

Hoang Nguyen proposes the following substitute bill:

1 **Artificial Turf Placement Modifications**

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Hoang Nguyen**

Senate Sponsor: Stephanie Pitcher

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2 **LONG TITLE**

3 **General Description:**

4 This bill requires a local education agency (LEA) governing board to provide notice and  
5 place artificial turf installation on a regular meeting agenda before installing artificial turf on  
6 LEA property.

7 **Highlighted Provisions:**

8 This bill:

9 ▶ defines terms;

10 ▶ requires an LEA governing board to provide notice to nearby property owners before  
11 installing artificial turf;

12 ▶ establishes notification radius requirements;

13 ▶ requires an LEA governing board to place turf installation on a regular meeting agenda  
14 before installing the artificial turf;

15 ▶ specifies the content requirements for notice; and

16 ▶ establishes timelines for notice and meetings.

17 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

18 None

19 **Other Special Clauses:**

20 None

21 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

22 **ENACTS:**

23 **53G-7-228**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

25 Section 1. Section **53G-7-228** is enacted to read:

26 **53G-7-228 . Artificial turf installation -- Notice and meeting requirements.**

29 (1) As used in this section:

30 (a) "Artificial turf" means a surface of synthetic fibers made to resemble natural grass,  
31 including any infill material such as crumb rubber.

32 (b) "Athletic field" means an area designed and used for organized sports activities,  
33 including soccer fields, lacrosse fields, football fields, baseball fields, and similar  
34 recreational surfaces of at least 5,000 square feet.

35 (c) "Installation" means the initial placement of artificial turf on an athletic field on LEA  
36 property.

37 (d) "LEA governing board" means the same as that term is defined in Section 53G-7-303.

38 (e) "Property owner" means an individual or entity that:

39 (i) owns real property with a property boundary within the notification radius  
40 established under Subsection (4); or

41 (ii) resides on real property with a property boundary within the notification radius  
42 established under Subsection (4).

43 (2) Before installing artificial turf on LEA property, an LEA governing board shall:

44 (a) provide notice in accordance with Subsections (3) and (4); and

45 (b) place the proposed installation on a regular meeting agenda in accordance with  
46 Subsection (5).

47 (3)(a) An LEA governing board shall provide written notice to each property owner or  
48 property resident within the notification radius established under Subsection (4) at  
49 least 30 days before the date of the meeting required under Subsection (5).

50 (b) The LEA governing board shall deliver the written notice required under Subsection  
51 (3)(a) by:

52 (i) mailing the notice by United States mail to the property address; or

53 (ii) hand delivering the notice to the property address.

54 (c) The written notice shall include:

55 (i) a description of the proposed artificial turf installation, including:

56 (A) the location of the proposed installation;

57 (B) the size of the proposed installation;

58 (C) the type of artificial turf and infill material proposed; and

59 (D) the intended use of the artificial turf;

60 (ii) in accordance with Subsection (4), the notification radius used;

61 (iii) the date, time, and location of the meeting required under Subsection (5);

62 (iv) a statement that the property owner may appear at the meeting to provide

comment on the proposed installation;

- (v) contact information for the LEA where the property owner may obtain additional information about the proposed installation; and
- (vi) information for the online location where the property owner may obtain additional information and updates on the proposed installation.

(d) In addition to the written notice required under Subsection (3)(a), at least 60 days before the date of the meeting, an LEA governing board shall post a notice of the proposed installation and meeting on the LEA's website.

(e) Notwithstanding any notice requirements under Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act, an LEA governing board shall:

- (i) update the website posting required under Subsection (3)(d) within seven days after a change to the proposed installation is made before the noticed meeting where the proposed installation will be discussed or voted on; and
- (ii) clearly state that an update has been made, including highlighting where to find the changes and explaining what the changes are.

(f)(i) The LEA governing board shall maintain documentation demonstrating compliance with the notice requirements of this Subsection (3), including:

- (A) maintaining a list of property owners notified for the sole purpose of demonstrating compliance with this section;
- (B) copies of written notices sent; and
- (C) documentation of website posting.

(ii) A list maintained under this Subsection (3)(f) may be discarded after the governing board takes final action on the installation and does not create a new record retention requirement beyond those imposed under Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access and Management Act.

(a) An LEA governing board shall determine the notification radius by measuring from the outer edge of the proposed artificial turf installation to property boundaries of surrounding properties.

(b) The notification radius described in Subsection (4)(a) shall be 200 feet.

(a) An LEA governing board shall include the proposed artificial turf installation as an agenda item at a regular meeting of the LEA governing board.

(b) The meeting described in Subsection (5)(a) shall be conducted in compliance with Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.

(c) At the meeting, the LEA governing board shall:

97                   (i) present information about the proposed artificial turf installation; and  
98                   (ii) allow property owners and members of the public to provide public comment on  
99                   the proposed installation.

100               (6) An LEA governing board may not approve installation of artificial turf until the  
101               requirements of this section have been met.

102               (7) This section does not:

- 103               (a) prohibit an LEA governing board from installing artificial turf after complying with  
104               the requirements of this section;
- 105               (b) create a private right of action for property owners or other persons;
- 106               (c) require an LEA to conduct environmental testing or studies beyond what is otherwise  
107               required by law; or
- 108               (d) supersede any other notice or meeting requirements established by state or federal  
109               law.

110               (8) The notice and meeting requirements of this section do not apply to:

- 111               (a) maintenance, repair, or resurfacing of existing artificial turf; or
- 112               (b) replacement of artificial turf with natural grass or another surface that is not artificial  
113               turf.

114               **Section 2. Effective Date.**

115               This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.