

**Joint Rules Resolution - Implementation of Education-related Legislation**

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Lisa Shepherd**

Senate Sponsor: Heidi Balderree

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**LONG TITLE****General Description:**

This joint rules resolution modifies the effective date of certain bills.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This resolution:

- defines "bill that addresses public education";
- establishes a default effective date for a bill that addresses public education; and
- makes technical and conforming changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

This resolution provides a special effective date.

**Legislative Rules Affected:**

AMENDS:

**JR4-1-203**

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*Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. **JR4-1-203** is amended to read:

**JR4-1-203 . Effective date of bills.**

(1) As used in this rule:

(a) "Bill that addresses public education" means a bill whose primary effect is to enact, amend, or repeal one or more provisions of the Utah Code that affect Utah's public education system, including Utah Code provisions within:

(i) Title 53E, Public Education System -- State Administration;

(ii) Title 53F, Public Education System -- Funding; or

(iii) Title 53G, Public Education System -- Local Administration.

(b) "Bill that addresses public education" does not include a bill that exclusively appropriates money.

- 31 ~~(2)(a)(i)~~ Unless otherwise directed by the Legislature and subject to Subsections ~~[(2)~~  
32 ~~and (3),]~~ (3) and (4), a bill becomes effective 60 days after the adjournment of the  
33 session at which ~~[it]~~ the bill is passed.
- 34 ~~[(b)]~~ (ii) The 60 days begins to run the day after the day on which the Legislature  
35 adjourns sine die.
- 36 (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (2)(a), unless otherwise directed by the Legislature, the  
37 effective date of a bill that addresses public education is July 1 of the calendar year  
38 immediately following the calendar year of the session at which the bill is passed.
- 39 ~~[(2)]~~ (3)(a) The effective date of a bill may not be a date later than January 1 of the  
40 second calendar year immediately following the calendar year of the session at which  
41 the bill is passed.
- 42 (b) A bill with a contingent effective date is not subject to Subsection ~~[(2)(a)]~~ (3)(a).
- 43 ~~[(3)]~~ (4)(a) If the effective date of a bill is contingent, before the bill may be introduced:  
44 (i) the bill sponsor shall inform the legislative general counsel of the contingent  
45 effective date; and  
46 (ii) the legislative general counsel shall, on behalf of the bill sponsor, request  
47 approval of the contingent effective date from the president and speaker.
- 48 (b) A bill that has a contingent effective date that is not approved by the president and  
49 the speaker may not be introduced.
- 50 (c) Subsections ~~[(3)(a)]~~ (4)(a) and (b) do not apply to a bill that has a contingent effective  
51 date that is contingent on voter approval of an amendment to the Utah Constitution.
- 52 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) A rules committee, a standing committee, the Senate, or the House of  
53 Representatives is prohibited from suspending the provisions of Subsection ~~[(2) or (3)]~~  
54 (3) or (4).

55 **Section 2. Effective Date.**

56 This resolution takes effect May 6, 2026.