

1 **Multi-Agency Joint Strike Force Modifications**

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Kay J. Christofferson

Senate Sponsor: Todd Weiler

2 **LONG TITLE**3 **General Description:**

4 This bill addresses the multi-agency strike force.

5 **Highlighted Provisions:**

6 This bill:

7

- 8 ▶ adds metal theft to the list of criminal activity addressed by the multi-agency joint strike
9 force operated by the Office of the Attorney General and Department of Public Safety;
- 10 ▶ removes the requirement that the joint strike force's annual report include data on
11 catalytic converter thefts and arrests; and
- 12 ▶ makes technical changes.

13 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

14 None

15 **Other Special Clauses:**

16 None

17 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**18 **AMENDS:**19 **67-5-37**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 201

20 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*21 Section 1. Section **67-5-37** is amended to read:22 **67-5-37 . Multi-agency joint strike force -- Joint Organized Retail Crime Unit.**23

- 24 (1) The Office of the Attorney General and the Department of Public Safety shall create and
25 coordinate the operation of a multi-agency joint strike force to combat criminal activity
26 that may have a negative impact on the state's economy.
- 27 (2) The attorney general and the Department of Public Safety shall invite federal, state, and
28 local law enforcement personnel to participate in the joint strike force to more
29 effectively utilize their combined skills, expertise, and resources.
- 30 (3) The joint strike force shall focus the joint strike force's efforts on detecting,

31 investigating, deterring, and eradicating criminal activity, described in Subsection (1),
32 within the state, including:

33 (a) organized retail crime[.] ;

34 (b) antitrust violations[.] ;

35 (c) intellectual property rights violations[.] ;

36 (d) gambling[.] ;

37 (e) metal theft, including the theft of an item for the item's scrap or resale metal value;
38 and

39 (f) the purchase of stolen goods for the purpose of reselling the stolen goods for profit.

40 (4) In conjunction with the joint strike force, the Office of the Attorney General and the
41 Department of Public Safety shall establish the Joint Organized Retail Crime Unit for
42 the purpose of:

43 (a) investigating, apprehending, and prosecuting individuals or entities that participate in
44 the purchase, sale, or distribution of stolen property; and

45 (b) targeting individuals or entities that commit theft and other property crimes for
46 financial gain.

47 (5)[(a)] The joint strike force shall provide an annual report to the Law Enforcement and
48 Criminal Justice Interim Committee before December 1 that describes the joint strike
49 force's activities and any recommendations for modifications to this section.

50 [(b) The report described in Subsection (5)(a) shall include the number of catalytic
51 converter thefts and arrests in Utah for the preceding calendar year, if reasonably
52 available.]

53 **Section 2. Effective Date.**

54 This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.