- 233 (ii) If the division determines that an expenditure does not meet the definition of certified expenditure,
the division shall provide the person a written explanation that states each reason the division denied
the expenditure and give the person an opportunity to correct any deficiency or provide additional
information.
- 237 (5)
- (a) A person with an agreement may apply for a tax credit certificate:

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- 238 (i) upon becoming an eligible claimant; and
239 (ii) for a taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2027.
- 240 (b) The person shall include in the application for a tax credit certificate the following information for
the taxable year in which the person seeks a tax credit certificate:
- 242 (i) proof that the person is an eligible claimant;
243 (ii) a description of the mineral that the eligible claimant produced and evidence to support that the
mineral is produced from an eligible exploration activity;
245 (iii) the amount of severance tax liability as a direct result of minerals produced from an eligible
exploration activity that the eligible claimant incurred for the taxable year; and
248 (iv) any other information the division requests.
- 249 (6)
- (a) After the division receives an application for a tax credit certificate, the division shall:
- 251 (i) verify that the person is an eligible claimant; and
252 (ii) determine whether the eligible claimant has approved certified expenditures.
- 253 (b) Subject to Subsection (6)(c), the division shall issue a tax credit certificate in an amount equal to the
lesser of:
- 255 (i) 50% of the amount of certified expenditures minus any certified expenditures for which the division
previously issued a tax credit certificate; or
257 (ii) 30% of the claimant's severance tax liability as a direct result of minerals produced from an eligible
exploration activity for the taxable year.
- 259 (c)
- (i) The division may not issue a tax credit certificate if the aggregate value of tax credit certificates
issued for certified expenditures related to eligible exploration activities at the same mine exceeds
[~~\$20,000,000~~] \$10,000,000.
- 262 (ii) Notwithstanding Subsection (6)(c)(i), the division may issue a tax credit certificate up
to an aggregate value of [~~\$30,000,000~~] \$15,000,000 for certified expenditures related to
eligible exploration activities at the same mine if the certified expenditures that exceed
[~~\$20,000,000~~] \$10,000,000 are for eligible exploration activities undertaken to produce a mineral
for which the United States is greater than 50% net import reliant, as provided in the Mineral
Commodity Summaries published by the United States Geological Survey, in the calendar year in
which an eligible exploration activity commences.

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- 270 (7)
- (a) If the claimant meets the requirements of Subsection (4)(a)(vi), the division shall issue an assigned tax credit certificate to the person identified by the claimant in an amount equal to the lesser of:
- 273 (i) the amount of the claimant's certified expenditures minus any certified expenditures for which
the division previously issued a tax credit certificate; or
- 275 (ii) the person's severance tax liability as a direct result of minerals produced from an eligible
exploration activity for the taxable year.
- 277 (b) A person that receives an assigned tax credit certificate may claim the tax credit under Section
59-5-304 as if the person met the requirements of Section 59-5-304, if the person files a return under
Title 59, Chapter 5, Part 2, Mining Severance Tax.
- 280 (8) An eligible claimant that receives a tax credit certificate or assigned tax credit certificate in
accordance with this section shall retain the tax credit certificate or assigned tax credit certificate for
the same time period that a person is required to keep books and records under Section 59-1-1406.
- 284 (9) The division shall submit annually to the State Tax Commission an electronic list that includes:
- 286 (a) the name and identifying information for:
- 287 (i) each claimant to which the division issues a tax credit certificate; and
- 288 (ii) each person to which the division issues an assigned tax credit certificate in accordance with
Subsection (7);
- 290 (b) for each person described in Subsection (9)(a), the amount of tax credit stated on the tax credit
certificate or assigned tax credit certificate; and
- 292 (c) for each person described in Subsection (9)(a)(ii), information necessary to identify the original tax
credit certificate and the assigned tax credit certificate.
- 294 (10) To qualify an activity as an eligible exploration activity under Subsection (1)(f)(iv), a claimant
shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the division and the division shall certify that the method
to be used within a mine is a new technology or technique that did not exist within that mine at the
time the activity begins.
- 298 (11) A claimant may assign a tax credit certificate in accordance with Subsections (4)(a)(vi) and (7)
only to either a new owner or operator of the same mining operations in the state that engaged in the
eligible exploration activity that gives rise to the claimant's tax credit certificate. A claimant may
assign a tax credit certificate under this Subsection (11) to only one person.
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[(10)] (12) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the division may make rules governing the administration of the agreement and tax credit certificate process described in this section.

306 Section 3. Section 3 is enacted to read:

307 **40-8-5.5. Fast track permitting for critical minerals.**

82 (1) As used in this section:

83 (a) "Critical mineral" means the same as that term is defined in Section 79-10-101.

84 (b) "Critical minerals project" means an activity requiring one or more state permits related to the extraction or processing of a critical mineral.

86 (c) "Critical minerals zone" means the same as that term is defined in Section 79-10-101.

87 (d) "Permit" means the same as that term is defined in Section 79-10-101.

88 (2)

(a) The division shall prioritize division resources to process a permit that is:

89 (i) requested to be issued by the division; and

90 (ii) related to a critical minerals project described in Subsection (2)(b).

91 (b) This Subsection (2) applies to a critical minerals project that is:

92 (i) for the extraction or processing of a critical mineral within a critical minerals zone; or

94 (ii) included in the strategic plan developed by the Critical Minerals Council under Subsection 79-10-302(1).

96 (3) The division shall work cooperatively with the Department of Environmental Quality to develop processes under which permits for a critical minerals project described in Subsection (2)(b) that are issued by the division and the Department of Environmental Quality:

100 (a) may be issued at parallel times rather than sequentially; and

101 (b) minimize the need for a person to comply with duplicative, overlapping, or conflicting requirements.

103 (4) Nothing in this section abrogates or interferes with the powers or duties of the Department of Environmental Quality.

331 Section 4. Section 51-9-202 is amended to read:

332 **51-9-202. Permanent state trust fund.**

333 (1) Until July 1, 2003, 50% of all funds of every kind that are received by the state that are related to the settlement agreement that the state entered into with leading tobacco manufacturers on November

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- 23, 1998, shall be deposited into the permanent state trust fund created by and operated under Utah Constitution, Article XXII, Section 4.
- 337 (2) On and after July 1, 2003, and until July 1, 2004, 20% of the funds of any kind received by the state that are related to the settlement agreement that the state entered into with leading tobacco manufacturers shall be deposited into the permanent state trust fund created by and operated under Utah Constitution, Article XXII, Section 4.
- 341 (3) On and after July 1, 2004, and until July 1, 2005, 30% of all funds of any kind received by the state that are related to the settlement agreement that the state entered into with leading tobacco manufacturers shall be deposited into the General Fund Budget Reserve Account created in Section 63J-1-312.
- 345 (4) On and after July 1, 2005, and until July 1, 2007, 25% of all funds of any kind received by the state that are related to the settlement agreement that the state entered into with leading tobacco manufacturers shall be deposited into the permanent state trust fund created by and operated under Utah Constitution, Article XXII, Section 4.
- 349 (5) On and after July 1, 2007, 40% of all funds of every kind that are received by the state that are related to the settlement agreement that the state entered into with leading tobacco manufacturers on November 23, 1998, shall be deposited into the General Fund and the remaining funds deposited as directed.
- 353 (6) Funds in the permanent state trust fund shall be deposited or invested [~~pursuant to~~] in accordance with Chapter 7b, Investment of Permanent State Trust Fund Money.
- 355 (7)
- (a) In accordance with Utah Constitution, Article XXII, Section 4, the interest and dividends earned annually from the permanent state trust fund shall be deposited in the General Fund. There shall be transferred on an ongoing basis from the General Fund to the permanent state trust fund created under Utah Constitution, Article XXII, Section 4, an amount equal to 50% of the interest and dividends earned annually from the permanent state trust fund. The amount transferred into the fund under this Subsection (7)(a) shall be treated as principal.
- 362 (b) Any annual interest or dividends earned from the permanent state trust fund that remain in the General Fund after Subsection (7)(a) may be appropriated by the Legislature.
- 365 (c) Any realized or unrealized gains or losses on investments in the permanent state trust fund shall remain in the permanent state trust fund.

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367 (8) This section does not apply to funds deposited under [~~Chapter 9, Part 3, Infrastructure and~~
Economic Diversification Investment Account and Deposit or Credit of Certain Severance Taxes
Act] Part 3, Deposit or Credit of Certain Severance Taxes and Interest and Dividends, into the
permanent state trust fund.

371 Section 5. Section 51-9-302 is amended to read:

372 **Part 3. Deposit or Credit of Certain Severance Taxes and Interest and Dividends**

373 **51-9-302. Definitions.**

As used in this part[~~:~~]

375 [~~(1) "Infrastructure and Economic Diversification Investment Account" means the Infrastructure and~~
Economic Diversification Investment Account created in Section 51-9-303.]

378 [~~(2) "Permanent"] , "permanent state trust fund" means the permanent state trust fund created under~~
Utah Constitution, Article XXII, Section 4.

380 Section 6. Section 51-9-305 is amended to read:

381 **51-9-305. Deposit and credit of certain severance tax revenue.**

383 (1) As used in this section, "aggregate annual revenue" means the aggregate annual revenue collected
in a fiscal year from the taxes imposed under Title 59, Chapter 5, Severance Tax on Oil, Gas,
and Mining, after subtracting the amounts required to be distributed under Sections 59-5-116 and
59-5-119.

387 (2) After making the deposits of oil and gas severance tax revenue as required under Sections 59-5-116
and 59-5-119, the Division of Finance shall make the credit required under Subsection (3).

390 (3) Beginning on July 1, 2016, the Division of Finance shall credit to the permanent state trust fund the
following aggregate annual revenue:

392 (a) 25% of the first \$50,000,000 of aggregate annual revenue;

393 (b) 50% of the next \$50,000,000 of aggregate annual revenue; and

394 (c) 75% of the aggregate annual revenue that exceeds \$100,000,000.

395 (4) The state treasurer shall invest and separately account for the earnings on funds that are credited to
the permanent state trust fund under this section.

397 (5)

(a) In accordance with Utah Constitution, Article XXII, Section 4, the interest and dividends earned
annually on revenue from severance taxes that are credited to the permanent state trust fund shall be
credited to the General Fund.

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400 (b) Interest and dividends earned on revenue from severance taxes that are credited to the General
Fund ~~[pursuant to]~~ in accordance with Subsection (5)(a) shall be credited to the ~~[Infrastructure and
Economic Diversification Investment Account created in Section 51-9-303]~~ State Reinvestment
Restricted Account created in Section 51-9-1002.

405 Section 7. Section **7** is enacted to read:

Part 10. State Reinvestment Restricted Account

51-9-1001. Definitions.

As used in this part:

- 409 (1) "Account" means the State Reinvestment Restricted Account created in Section 51-9-1002.
411 (2) "Generational water infrastructure" means physical facilities or other physical assets designed to
meet generational demands for water.
413 (3) "New revenue" means revenue collected above \$100,000,000 from the taxes imposed under Title
59, Chapter 5, Severance Tax on Oil, Gas, and Mining, after subtracting the amounts required to
be distributed under Sections 51-9-305, 51-9-306, 59-5-116, 59-5-119, and 59-5-121 and under
Subsection 59-5-202(5)(c).

417 Section 8. Section **8** is enacted to read:

51-9-1002. State Reinvestment Restricted Account created.

- 419 (1) There is created within the General Fund a restricted account known as the "State Reinvestment
Restricted Account."
421 (2) The account shall consist of:
422 (a) new revenue that the State Tax Commission shall deposit into the account until the new revenue
equals or exceeds \$200,000,000 in a fiscal year;
424 (b) revenue credited to the account in accordance with Section 59-5-215;
425 (c) revenue credited to the account in accordance with Section 51-9-305; and
426 (d) interest and earnings on money in the account.
427 (3) The state treasurer shall invest the money in the fund according to Title 51, Chapter 7, State Money
Management Act, except that interest or other earnings derived from those investments shall be
deposited into the account.

430 Section 9. Section **9** is enacted to read:

51-9-1003. Authorized use of the State Reinvestment Restricted Account.

- 431 (1) Money in the account is to be used, subject to appropriation, for:
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- 434 (a) income tax relief;
- 435 (b) development of generational water infrastructure;
- 436 (c) facilitating preservation of the Great Salt Lake watershed, as described in Title 73, Chapter 10g, Part
4, Great Salt Lake Watershed Integrated Water Assessment;
- 438 (d) regionally significant transit development and regionally significant transit infrastructure;
- 440 (e) development of energy resources, as described in Title 79, Chapter 6, Utah Energy Act;
- 442 (f) subject to Subsection (3), development of critical mineral resources, as described in Title 79,
Chapter 10, Critical Minerals Strategic Act; and
- 444 (g) subject to Subsection (3), the Uintah Basin Air Quality Research Project created in Section
53H-4-316.
- 446 (2) Money in the account that is derived from a local source may not be used in an area outside the area
in which the money was generated unless the money is used for a purpose described in Subsection
(1).
- 449 (3) Subject to appropriation:
- 450 (a) the first \$1,000,000 of revenue credited to the account under Subsections 51-9-1002(2)(b) and
(c) each fiscal year shall be used by the Critical Minerals Council for the development of critical
mineral resources, as described in Title 79, Chapter 10, Critical Minerals Strategic Act;
- 454 (b) after the amount distributed as described in Subsection (3)(a), 10% of the revenue credited to the
account under Subsection 51-9-1002(2)(b) each fiscal year shall be used for the development of
critical mineral resources, as described in Title 79, Chapter 10, Critical Minerals Strategic Act; and
- 458 (c) after the amount distributed as described in Subsection (3)(a), \$400,000 of the revenue credited
to the account under Subsection 51-9-1002(2)(c) shall be used for the Uintah Basin Air Quality
Research Project created in Section 53H-4-316.

461 Section 10. Section **59-2-924** is amended to read:

462 **59-2-924. ~~{(Effective 05/06/26)}~~{(Effective 05/06/26) (Applies beginning**

**01/01/26)Definitions -- Report of valuation of property to county auditor and commission --
Transmittal by auditor to governing bodies -- Calculation of certified tax rate -- Rulemaking
authority -- Adoption of tentative budget -- Notice provided by the commission.**

110 (1) As used in this section:

111 (a)

(i) "Ad valorem property tax revenue" means revenue collected in accordance with this chapter.

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- 113 (ii) "Ad valorem property tax revenue" does not include:
114 (A) interest;
115 (B) penalties;
116 (C) collections from redemptions; or
117 (D) revenue received by a taxing entity from personal property that is semiconductor manufacturing
equipment assessed by a county assessor in accordance with Part 3, County Assessment.
- 120 (b) "Adjusted tax increment" means the same as that term is defined in Section 17C-1-102.
122 (c)
- (i) "Aggregate taxable value of all property taxed" means:
123 (A) the aggregate taxable value of all real property a county assessor assesses in accordance with
Part 3, County Assessment, for the current year;
125 (B) the aggregate taxable value of all real and personal property the commission assesses in
accordance with Part 2, Assessment of Property, for the current year; and
128 (C) the aggregate year end taxable value of all personal property a county assessor assesses in
accordance with Part 3, County Assessment, contained on the prior year's tax rolls of the taxing
entity.
- 131 (ii) "Aggregate taxable value of all property taxed" does not include the aggregate year end taxable
value of personal property that is:
133 (A) semiconductor manufacturing equipment assessed by a county assessor in accordance with Part 3,
County Assessment; and
135 (B) contained on the prior year's tax rolls of the taxing entity.
136 (d) "Base taxable value" means:
137 (i) for an authority created under Section 11-58-201, the same as that term is defined in Section
11-58-102;
139 (ii) for the Point of the Mountain State Land Authority created in Section 11-59-201, the same as that
term is defined in Section 11-59-207;
141 (iii) for the Utah Fairpark Area Investment and Restoration District created in Section 11-70-201, the
same as that term is defined in Section 11-70-101;
143 (iv) for an agency created under Section 17C-1-201.5, the same as that term is defined in Section
17C-1-102;

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- (v) for an authority created under Section 63H-1-201, the same as that term is defined in Section 63H-1-102;
- 147 (vi) for a host local government, the same as that term is defined in Section 63N-2-502;
- 149 (vii) for a housing and transit reinvestment zone or convention center reinvestment zone created under Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 6, Housing and Transit Reinvestment Zone Act, the same as that term is defined in Section 63N-3-602;
- 152 (viii) for a home ownership promotion zone created under Title 10, Chapter 21, Part 5, Home Ownership Promotion Zone for Municipalities, or Title 17, Chapter 80, Part 5, Home Ownership Promotion Zone, a property's taxable value as shown upon the assessment roll last equalized during the base year, as that term is defined in Section 10-21-101 or Section 17-80-101;
- 157 (ix) for a first home investment zone created under Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 16, First Home Investment Zone Act, a property's taxable value as shown upon the assessment roll last equalized during the base year, as that term is defined in Section 63N-3-1601;
- 161 (x) for a major sporting event venue zone created under Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 17, Major Sporting Event Venue Zone Act, a property's taxable value as shown upon the assessment roll last equalized during the property tax base year, as that term is defined in Section 63N-3-1701; ~~[-{f} or]~~
- 165 (xi) for an electrical energy development zone created under Section 79-6-1104, the value of the property within an electrical energy development zone, as shown on the assessment roll last equalized before the creation of the electrical development zone, as that term is defined in Section 79-6-1104~~[-]~~ ; or
- 169 (xii) for a critical minerals zone created under Title 79, Chapter 10, Part 4, Critical Minerals Zone, the value of the property within a critical minerals zone, as shown on the assessment {rule} roll last equalized before the creation of the critical minerals zone, as that term is defined in Section 79-10-101.
- 173 (e) "Centrally assessed benchmark value" means an amount equal to the average year end taxable value of real and personal property the commission assesses in accordance with Part 2, Assessment of Property, for the previous three calendar years, adjusted for taxable value attributable to:
- 177 (i) an annexation to a taxing entity;
- 178 (ii) an incorrect allocation of taxable value of real or personal property the commission assesses in accordance with Part 2, Assessment of Property; or
- 180

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(iii) a change in value as a result of a change in the method of apportioning the value prescribed by the Legislature, a court, or the commission in an administrative rule or administrative order.

183 (f) "Centrally assessed industry" means the following industry classes the commission assesses in
accordance with Part 2, Assessment of Property:

185 (i) air carrier;

186 (ii) coal;

187 (iii) coal load out property;

188 (iv) electric generation;

189 (v) electric rural;

190 (vi) electric utility;

191 (vii) gas utility;

192 (viii) ground access property;

193 (ix) land only property;

194 (x) liquid pipeline;

195 (xi) metalliferous mining;

196 (xii) nonmetalliferous mining;

197 (xiii) oil and gas gathering;

198 (xiv) oil and gas production;

199 (xv) oil and gas water disposal;

200 (xvi) railroad;

201 (xvii) sand and gravel; and

202 (xviii) uranium.

203 (g)

(i) "Centrally assessed new growth" means the greater of:

204 (A) for each centrally assessed industry, zero; or

205 (B) the amount calculated by subtracting the centrally assessed benchmark value for each centrally
assessed industry, adjusted for prior year end incremental value, from the taxable value of
real and personal property the commission assesses in accordance with Part 2, Assessment of
Property, for each centrally assessed industry for the current year, adjusted for current year
incremental value.

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- (ii) "Centrally assessed new growth" does not include a change in value for a centrally assessed industry as a result of a change in the method of apportioning the value prescribed by the Legislature, a court, or the commission in an administrative rule or administrative order.
- 215 (h) "Certified tax rate" means a tax rate that will provide the same ad valorem property tax revenue for a
taxing entity as was budgeted by that taxing entity for the prior year.
- 217 (i) "Community reinvestment agency" means the same as that term is defined in Section 17C-1-102.
- 219 (j) "Eligible new growth" means the greater of:
- 220 (i) zero; or
- 221 (ii) the sum of:
- 222 (A) locally assessed new growth;
- 223 (B) centrally assessed new growth; and
- 224 (C) project area new growth or hotel property new growth.
- 225 (k) "Host local government" means the same as that term is defined in Section 63N-2-502.
- 227 (l) "Hotel property" means the same as that term is defined in Section 63N-2-502.
- 228 (m) "Hotel property new growth" means an amount equal to the incremental value that is no longer
provided to a host local government as incremental property tax revenue.
- 230 (n) "Incremental property tax revenue" means the same as that term is defined in Section 63N-2-502.
- 232 (o) "Incremental value" means:
- 233 (i) for an authority created under Section 11-58-201, the amount calculated by multiplying:
- 235 (A) the difference between the taxable value and the base taxable value of the property that is located
within a project area and on which property tax differential is collected; and
- 238 (B) the number that represents the percentage of the property tax differential that is paid to the
authority;
- 240 (ii) for the Point of the Mountain State Land Authority created in Section 11-59-201, an amount
calculated by multiplying:
- 242 (A) the difference between the current assessed value of the property and the base taxable value; and
- 244 (B) the number that represents the percentage of the property tax augmentation, as defined in Section
11-59-207, that is paid to the Point of the Mountain State Land Authority;
- 247 (iii) for the Utah Fairpark Area Investment and Restoration District created in Section 11-70-201, the
amount calculated by multiplying:
- 249

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- (A) the difference between the taxable value for the current year and the base taxable value of the property that is located within a project area; and
- 251 (B) the number that represents the percentage of enhanced property tax revenue, as defined in Section 11-70-101;
- 253 (iv) for an agency created under Section 17C-1-201.5, the amount calculated by multiplying:
- 255 (A) the difference between the taxable value and the base taxable value of the property located within a project area and on which tax increment is collected; and
- 258 (B) the number that represents the adjusted tax increment from that project area that is paid to the agency;
- 260 (v) for an authority created under Section 63H-1-201, the amount calculated by multiplying:
- 262 (A) the difference between the taxable value and the base taxable value of the property located within a project area and on which property tax allocation is collected; and
- 265 (B) the number that represents the percentage of the property tax allocation from that project area that is paid to the authority;
- 267 (vi) for a housing and transit reinvestment zone or convention center reinvestment zone created in accordance with Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 6, Housing and Transit Reinvestment Zone Act, an amount calculated by multiplying:
- 270 (A) the difference between the taxable value and the base taxable value of the property that is located within a housing and transit reinvestment zone or convention center reinvestment zone and on which tax increment is collected; and
- 274 (B) the number that represents the percentage of the tax increment that is paid to the housing and transit reinvestment zone or convention center reinvestment zone;
- 277 (vii) for a host local government, an amount calculated by multiplying:
- 278 (A) the difference between the taxable value and the base taxable value of the hotel property on which incremental property tax revenue is collected; and
- 280 (B) the number that represents the percentage of the incremental property tax revenue from that hotel property that is paid to the host local government;
- 282 (viii) for a home ownership promotion zone created under Title 10, Chapter 21, Part 5, Home Ownership Promotion Zone for Municipalities, or Title 17, Chapter 80, Part 5, Home Ownership Promotion Zone, an amount calculated by multiplying:
- 285

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- (A) the difference between the taxable value and the base taxable value of the property that is located within a home ownership promotion zone and on which tax increment is collected; and
- 288 (B) the number that represents the percentage of the tax increment that is paid to the home ownership promotion zone;
- 290 (ix) for a first home investment zone created in accordance with Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 16, First Home Investment Zone Act, an amount calculated by multiplying:
- 292 (A) the difference between the taxable value and the base taxable value of the property that is located within a first home investment zone and on which tax increment is collected; and
- 295 (B) the number that represents the percentage of the tax increment that is paid to the first home investment zone;
- 297 (x) for a major sporting event venue zone created pursuant to in accordance with Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 17, Major Sporting Event Venue Zone Act, an amount calculated by multiplying:
- 300 (A) the difference between the taxable value and the base taxable value of the property located within a qualified development zone for a major sporting event venue zone and upon which property tax increment is collected; and
- 303 (B) the number that represents the percentage of tax increment that is paid to the major sporting event venue zone, as approved by a major sporting event venue zone committee described in Section 63N-1a-1706; ~~or~~
- 306 (xi) for an electrical energy development zone created under Section 79-6-1104, the amount calculated by multiplying:
- 308 (A) the difference between the taxable value and the base taxable value of the property that is located within the electrical energy developmental zone; and
- 310 (B) the number that represents the percentage of the tax increment that is paid to a community reinvestment agency and the Electrical Energy Development Investment Fund created in Section 79-6-1105[-] ; or
- 313 (xii) for a critical minerals zone created under Section 79-10-403, the amount calculated by multiplying:
- 315 (A) the difference between the taxable value and the base taxable value of the property that is located within the critical minerals zone; and
- 317 (B) the number that represents the percentage of the tax increment that is paid to a community reinvestment agency or a state land use authority, as defined in Section 79-10-401, and the Critical Minerals Development Account created in Section 79-10-701.

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- 321 (p)
- (i) "Locally assessed new growth" means the greater of:
- 322 (A) zero; or
- 323 (B) the amount calculated by subtracting the year end taxable value of real property the county
assessor assesses in accordance with Part 3, County Assessment, for the previous year, adjusted
for prior year end incremental value from the taxable value of real property the county assessor
assesses in accordance with Part 3, County Assessment, for the current year, adjusted for current
year incremental value.
- 329 (ii) "Locally assessed new growth" does not include a change in:
- 330 (A) value as a result of factoring in accordance with Section 59-2-704, reappraisal, or another
adjustment;
- 332 (B) assessed value based on whether a property is allowed a residential exemption for a primary
residence under Section 59-2-103;
- 334 (C) assessed value based on whether a property is assessed under Part 5, Farmland Assessment Act; or
- 336 (D) assessed value based on whether a property is assessed under Part 17, Urban Farming Assessment
Act.
- 338 (q) "Project area" means:
- 339 (i) for an authority created under Section 11-58-201, the same as that term is defined in Section
11-58-102;
- 341 (ii) for the Utah Fairpark Area Investment and Restoration District created in Section 11-70-201, the
same as that term is defined in Section 11-70-101;
- 343 (iii) for an agency created under Section 17C-1-201.5, the same as that term is defined in Section
17C-1-102;
- 345 (iv) for an authority created under Section 63H-1-201, the same as that term is defined in Section
63H-1-102;
- 347 (v) for a housing and transit reinvestment zone or convention center reinvestment zone created under
Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 6, Housing and Transit Reinvestment Zone Act, the same as that term is
defined in Section 63N-3-602;
- 350 (vi) for a home ownership promotion zone created under Title 10, Chapter 21, Part 5, Home Ownership
Promotion Zone for Municipalities, or Title 17, Chapter 80, Part 5, Home Ownership Promotion
Zone, the same as that term is defined in Section 10-21-101 or Section 17-80-101;

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- 354 (vii) for a first home investment zone created under Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 16, First Home
Investment Zone Act, the same as that term is defined in Section 63N-3-1601; or
- 357 (viii) for a major sporting event venue zone established under Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 17, Major
Sporting Event Venue Zone Act, the qualified development zone, as defined in Section 63N-3-1701.
- 360 (r) "Project area new growth" means:
- 361 (i) for an authority created under Section 11-58-201, an amount equal to the incremental value that is no
longer provided to an authority as property tax differential;
- 364 (ii) for the Point of the Mountain State Land Authority created in Section 11-59-201, an amount
equal to the incremental value that is no longer provided to the Point of the Mountain State Land
Authority as property tax augmentation, as defined in Section 11-59-207;
- 368 (iii) for the Utah Fairpark Area Investment and Restoration District created in Section 11-70-201,
an amount equal to the incremental value that is no longer provided to the Utah Fairpark Area
Investment and Restoration District;
- 371 (iv) for an agency created under Section 17C-1-201.5, an amount equal to the incremental value that is
no longer provided to an agency as tax increment;
- 373 (v) for an authority created under Section 63H-1-201, an amount equal to the incremental value that is
no longer provided to an authority as property tax allocation;
- 376 (vi) for a housing and transit reinvestment zone or convention center reinvestment zone created under
Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 6, Housing and Transit Reinvestment Zone Act, an amount equal to
the incremental value that is no longer provided to a housing and transit reinvestment zone or
convention center reinvestment zone as tax increment;
- 381 (vii) for a home ownership promotion zone created under Title 10, Chapter 21, Part 5, Home Ownership
Promotion Zone for Municipalities, or Title 17, Chapter 80, Part 5, Home Ownership Promotion
Zone, an amount equal to the incremental value that is no longer provided to a home ownership
promotion zone as tax increment;
- 385 (viii) for a first home investment zone created under Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 16, First Home
Investment Zone Act, an amount equal to the incremental value that is no longer provided to a first
home investment zone as tax increment; or
- 388 (ix) for a major sporting event venue zone created under Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 17, Major Sporting
Event Venue Zone Act, an amount equal to the incremental value that is no longer provided to the
creating entity of a major sporting event venue zone as property tax increment.

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- 392 (s) "Project area incremental revenue" means the same as that term is defined in Section 17C-1-1001.
- 394 (t) "Property tax allocation" means the same as that term is defined in Section 63H-1-102.
- 395 (u) "Property tax differential" means the same as that term is defined in Sections 11-58-102[~~and~~] ,
79-6-1104, and 79-10-401.
- 397 (v) "Tax increment" means:
- 398 (i) for a project created under Section 17C-1-201.5, the same as that term is defined in Section
17C-1-102;
- 400 (ii) for a housing and transit reinvestment zone or convention center reinvestment zone created under
Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 6, Housing and Transit Reinvestment Zone Act, the same as the term
"property tax increment" is defined in Section 63N-3-602;
- 404 (iii) for a home ownership promotion zone created under Title 10, Chapter 21, Part 5, Home Ownership
Promotion Zone for Municipalities, or Title 17, Chapter 80, Part 5, Home Ownership Promotion
Zone, the same as that term is defined in Section 10-21-101 or Section 17-80-101;
- 408 (iv) for a first home investment zone created under Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 16, First Home
Investment Zone Act, the same as that term is defined in Section 63N-3-1601; or
- 411 (v) for a major sporting event venue zone created under Title 63N, Chapter 3, Part 17, Major Sporting
Event Venue Zone Act, property tax increment, as that term is defined in Section 63N-3-1701.
- 414 (2) Before June 1 of each year, each county assessor shall deliver to the county auditor and the
commission the following statements:
- 416 (a) a statement containing the aggregate valuation of all taxable real property a county assessor assesses
in accordance with Part 3, County Assessment, for each taxing entity; and
- 419 (b) a statement containing the taxable value of all personal property a county assessor assesses in
accordance with Part 3, County Assessment, from the prior year end values.
- 422 (3) The county auditor shall, on or before June 8, transmit to the governing body of each taxing entity:
- 424 (a) the statements described in Subsections (2)(a) and (b);
- 425 (b) an estimate of the revenue from personal property;
- 426 (c) the certified tax rate; and
- 427 (d) all forms necessary to submit a tax levy request.
- 428 (4)

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- (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the certified tax rate shall be calculated by dividing the ad valorem property tax revenue that a taxing entity budgeted for the prior year by the amount calculated under Subsection (4)(b).
- 431 (b) For purposes of Subsection (4)(a), the legislative body of a taxing entity shall calculate an amount as follows:
- 433 (i) calculate for the taxing entity the difference between:
- 434 (A) the aggregate taxable value of all property taxed; and
- 435 (B) any adjustments for current year incremental value;
- 436 (ii) after making the calculation required by Subsection (4)(b)(i), calculate an amount determined by increasing or decreasing the amount calculated under Subsection (4)(b)(i) by the average of the percentage net change in the value of taxable property for the equalization period for the three calendar years immediately preceding the current calendar year;
- 441 (iii) after making the calculation required by Subsection (4)(b)(ii), calculate the product of:
- 443 (A) the amount calculated under Subsection (4)(b)(ii); and
- 444 (B) the percentage of property taxes collected for the five calendar years immediately preceding the current calendar year; and
- 446 (iv) after making the calculation required by Subsection (4)(b)(iii), calculate an amount determined by:
- 448 (A) multiplying the percentage of property taxes collected for the five calendar years immediately preceding the current calendar year by eligible new growth; and
- 451 (B) subtracting the amount calculated under Subsection (4)(b)(iv)(A) from the amount calculated under Subsection (4)(b)(iii).
- 453 (5) A certified tax rate for a taxing entity described in this Subsection (5) shall be calculated as follows:
- 455 (a) except as provided in Subsection (5)(b) or (c), for a new taxing entity, the certified tax rate is zero;
- 457 (b) for a municipality incorporated on or after July 1, 1996, the certified tax rate is:
- 458 (i) in a county of the first, second, or third class, the levy imposed for municipal-type services under Title 17, Chapter 78, Part 5, Provision of Municipal-Type Services to Unincorporated Areas; and
- 461 (ii) in a county of the fourth, fifth, or sixth class, the levy imposed for general county purposes and such other levies imposed solely for the municipal-type services identified in Section 17-78-501 and Subsection 17-63-101(23);
- 464 (c) for a community reinvestment agency that received all or a portion of a taxing entity's project area incremental revenue in the prior year under Title 17C, Chapter 1, Part 10, Agency Taxing Authority,

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the certified tax rate is calculated as described in Subsection (4) except that the commission shall treat the total revenue transferred to the community reinvestment agency as ad valorem property tax revenue that the taxing entity budgeted for the prior year; and

- 470 (d) for debt service voted on by the public, the certified tax rate is the actual levy imposed by that
section, except that a certified tax rate for the following levies shall be calculated in accordance with
Section 59-2-913 and this section:
- 473 (i) a school levy provided for under Section 53F-8-301, 53F-8-302, or 53F-8-303; and
474 (ii) a levy to pay for the costs of state legislative mandates or judicial or administrative orders under
Section 59-2-1602.
- 476 (6)
(a) A taxing entity may impose a judgment levy under Section 59-2-1328 or 59-2-1330 at a rate that is
sufficient to generate only the revenue required to satisfy one or more eligible judgments.
- 479 (b) The ad valorem property tax revenue generated by a judgment levy described in Subsection (6)(a)
may not be considered in establishing a taxing entity's aggregate certified tax rate.
- 482 (7)
(a) For the purpose of calculating the certified tax rate, the county auditor shall use:
483 (i) the taxable value of real property:
484 (A) the county assessor assesses in accordance with Part 3, County Assessment; and
486 (B) contained on the assessment roll;
487 (ii) the year end taxable value of personal property:
488 (A) a county assessor assesses in accordance with Part 3, County Assessment; and
489 (B) contained on the prior year's assessment roll; and
490 (iii) the taxable value of real and personal property the commission assesses in accordance with Part
2, Assessment of Property.
- 492 (b) For purposes of Subsection (7)(a), taxable value does not include eligible new growth.
- 494 (8)
(a) On or before June 30 of each year, a taxing entity shall adopt a tentative budget.
- 495 (b) If a taxing entity intends to exceed the certified tax rate, the taxing entity shall notify the county
auditor of:
497 (i) the taxing entity's intent to exceed the certified tax rate; and
498 (ii) the amount by which the taxing entity proposes to exceed the certified tax rate.

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- 499 (c) The county auditor shall notify property owners of any intent to levy a tax rate that exceeds the
certified tax rate in accordance with Sections 59-2-919 and 59-2-919.1.
- 501 (9)
- (a) Subject to Subsection (9)(d), the commission shall provide notice, through electronic means on or
before July 31, to a taxing entity and the Revenue and Taxation Interim Committee if:
- 504 (i) the amount calculated under Subsection (9)(b) is 10% or more of the year end taxable value of
the real and personal property the commission assesses in accordance with Part 2, Assessment
of Property, for the previous year, adjusted for prior year end incremental value; and
- 508 (ii) the amount calculated under Subsection (9)(c) is 50% or more of the total year end taxable
value of the real and personal property of a taxpayer the commission assesses in accordance
with Part 2, Assessment of Property, for the previous year.
- 511 (b) For purposes of Subsection (9)(a)(i), the commission shall calculate an amount by subtracting the
taxable value of real and personal property the commission assesses in accordance with Part 2,
Assessment of Property, for the current year, adjusted for current year incremental value, from the
year end taxable value of the real and personal property the commission assesses in accordance with
Part 2, Assessment of Property, for the previous year, adjusted for prior year end incremental value.
- 517 (c) For purposes of Subsection (9)(a)(ii), the commission shall calculate an amount by subtracting
the total taxable value of real and personal property of a taxpayer the commission assesses in
accordance with Part 2, Assessment of Property, for the current year, from the total year end taxable
value of the real and personal property of a taxpayer the commission assesses in accordance with
Part 2, Assessment of Property, for the previous year.
- 523 (d) The notification under Subsection (9)(a) shall include a list of taxpayers that meet the requirement
under Subsection (9)(a)(ii).

881 Section 11. Section 59-5-115 is amended to read:

882 **59-5-115. Disposition of taxes collected -- Credit to General Fund.**

- 884 (1) As used in this section, "above-trend revenue" means the amount by which the actual revenue from
the oil and gas severance tax deposited into the General Fund under Subsection (2) exceeds the
long-term trend of oil and gas severance tax revenue to the General Fund as determined by the
Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst and the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget.

889

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(2) Except as provided in Section 51-9-305, 51-9-306, [~~51-9-307,~~] 51-9-1002, 59-5-116, 59-5-119, or 59-5-121, a tax imposed and collected under Section 59-5-102 shall be paid to the commission, promptly remitted to the state treasurer, and credited to the General Fund.

893 (3) The Division of Finance shall transfer above-trend revenue up to [~~\$20 million~~] \$20,000,000 from
the General Fund into the Transportation Investment Fund each year beginning in the fiscal year
beginning July 1, 2023, until the amount deposited into the Transportation Investment Fund totals
[~~\$88.5 million~~] \$88,500,000.

897 Section 12. Section 59-5-116 is amended to read:

898 **59-5-116. Disposition of certain taxes collected on Ute Indian land.**

900 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), there shall be deposited into the Uintah Basin Revitalization
Fund established in Section 35A-8-1602:

902 (a) for taxes imposed under this part, 33% of the taxes collected on oil, gas, or other hydrocarbon
substances produced from a well:

904 (i) for which production began on or before June 30, 1995; and

905 (ii) attributable to interests:

906 (A) held in trust by the United States for the Tribe and [~~its~~] the Tribe's members; or

907 (B) on lands identified in Pub. L. No. 440, 62 Stat. 72 (1948);

908 (b) for taxes imposed under this part, 80% of taxes collected on oil, gas, or other hydrocarbon
substances produced from a well:

910 (i) for which production began on or after July 1, 1995; and

911 (ii) attributable to interests:

912 (A) held in trust by the United States for the Tribe and [~~its~~] the Tribe's members; or

913 (B) on lands identified in Pub. L. No. 440, 62 Stat. 72 (1948); and

914 (c) for taxes imposed under this part, 80% of taxes collected on oil, gas, or other hydrocarbon
substances produced from a well:

916 (i) for which production began on or after January 1, 2001; and

917 (ii) attributable to interests on lands conveyed to the tribe under the Ute-Moab Land Restoration Act,
Pub. L. No. 106-398, Sec. 3303.

919 (2)

(a) The maximum amount deposited in the Uintah Basin Revitalization Fund may not exceed:

921 (i) \$3,000,000 in fiscal year 2005-06;

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- 922 (ii) \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2006-07;
- 923 (iii) \$6,000,000 in fiscal years 2007-08 and 2008-09; and
- 924 (iv) for fiscal years beginning with fiscal year 2009-10, the amount determined by the commission
as described in Subsection (2)(b).
- 926 (b)
- (i) The commission shall increase or decrease the dollar amount described in Subsection (2)(a)(iii) by
a percentage equal to the percentage difference between the consumer price index for the preceding
calendar year and the consumer price index for calendar year 2008; and
- 930 (ii) after making an increase or decrease under Subsection (2)(b)(i), round the dollar amount to the
nearest whole dollar.
- 932 (c) For purposes of this Subsection (2), "consumer price index" is as described in Section 1(f)(4),
Internal Revenue Code, and defined in Section (1)(f)(5), Internal Revenue Code.
- 935 (d) Any amounts in excess of the maximum described in Subsection (2)(a) shall be credited as provided
in Sections 51-9-305, 51-9-306, [~~51-9-307~~] 51-9-1002, and 59-5-115.
- 938 **Section 13. Section 59-5-119 is amended to read:**
- 939 **59-5-119. Disposition of certain taxes collected on Navajo Nation land located in Utah.**
- 941 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), there shall be deposited into the Navajo Revitalization Fund
established in Section 35A-8-1704 for taxes imposed under this part beginning on July 1, 1997:
- 944 (a) 33% of the taxes collected on oil, gas, or other hydrocarbon substances produced from a well:
- 946 (i) for which production began on or before June 30, 1996; and
- 947 (ii) attributable to interests in Utah held in trust by the United States for the Navajo Nation and [its] the
Navajo Nation's members; and
- 949 (b) 80% of the taxes collected on oil, gas, or other hydrocarbon substances produced from a well:
- 951 (i) for which production began on or after July 1, 1996; and
- 952 (ii) attributable to interests in Utah held in trust by the United States for the Navajo Nation and [its] the
Navajo Nation's members.
- 954 (2)
- (a) The maximum amount deposited in the Navajo Revitalization Fund may not exceed:
- 956 (i) \$2,000,000 in fiscal year 2006-07; and
- 957 (ii) \$3,000,000 for fiscal years beginning with fiscal year 2007-08.
- 958

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(b) Any amounts in excess of the maximum described in Subsection (2)(a) shall be credited as provided in Sections 51-9-305, 51-9-306, ~~[51-9-307]~~ 51-9-1002, and 59-5-115.

961 Section 14. Section **59-5-215** is amended to read:

962 **59-5-215. ~~{(Effective 05/06/26)}~~{Effective 05/06/26} (Applies beginning
01/01/26)Disposition of taxes collected -- Credit to General Fund -- {Transfers for critical
minerals} Transfer to State Reinvestment Restricted Account.**

528 ~~{(1) As used in this section, "above-trend revenue" means the amount by which the actual revenue from~~
~~the severance tax deposited into the General Fund under Subsection (2) exceeds the long-term trend~~
~~of mineral severance tax revenue to the General Fund as determined by the Office of the Legislative~~
~~Fiscal Analyst and the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget.}~~

533 ~~(2){(1)}~~ Except as provided in Section 51-9-305, 51-9-306, or ~~[51-9-307]~~ 51-9-1002, or Subsection
59-5-202(5), a tax imposed and collected under Section 59-5-202 shall be paid to the commission,
promptly remitted to the state treasurer, and credited to the General Fund.

536 ~~(3){(2)}~~ ~~{The}~~ For a fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2026, the Division of Finance shall
transfer ~~{above-trend revenue up to \$20,000,000}~~ from the General Fund ~~{into}~~ to the ~~{Critical~~
~~Minerals Development}~~ State Reinvestment Restricted Account~~{,}~~ created in Section ~~{79-10-701,~~
~~each year beginning in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026}~~ 51-9-1002 the amount credited to the
General Fund under Subsection (1) that exceeds \$11,526,000.

972 Section 15. Section **63J-1-602.2** is amended to read:

973 **63J-1-602.2. List of nonlapsing appropriations to programs.**

Appropriations made to the following programs are nonlapsing:

976 (1) The Legislature and the Legislature's committees.

977 (2) The State Board of Education, including all appropriations to agencies, line items, and programs
under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Education, in accordance with Section 53F-9-103.

980 (3) The Rangeland Improvement Act created in Section 4-20-101.

981 (4) The Percent-for-Art Program created in Section 9-6-404.

982 (5) The LeRay McAllister Working Farm and Ranch Fund Program created in Title 4, Chapter 46, Part
3, LeRay McAllister Working Farm and Ranch Fund.

984 (6) The Utah Lake Authority created in Section 11-65-201.

985 (7) Dedicated credits accrued to the Utah Marriage Commission as provided under Subsection
17-66-303(2)(d)(ii).

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- 987 (8) The Wildlife Land and Water Acquisition Program created in Section 23A-6-205.
- 988 (9) Sanctions collected as dedicated credits from Medicaid providers under Subsection 26B-3-108(7).
- 990 (10) The primary care grant program created in Section 26B-4-310.
- 991 (11) The Opiate Overdose Outreach Pilot Program created in Section 26B-4-512.
- 992 (12) The Utah Health Care Workforce Financial Assistance Program created in Section 26B-4-702.
- 994 (13) The Rural Physician Loan Repayment Program created in Section 26B-4-703.
- 995 (14) The Utah Medical Education Council for the:
- 996 (a) administration of the Utah Medical Education Program created in Section 26B-4-707;
- 997 (b) provision of medical residency grants described in Section 26B-4-711; and
- 998 (c) provision of the forensic psychiatric fellowship grant described in Section 26B-4-712.
- 999 (15) The Division of Services for People with Disabilities, as provided in Section 26B-6-402.
- 1000 (16) The Communication Habits to reduce Adolescent Threats (CHAT) Pilot Program created in
Section 26B-7-122.
- 1002 (17) Funds that the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Services retains in accordance with Subsection
32B-2-301(8)(a) or (b).
- 1004 (18) The General Assistance program administered by the Department of Workforce Services, as
provided in Section 35A-3-401.
- 1006 (19) The Utah National Guard, created in Title 39A, National Guard and Militia Act.
- 1007 (20) The Search and Rescue Financial Assistance Program, as provided in Section 53-2a-1102.
- 1009 (21) The Emergency Medical Services Grant Program, as provided in Section 53-2d-207.
- 1010 (22) The Motorcycle Rider Education Program, as provided in Section 53-3-905.
- 1011 (23) The Utah Board of Higher Education for teacher preparation programs, as provided in Section
53H-5-402.
- 1013 (24) Innovation grants under Section 53G-10-608, except as provided in Subsection 53G-10-608(3).
- 1015 (25) The Division of Fleet Operations for the purpose of upgrading underground storage tanks under
Section 63A-9-401.
- 1017 (26) The Division of Technology Services for technology innovation as provided under Section
63A-16-903.
- 1019 (27) The State Capitol Preservation Board created by Section 63O-2-201.
- 1020 (28) The Office of Administrative Rules for publishing, as provided in Section 63G-3-402.
- 1021

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- (29) The Colorado River Authority of Utah, created in Title 63M, Chapter 14, Colorado River Authority of Utah Act.
- 1023 (30) The Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity to fund the Enterprise Zone Act, as provided in Title 63N, Chapter 2, Part 2, Enterprise Zone Act.
- 1025 (31) The Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity's Rural Employment Expansion Program, as described in Title 63N, Chapter 4, Part 4, Rural Employment Expansion Program.
- 1028 (32) County correctional facility contracting program for state inmates as described in Section 64-13e-103.
- 1030 (33) County correctional facility reimbursement program for state probationary inmates and state parole inmates as described in Section 64-13e-104.
- 1032 (34) Programs for the Jordan River Recreation Area as described in Section 65A-2-8.
- 1033 (35) The Division of Human Resource Management user training program, as provided in Section 63A-17-106.
- 1035 (36) A public safety answering point's emergency telecommunications service fund, as provided in Section 69-2-301.
- 1037 (37) The Traffic Noise Abatement Program created in Section 72-6-112.
- 1038 (38) The money appropriated from the Navajo Water Rights Negotiation Account to the Division of Water Rights, created in Section 73-2-1.1, for purposes of participating in a settlement of federal reserved water right claims.
- 1041 (39) The Judicial Council for compensation for special prosecutors, as provided in Section 77-10a-19.
- 1043 (40) A state rehabilitative employment program, as provided in Section 78A-6-210.
- 1044 (41) The Utah Geological Survey, as provided in Section 79-3-401.
- 1045 (42) The Bonneville Shoreline Trail Program created under Section 79-5-503.
- 1046 (43) Adoption document access as provided in Sections 81-13-103, 81-13-504, and 81-13-505.
- 1048 (44) Indigent defense as provided in Title 78B, Chapter 22, Part 4, Utah Indigent Defense Commission.
- 1050 (45) The program established by the Division of Facilities Construction and Management under Section 63A-5b-703 under which state agencies receive an appropriation and pay lease payments for the use and occupancy of buildings owned by the Division of Facilities Construction and Management.
- 1054 (46) The State Tax Commission for reimbursing counties for deferrals in accordance with Section 59-2-1802.5.
- 1056 (47) The Veterinarian Education Loan Repayment Program created in Section 4-2-902.

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- 1057 (48) The Critical Minerals Council created by Section 79-10-301.
- 1058 Section 16. Section **79-2-201** is amended to read:
- 1059 **79-2-201. Department of Natural Resources created.**
- 542 (1) There is created the Department of Natural Resources.
- 543 (2) The department comprises the following:
- 544 (a) Board of Water Resources, created in Section 73-10-1.5;
- 545 (b) Board of Oil, Gas, and Mining, created in Section 40-6-4;
- 546 (c) Office of Energy Development, created in Section 79-6-401;
- 547 (d) Wildlife Board, created in Section 23A-2-301;
- 548 (e) Board of the Utah Geological Survey, created in Section 79-3-301;
- 549 (f) Water Development Coordinating Council, created in Section 73-10c-3;
- 550 (g) Division of Water Rights, created in Section 73-2-1.1;
- 551 (h) Division of Water Resources, created in Section 73-10-18;
- 552 (i) Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands, created in Section 65A-1-4;
- 553 (j) Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining, created in Section 40-6-15;
- 554 (k) Division of State Parks, created in Section 79-4-201;
- 555 (l) Division of Outdoor Recreation, created in Section 79-7-201;
- 556 (m) Division of Wildlife Resources, created in Section 23A-2-201;
- 557 (n) Utah Geological Survey, created in Section 79-3-201;
- 558 (o) Utah Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Advisory Committee, created in Section 79-7-206;
- 560 (p)
- (i) an advisory council that includes in the advisory council's duties advising on state boating policy, authorized by Section 73-18-3.5; or
- 562 (ii) an advisory council that includes in the advisory council's duties advising on off-highway vehicle use, authorized by Section 41-22-10;
- 564 (q) Wildlife Board Nominating Committee, created in Section 23A-2-302;
- 565 (r) Wildlife Regional Advisory Councils, created in Section 23A-2-303;
- 566 (s) Utah Watersheds Council, created in Section 73-10g-304;
- 567 (t) Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office created in Section 63L-11-201;~~and~~
- 568 (u) the Great Salt Lake commissioner, appointed under Section 73-32-201, and the Office of the Great Salt Lake Commissioner, created in Section 73-32-301~~[-]~~ ; and

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570 (v) the Critical Minerals Council, created in Section 79-10-301.

1090 Section 17. Section **17** is enacted to read:

1093 **79-10-101. Definitions.**

10. Critical Minerals Strategic Act

1. General Provisions

As used in this chapter:

576 (1) "Atlas" means a depository of geological data maintained in accordance with Part 5, Critical Minerals Atlas.

578 (2) "Center" means the Minerals for Industrial, National, and Economic Security Center created in accordance with Part 6, Minerals for Industrial, National, and Economic Security Center.

581 (3) "Council" means the Critical Minerals Council created in Section 79-10-301.

582 (4) "Critical mineral" means a mineral identified by the United States Geological Survey or the council as essential to the economic security of the state or national security.

584 (5) "Critical minerals zone" means a critical minerals zone designated by the council under Part 4, Critical Minerals Zone.

586 (6) "Permit" means one of the following issued by a state agency:

587 (a) a permit;

588 (b) a plan;

589 (c) a license;

590 (d) an approval order; or

591 (e) another administrative authorization.

1111 Section 18. Section **18** is enacted to read:

1113 **79-10-201. State critical mineral objectives and policy.**

2. State Critical Minerals Objectives and Policy

595 (1) The state's long-term objectives related to critical minerals are:

596 (a) to capture 20% to 25% of United States domestic critical minerals demand;

597 (b) to process within the state 50% of the critical minerals extracted from within the state;

599 (c) to reduce average permitting timelines to less than 18 months;

600 (d) to establish and build out the Minerals for Industrial, National, and Economic Security Center, as provided in Part 6, Minerals for Industrial, National, and Economic Security Center; and

603

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(e) to secure federal designation of an entity within the state as a United States critical minerals national laboratory.

605 (2) The state's policy related to critical minerals is to:

606 (a) pursue market-based solutions while using public policy to accelerate market performance;

608 (b) foster the long-term viability of extraction and processing operations;

609 (c) foster the long-term health of marketplaces to ensure private parties can invest confidently in the critical minerals industry;

611 (d) maximize resources available across the state, including natural, talent, processing, financial, and technological resources;

613 (e) leverage the Utah System of Higher Education, including technical colleges, to create a specialized talent pipeline for mining, geology, and processing;

615 (f) create a positive regulatory framework, including streamlined permitting for critical minerals processes;

617 (g) create intrastate, interstate, and federal partnerships that leverage available resources for state, regional, and national benefit;

619 (h) accelerate development of critical minerals zones; and

620 (i) support applied research partnerships between higher education, industry, and the state that support commercialization.

622 (3) State agencies, academia, and industry are encouraged to conduct activities consistent with Subsections (1) and (2).

624 (4) This section does not create a cause of action against the state's or a state agency's action that is inconsistent with Subsections (1) and (2) and does not waive governmental immunity under Title 63G, Chapter 7, Governmental Immunity Act of Utah.

1146 Section 19. Section **19** is enacted to read:

1147 **79-10-202. Legislative review of objectives and policy.**

The Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee shall annually review the state's critical mineral objectives and policy under Section 79-10-201 and propose any changes to the Legislature.

1151 Section 20. Section **20** is enacted to read:

1153 **79-10-301. Critical Minerals Council created.**

3. Critical Minerals Coordinating Council

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- 635 (1) There is created within the Department of Natural Resources a mixed purpose board known as the
636 "Critical Minerals Council."
- 637 (2) The council consists of the following 11 members:
- 638 (a) the director of the Office of Energy Development, or the director's designee;
- 639 (b) the director of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining, or the director's designee;
- 640 (c) one of the following appointed by the governor:
- 641 (i) the executive director of the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity; or
- 642 (ii) the executive director of the Nucleus Institute, created in Section 53H-16-202;
- 643 (d) a member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the speaker of the House of
644 Representatives;
- 645 (e) a member of the Senate, appointed by the president of the Senate;
- 646 (f) the president of the University of Utah, or the president's designee;
- 647 (g) { a representative from } ~~the president of~~ an association representing ~~{ the }~~ Utah's mining industry,
648 including hardrock operators, industrial mineral operators, coal operators, mineral processing
649 operations, and mining services companies, appointed by the governor;
- 650 (h) a representative from an organization designed to create jobs in Utah by expanding international
651 sales, attracting foreign investment, and facilitating international partnerships, appointed by the
652 governor;
- 653 (i) a representative from a state land use authority, as defined in Section 79-10-401, appointed by the
654 governor; and
- 655 (j) two at-large members { representing } ~~who represent~~ a relevant industry { or } , ~~represent a~~ state
656 research center, ~~or have expertise in environmental regulation~~, appointed by the members of the
657 council described in Subsections (2)(a) through (i).
- 658 (3)
- 659 (a)
- 660 (i) The director of the Office of Energy Development, or the director's designee, is the co-chair of
661 the council.
- 662 (ii) The president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives shall jointly
663 appoint a co-chair of the council from members of the council.
- 664 (b) The vice-chairs of the council are:
- 665 (i) the director of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining, or the director's designee; and

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- 662 (ii) the individual appointed under Subsection ~~{(1)(e)}~~ (2)(c).
663 (4)
664 (a) The majority of the members constitutes a quorum of the council.
664 (b) The majority vote of the members present when a quorum is present constitutes action of the council.
666 (5) The council shall meet:
667 (a) at the time and place designated by the chairs; and
668 (b) no less than once every month or as frequently as the council determines.
669 (6)
669 (a) A member appointed under Subsections (2)(g) through (j) shall serve a term of four years.
671 (b) The appointing authority may appoint an individual to a position under Subsections (2)(g) through (j) to more than one term.
673 (c) Notwithstanding Subsection (6)(a), the council shall, at the time of appointment or reappointment, adjust the length of terms to ensure that the terms of the members appointed under Subsections (2)(g) through (j) are staggered so that approximately half of the members appointed under Subsections (2)(g) through (j) are appointed every two years.
678 (7)
678 (a) A vacancy that occurs on the council for any reason shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.
680 (b) If an at-large representative vacates the position, the council shall appoint a new member for the unexpired term of the vacated member.
682 (8) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:
684 (a) Section 63A-3-106;
685 (b) Section 63A-3-107; and
686 (c) rules made by the Division of Finance in accordance with Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.
688 (9)
688 (a) A council member who has, will have, or later acquires an interest, direct or indirect, in a transaction with the council shall immediately disclose the nature and extent of that interest in writing to the council as soon as the council member has knowledge of the actual or prospective interest.
692 (b) The council shall enter a disclosure described in this Subsection (9) upon the minutes of the council.

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- 694 (c) Upon disclosure, that council member may participate in an action by the council authorizing the
transaction.
- 696 (10) The Department of Natural Resources shall provide staff support to the council.
- 1218 Section 21. Section 21 is enacted to read:
- 1219 **79-10-302. Powers and duties of the council.**
- 699 (1) The council shall:
- 700 (a) develop a strategic plan to prioritize activities and projects related to the exploration, development,
production, and processing of critical minerals in the state consistent with the state's critical minerals
objectives and policy as outlined in Section 79-10-201;
- 704 (b) ensure that efforts among Utah public, private, and academic partners regarding critical minerals are
coordinated efficiently and effectively;
- 706 (c) act as a clearinghouse for information related to federal, state, or local grants and determine whether
a grant application is consistent with the strategic plan developed under Subsection (1)(a);
- 709 (d) investigate and participate in studies of problems unique to the exploration, development,
production, and processing of critical minerals in the state;
- 711 (e) oversee the development of the center in accordance with Part 6, Minerals for Industrial, National,
and Economic Security Center;
- 713 (f) take actions consistent with this chapter to promote, protect, and stabilize the critical minerals
industry;
- 715 (g) cooperate with local, state, or national organizations engaged in activities similar to those of the
council;
- 717 (h) partner with other western states for the development of critical minerals mining and processing
capabilities;
- 719 (i) accept grants, donations, or gifts for use consistent with this chapter;
- 720 (j) catalyze critical minerals extraction and processing for industries in the state;
- 721 (k) accelerate development of critical minerals zones in the state for extraction and processing of critical
minerals; {and}
- 1244 (l) identify transportation and logistics needs and strategic investments to facilitate high-capacity,
efficient handling of critical minerals; and
- 723 (l){(m)} advise the Legislature about the need, if any, for legislative action.
- 724 (2) The council may enter into agreements necessary to fulfill the council's duties.

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- 725 (3) The council may make rules, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative
Rulemaking Act, creating a dispute resolution process to resolve conflicts between agencies or
private entities represented by a member of the council.
- 728 (4)
- (a) The council may organize standing or ad hoc committees that operate in accordance with guidelines
established by the council, regarding specific state and industry needs related to critical minerals
development, including:
- 731 (i) education and workforce needs;
- 732 (ii) research and commercialization;
- 733 (iii) entrepreneurship and investment;
- 1257 (iv) aerospace and defense requirements;
- 734 (iv){(v)} logistics and infrastructure;
- 735 (v){(vi)} international trade; or
- 736 (vi){(vii)} other needs related to critical minerals development.
- 737 (b) The council may appoint a member of a standing or ad hoc committee that is not a member of the
council.
- 739 (5)
- (a) The council shall report annually by no later than October 1 to the Natural Resources, Agriculture,
and Environment Interim Committee.
- 741 (b) The report required by this Subsection (5) shall include information regarding:
- 742 (i) the state's progress towards the objectives described in Subsection 79-10-201(1);
- 743 (ii) critical minerals zones as required by Section 79-10-402;
- 744 (iii) the state's progress towards development of the center, including the center's activities and fiscal
needs; and
- 746 (iv) the Critical Minerals Development Account required by Section 79-10-701.
- 747 (6) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this chapter, the council may not:
- 748 (a) interfere or impair with the statutory authority of a state agency to issue a permit; or
- 749 (b) vote on an individual permit.
- 1274 Section 22. Section 22 is enacted to read:
- 1275 **79-10-303. Areas for coordination.**
- 752

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(1) Council members are designated as area leads as provided in this section. In conducting the council's business, the council may assign a council member who is an area lead to coordinate on an issue within the council member's area.

755 (2) The council shall ensure:

756 (a) the coordination of state policy with federal policy; and

757 (b) the development of infrastructure within the state related to critical minerals.

1282 (3)

758 (3){(a)} The director of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining, or the director's designee, shall address regulation and permitting and coordinate with state agencies related to {~~permitting and information gathering for extraction or reclamation projects, including coordinating with the Department of Environmental Quality and the Utah Geological Survey.~~};

1284 (i) ~~permitting for extraction or reclamation projects; and~~

1285 (ii) ~~information gathering for extraction or reclamation projects.~~

1286 (b) ~~In coordinating under this Subsection (3), the director of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining, or the director's designee, shall at a minimum coordinate with:~~

1288 (i) ~~the Department of Environmental Quality; and~~

1289 (ii) ~~the Utah Geological Survey.~~

763 (4)

(a) The council member appointed under Subsection 79-10-301(2)(c) shall address incentives and critical minerals zones and coordinate:

765 (i) implementation of state tax incentives;

766 (ii) domestic recruitment;

767 (iii) foreign investment; {~~and~~}

768 (iv) accessing federal appropriations and other federal funding sources{~~:~~}; ~~and~~

1296 (v) ~~defense or national security requirements.~~

769 (b) In coordinating under this Subsection (4), the council member appointed under Subsection 79-10-301(2)(c) shall at a minimum coordinate with:

771 (i) the council member appointed under Subsection 79-10-301(2)(h); and

772 (ii) public and private entities that may act as a liaison with federal agencies that may provide funding for critical minerals.

774 (5)

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(a) The council member representing the University of Utah shall coordinate issues related to innovation including:

776 (i) workforce training and talent pipelines;

777 (ii) pilot technology testing;

778 (iii) research and development; and

779 (iv) industry concerns.

780 (b) In coordinating under this Subsection (5), the council member representing the University of Utah shall at a minimum coordinate with:

782 (i) the center;

783 (ii) other institutions of higher education, including Utah State University; {and}

1312 (iii) an association representing Utah's mining industry, including hardrock operators, industrial mineral operators, coal operators, mineral processing operations, and mining services companies; and

784 (iii){(iv)} {an association representing} the {mining} aerospace and defense industry.

1316 Section 23. Section 23 is enacted to read:

1318 **79-10-401. Definitions.**

4. Critical Minerals Zone

As used in this part:

789 (1) "Base taxable value" means the value of property within a critical minerals zone, as shown on the assessment roll last equalized before the creation of the critical minerals zone.

792 (2) "Community reinvestment agency" means the same as that term is defined in Section 17C-1-102.

794 (3) "Community reinvestment project area" means a project area under a community reinvestment project area plan as defined in Section 17C-1-102.

796 (4) "Property tax differential" means the difference between:

797 (a) the amount of property tax revenues generated each tax year by all taxing entities from a critical minerals zone, using the current assessed value of the property; and

799 (b) the amount of property tax revenues that would be generated from that same area using the base taxable value of the property.

801 (5) "Property tax differential revenue" means revenue generated based on the property tax differential.

803 (6) "State land use authority" means:

804 (a) the Utah Inland Port Authority created in Section 11-58-201;

805 (b) the Military Installation Development Authority created in Section 63H-1-201;

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- 806 (c) the School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration created in Section 53C-1-201; or
808 (d) any other land use authority created by the state that has jurisdiction over state lands.

1340 Section 24. Section **24** is enacted to read:

1341 **79-10-402. Council responsibilities and powers.**

811 (1) The council shall:

812 (a) establish and implement:

813 (i) processes for designating critical minerals zones; and

814 (ii) criteria for evaluating proposed critical minerals zones;

815 (b) consult with state land use authorities regarding:

816 (i) identification of state lands suitable for critical minerals extraction or processing;

817 (ii) designation of critical minerals zones; and

818 (iii) opportunities for coordinated development of extraction or processing projects on state lands;

820 (c) assess and address potential public health impacts of critical minerals zones;

821 (d) report annually by October 1 to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim
Committee regarding:

823 (i) infrastructure needs related to extraction and processing of critical minerals;

824 (ii) the status of designated critical minerals zones; and

825 (iii) recommendations for how the property tax differential revenue collected under this section should
be divided and distributed between the state, counties, and municipalities; and

828 (e) negotiate with the applicable county or municipality regarding the distribution of property tax
differential revenue.

830 (2) The council may enter agreements with state land use authorities to address the implementation of
critical minerals zones and the administration of property tax differential revenue.

1364 Section 25. Section **25** is enacted to read:

1365 **79-10-403. Critical minerals zones designated.**

835 (1)

(a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), a county or municipality may not offer financial incentives
for a critical minerals extraction or processing project that is not located within a designated critical
minerals zone.

838 (b) Subsection (1)(a) does not apply to a critical minerals extraction or processing project for which a
project area plan has been approved before May 6, 2026.

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- 840 (2) A county or municipality may:
- 841 (a) pass a resolution declaring an intent to establish within the county or municipality boundaries a
critical minerals zone;
- 843 (b) enter into an interlocal agreement with the council outlining each parties' responsibilities relating to
a critical minerals zone; and
- 845 (c) apply to the council for the designation of a critical minerals zone by submitting:
- 846 (i) a description of the proposed boundaries of the critical minerals zone;
- 847 (ii) an assessment of existing critical minerals extraction or processing infrastructure within and
proximate to the proposed critical minerals zone;
- 849 (iii) a development plan that includes:
- 850 (A) proposed critical minerals extraction or processing projects;
- 851 (B) anticipated infrastructure improvements;
- 852 (C) projected economic benefits to the county; and
- 853 (D) evidence of local support including any interlocal agreement entered into between the county or
municipality and the council, as applicable;
- 855 (iv) if the applicant is a municipality, evidence of coordination with the county in which the proposed
critical minerals zone is located, including any interlocal agreement entered into between the county
or municipality and the council, as applicable;
- 859 (v) if the applicant is a county and any portion of the proposed critical minerals zone is within the
boundaries of a municipality, evidence of an agreement with the municipality regarding the
establishment of the critical minerals zone; and
- 862 (vi) any other information required by the council.
- 863 (3) A state land use authority may:
- 864 (a) propose a critical minerals zone within lands under the state land use authority's jurisdiction; and
- 866 (b) apply to the council for the designation of a critical minerals zone by submitting:
- 867 (i) a description of the proposed boundaries of the critical minerals zone;
- 868 (ii) an assessment of existing critical minerals extraction or processing infrastructure within and
proximate to the proposed critical minerals zone;
- 870 (iii) a development plan that includes:
- 871 (A) proposed critical minerals extraction or processing projects;
- 872 (B) anticipated infrastructure improvements; and

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- 873 (C) projected economic benefits;
874 (iv) evidence that the proposed critical minerals zone is consistent with applicable land use plans and
regulations; and
876 (v) any other information required by the council.
877 (4) The council shall:
878 (a) approve an application for a critical minerals zone designation if the application demonstrates:
880 (i) the proposed critical minerals zone includes land suitable for critical minerals extraction or
processing development based on:
882 (A) adequate transportation access; and
883 (B) sufficient land area for proposed development; and
884 (ii) the critical minerals zone plan:
885 (A) aligns with state critical minerals objectives and policy under Section 79-10-201;
887 (B) includes realistic timelines and milestones;
888 (C) identifies specific infrastructure improvements; and
889 (D) quantifies projected economic benefits;
890 (b) make a determination on an application within 60 days of submission;
891 (c) provide written notice to the applicant explaining the basis for approval or denial;
892 (d) if a critical minerals zone overlaps with an area designated by a community reinvestment agency
as a community reinvestment project area as of May 6, 2026, enter into an agreement with the
community reinvestment agency to determine the percentage division of the property tax differential
between:
896 (i) the Critical Minerals Development Account; and
897 (ii) the community reinvestment agency; and
898 (e) if a critical minerals zone overlaps with a project area of a state land use authority, enter into an
agreement with the state land use authority to determine the percentage division of the property tax
differential between:
901 (i) the Critical Minerals Development Account; and
902 (ii) the state land use authority.
903 (5) Within 30 days after the council designates a critical minerals zone:
904 (a) the county auditor shall certify to the council the base taxable value of property within the critical
minerals zone; and

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- 906 (b) the county shall transmit to the council copies of the property tax assessment rolls for the property
907 within the critical minerals zone.
- 908 (6)
- 909 (a) Each year, the county auditor shall:
- 910 (i) determine the amount of the property tax differential for the critical minerals zone by comparing:
- 911 (A) the current assessed value of property within the critical minerals zone; and
- 912 (B) the base taxable value of property within the critical minerals zone;
- 913 (ii) inform the county treasurer of the property tax differential amount; and
- 914 (iii) provide notice to the council of the amount calculated under this Subsection (6)(a).
- 915 (b) The county treasurer shall transfer the property tax differential to the council for deposit into the
916 Critical Minerals Development Account created in Section 79-10-701, subject to any agreements
917 entered into under Subsections (4)(d) and (4)(e).
- 918 (c) The county treasurer shall make a distribution required under this section:
- 919 (i) at the same time as regular annual property tax distributions; and
- 920 (ii) using the same method as other property tax distributions.
- 921 (d) For property tax differential not subject to Subsection (4)(d) or (4)(e), the council may enter into
922 agreements with taxing entities regarding the allocation of the property tax differential.
- 1456 Section 26. Section **26** is enacted to read:
- 1457 **79-10-501. Critical Minerals Atlas created -- Processes to be developed.**
- 1458 5. Critical Minerals Atlas
- 929 (1)
- 930 (a) The Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining shall lead a joint effort with the Utah Geological Survey and
931 Office of Energy Development to organize and maintain a clearinghouse of geological data related
932 to critical minerals known as the "Critical Minerals Atlas."
- 933 (b) The purpose of the atlas is to:
- 934 (i) compile reliable data that can be used by:
- 935 (A) the council, including the council using the data in developing the strategic plan required under
936 Subsection 79-10-302(1);
- 937 (B) other government agencies;
- 938 (C) academia; and
- 939 (D) private entities; and

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- 940 (ii) reconcile differences in the data submitted to the atlas.
941 (2)
942 (a) The agencies described in Subsection (1)(a) shall:
942 (i) develop a process by which a state agency, state institution of higher education, or private entity
942 , **including a nonprofit entity**, may submit information to the atlas;
944 (ii) recommend which state agencies and state institutions of higher education should be required to
944 submit data to the atlas;
946 (iii) develop a process by which differences in the data submitted to the atlas may be reconciled;
946 and
948 (iv) develop policies consistent with Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access and
948 Management Act, related to confidentiality of information submitted to the atlas.
951 (b) The Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining shall report the processes, recommendations, and policies
951 described in Subsection (2)(a) to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim
951 Committee by no later than October 1, 2026.

1485 Section 27. Section 27 is enacted to read:

1487 **79-10-601. Minerals for Industrial, National, and Economic Security Center process for**
creation -- Governance.

6. Minerals for Industrial, National, and Economic Security Center

- 958 (1) There is created under the general supervision of the council a center known as the "Minerals for
958 Industrial, National, and Economic Security Center," to serve the objectives described in Section
958 79-10-602.
961 (2) The council shall create a plan and budget for the center that address:
962 (a) the governance of the center;
963 (b) the operations of the center;
964 (c) how the creation and activities of the center are to be funded; and
965 (d) other issues the council determines are relevant to the governance and operations of the center.
967 (3) The council shall report the council's development of a plan and budget under this section to:
969 (a) the Executive Appropriations Committee by no later than the 2026 September meeting of the
969 Executive Appropriations Committee; and

971

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(b) the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee by no later than the 2026 October interim meeting of the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee.

1505 Section 28. Section **28** is enacted to read:

1506 **79-10-602. Center objectives.**

The center shall:

977 (1) serve as the state's primary partner for issues related to developing critical mineral extraction and processing from research to commercialization, including:

979 (a) workforce training;

980 (b) the testing and piloting of technology;

981 (c) federal grant coordination; and

982 (d) development of processing capacity;

983 (2) coordinate the center's operations with the strategic plan established by the council in accordance with Subsection 79-10-302(1);

985 (3) partner with industry and academia to:

986 (a) develop processing and separation processes;

987 (b) provide technology benchmarking and performance validation;

988 (c) provide pilot-scale demonstrations and scale-up;

989 (d) integrate physical, chemical, electrochemical, and thermal processing; and

990 (e) provide for autonomous sampling and real-time analysis; and

991 (4) lay groundwork for securing federal designation of an entity within the state as a United States critical minerals national laboratory.

1524 Section 29. Section **29** is enacted to read:

1526 **79-10-701. Critical Minerals Development Account.**

7. Fiscal Matters

996 (1) There is created within the General Fund a restricted account known as the "Critical Minerals Development Account."

998 (2) Subject to appropriation, the council shall administer the Critical Minerals Development Account for the purposes described in Subsection (5).

1000 (3) The Critical Minerals Development Account consists of:

1001 ~~{(a) {revenue deposited into the Critical Minerals Development Account under Section 59-5-215;}}~~

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- 1003 (b){(a)} revenue deposited into the Critical Minerals Development Account under Section 79-10-403;
1005 (c){(b)} money appropriated by the Legislature;
1006 (d){(c)} federal money;
1007 (e){(d)} donations or grants from public or private entities; and
1008 (f){(e)} interest and other earnings earned on money in the Critical Minerals Development Account.
1010 (4)
(a) The Critical Minerals Development Account shall earn interest.
1011 (b) The state treasurer shall invest account money in accordance with Title 51, Chapter 7, State Money Management Act, and credit the interest and earnings from the investments to the Critical Minerals Development Account.
1014 (5) Subject to appropriation, the council may use {fund} account money to:
1015 (a) pay the costs of administering this chapter;
1016 (b) fund the operations of the center in accordance with the plan and budget developed by the council in accordance with Section 79-10-601;
1018 (c) facilitate critical minerals extraction and processing infrastructure development within the state, including funding research, site selection, permitting, public outreach, and other activities related to the development of critical minerals extraction or processing infrastructure;
1022 (d) provide matching funds for federal critical minerals grants;
1023 (e) support critical minerals workforce development programs; and
1024 (f) provide incentives for critical minerals extraction or processing projects.
1025 (6) The council shall include a report of how money from the Critical Minerals Development Account was used in the annual report described in Section 79-10-302.

1556 Section 30. **Repealer.**

This Bill Repeals:

1557 This bill repeals:

1558 Section **51-9-301, Title.**

1559 Section **51-9-303, Creation of Infrastructure and Economic Diversification Investment**
1560 **Account.**

1561 Section **51-9-307, New Severance Tax Revenue Special Revenue Fund.**

1562 Section . **FY 2026 Appropriations.**

1563 The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1,

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1564 2025, and ending June 30, 2026. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated for
1565 fiscal year 2026.

1566 Subsection 31(a). **Operating and Capital Budgets**

1567 Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, the
1568 Legislature appropriates the following sums of money from the funds or accounts indicated for
1569 the use and support of the government of the state of Utah.

1570 To Utah State University - Education and General

1571 400,000

1572 Schedule of Programs:

1573 400,000

1574 The Legislature intends that Utah State
1575 University shall use the money appropriated to Utah
1576 State University under this item for purpose of
1577 conducting the Uintah Basin Air Quality Research
1578 Project as required by Section 53H-4-316.

1579 Subsection 31(b). **Restricted Fund and Account Transfers**

1580 The Legislature authorizes the State Division of Finance to transfer the following
1581 amounts between the following funds or accounts as indicated. Expenditures and outlays from
1582 the funds to which the money is transferred must be authorized by an appropriation.

1583 To General Fund Restricted - State Reinvestment Restricted Account

1584 14,016,200

1586 Schedule of Programs:

1587 14,016,200

1588 The Legislature intends that the Division of
1589 Finance transfer any balances remaining in the
1590 Infrastructure and Economic Diversification Investment
1591 Account after fiscal year 2026 closeout to the State
1592 Reinvestment Restricted Account.

1593 Section . **FY 2027 Appropriations.**

1594 The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
1595 2026, and ending June 30, 2027. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated for

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1596	fiscal year 2027.	
1597	Subsection 32(a). Operating and Capital Budgets	
1598	Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, the	
1599	Legislature appropriates the following sums of money from the funds or accounts indicated for	
1600	the use and support of the government of the state of Utah.	
1601	To Utah State University - Education and General	
1602		400,000
1603	Schedule of Programs:	
1604		400,000
1605	The Legislature intends that Utah State	
1606	University shall use the money appropriated to Utah	
1607	State University under this item for purpose of	
1608	conducting the Uintah Basin Air Quality Research	
1609	Project as required by Section 53H-4-316.	
1610	To Department of Natural Resources - Critical Minerals Council	
1611		1,000,000
1612		10,000,000
1613	Schedule of Programs:	
1614		11,000,000
1615	Section 33. Effective date.	
	Effective Date.	
	<u>{This}</u> <u>Except as provided in Subsection (2), this bill takes effect {on}</u> May 6, 2026.	
1617	<u>(2) The actions affecting the following sections take effect on July 1, 2026:</u>	
1618	<u>(a) Section 51-9-202 (Effective 07/01/26);</u>	
1619	<u>(b) Section 51-9-301;</u>	
1620	<u>(c) Section 51-9-302 (Effective 07/01/26);</u>	
1621	<u>(d) Section 51-9-303;</u>	
1622	<u>(e) Section 51-9-305 (Effective 07/01/26);</u>	
1623	<u>(f) Section 51-9-307;</u>	
1624	<u>(g) Section 51-9-1001 (Effective 07/01/26);</u>	
1625	<u>(h) Section 51-9-1002 (Effective 07/01/26); and</u>	

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1626 (i) Section 51-9-1003 (Effective 07/01/26).

1627 Section 34. **Retrospective Operation.**

The following sections have retrospective operation to January 1, 2026:

1629 (1) Section 40-6-24 (Effective 05/06/26) (Applies beginning 01/01/26) (Repealed 07/01/37);

1630 (2) Section 59-2-924 (Effective 05/06/26) (Applies beginning 01/01/26);

1631 (3) Section 59-5-115 (Effective 05/06/26) (Applies beginning 01/01/26);

1632 (4) Section 59-5-116 (Effective 05/06/26) (Applies beginning 01/01/26);

1633 (5) Section 59-5-119 (Effective 05/06/26) (Applies beginning 01/01/26); and

1634 (6) Section 59-5-215 (Effective 05/06/26) (Applies beginning 01/01/26).

1635 Section 35. **Coordinating S.B. 254 with H.B. 373.**

If S.B. 254, Critical Minerals Amendments, and H.B. 373, Higher Education Innovation, both pass and become law, the Legislature intends that, on July 1, 2026:

(1) Subsection 53H-8-211(4)(a)(ii)(C) enacted in H.B. 373 be amended to read:

"(C) ensure that the eligible research areas described in Subsection (4)(a)(ii)(A) reflect the state's priority industry clusters and public policy needs and include critical minerals projects that are consistent with the strategic plan of the Critical Minerals Council created under Subsection 79-10-302(1);"; and

(2) Subsection 53H-8-211(5)(a) enacted in H.B. 373 be amended to read:

"(a) the eligible research areas described in Subsection (4)(a)(ii) and the extent to which the areas reflect the state's priority industry clusters and public policy needs, including critical minerals projects described in Subsection (4)(a)(ii)(C); and".

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