

Healthcare Providers Scope of Practice Amendments

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Evan J. Vickers

House Sponsor:

LONG TITLE**General Description:**

This bill amends provisions relating to the Office of Professional Licensure Review.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ requires that the Office of Professional Licensure Review (office) conduct a scope of practice review (review);

- ▶ provides how a requestor may request a review;
- ▶ requires that the office make a determination as to whether the office will conduct a review;
- ▶ requires that, when conducting a review, the office convene a group to consult on the review;

- ▶ provides which individuals the office shall include in a group to consult on the review;
- ▶ requires that the office determine whether to provide a recommendation that a regulated healthcare occupation incorporate an innovation into the regulated healthcare occupation's practice;

- ▶ requires that the office create a report that details the office's recommendation following a review;

- ▶ requires that the office provide the report to the Business and Labor Interim Committee;
- ▶ provides the criteria the office shall consider when conducting a review; and
- ▶ makes technical changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

S.B. 150

31 **13-1b-203 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/34)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah
32 2025, Chapter 483

33 **13-1b-304 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/34)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah
34 2025, Chapter 483

35 ENACTS:

36 **13-1b-401 (Effective 05/06/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

37 **13-1b-402 (Effective 05/06/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

38 **13-1b-403 (Effective 05/06/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

41 Section 1. Section **13-1b-203** is amended to read:

42 **13-1b-203 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/34). Duties.**

43 The office shall:

44 (1) for each application submitted in accordance with Section 13-1b-301, conduct a sunrise
45 review in accordance with Section 13-1b-302 before November 1:

46 (a) of the year in which the application is submitted, if the application is submitted on or
47 before July 1; or

48 (b) of the subsequent year, if the application is submitted after July 1;

49 (2) in accordance with Section 13-1b-303, conduct a review of each regulated occupation at
50 least once every 10 years;

51 (3) review and respond to [any] a legislator inquiry regarding a proposed or existing
52 regulated occupation;

53 (4) publish on the office's website a submission form where an individual may provide
54 feedback regarding an existing occupational regulation within the office's jurisdiction
55 that the individual requests the office repeal or modify;

56 (5) engage in a systematic review of the rules that relate to occupational regulations within
57 the office's jurisdiction in accordance with Section 13-1b-302;[-and]

58 (6) report to the Business and Labor Interim Committee in accordance with Section
59 13-1b-304[.] ;and

60 (7) conduct a scope of practice review in accordance with Part 4, Scope of Practice Review.

61 Section 2. Section **13-1b-304** is amended to read:

62 **13-1b-304 (Effective 05/06/26) (Repealed 07/01/34). Reporting.**

63 (1) On or before October 1, the office shall annually prepare and submit a written report to
64 the Business and Labor Interim Committee that describes the office's work during the

65 prior year.

66 (2) In a written report described in Subsection (1), the office shall include:

67 (a) a summary of each periodic review, each sunrise review, each rule review, and each
68 response to a legislator inquiry;

69 (b) each recommendation the office made to another state executive branch agency
70 regarding a regulated occupation;[-and]

71 (c) a summary of information received during the previous year by the office under
72 Subsection 13-1b-203(4) including:

73 (i) the total number of submissions the office receives;

74 (ii) each rule for which an individual filed a submission[-] ;

75 (d) each request for a scope of practice review that the office receives in accordance with
76 Section 13-1b-403; and

77 (e) each scope of practice review the office completes in accordance with Section
78 13-1b-403.

79 Section 3. Section **13-1b-401** is enacted to read:

80 **Part 4. Scope of Practice Review**

81 **13-1b-401 (Effective 05/06/26). Definitions.**

82 As used in this part:

83 (1) "Healthcare practitioner" means an individual licensed in a regulated healthcare
84 occupation.

85 (2)(a) "Innovation" means an upgrade in technology that the office determines has the
86 potential to augment the ability of a healthcare practitioner to provide a patient:

87 (i) better access to healthcare;
88 (ii) better health outcomes; or
89 (iii) lower healthcare costs.

90 (b) "Innovation" does not include an upgrade in technology that solely functions to
91 provide advice or treatment to a patient without an interaction between a healthcare
92 practitioner and patient.

93 (3) "Regulated healthcare occupation" means a regulated occupation where licensees of the
94 regulated occupation are primarily engaged in healthcare.

95 (4) "Requestor" means:

96 (a) a legislator; or
97 (b) a representative of:

98 (i) an entity that employs healthcare practitioners;

- (ii) an institution of higher education that provides training to prospective and current healthcare practitioners; or
- (iii) a professional group of healthcare practitioners.

(5) "Scope of practice review" means a review that the office conducts to determine whether to recommend that a regulated healthcare occupation should incorporate an innovation into the regulated healthcare occupation's practice in a way that would expand the scope of the regulated healthcare occupation's license.

(6) "Upgrade in technology" means an addition or change to:

- (a) a medical apparatus;
- (b) a medical appliance;
- (c) artificial intelligence;
- (d) a medical device;
- (e) medical equipment;
- (f) a medical implant;
- (g) a medical implement;
- (h) a medical tool; or
- (i) any other technology the office determines has the potential for a healthcare practitioner to use in the healthcare practitioner's practice.

Section 4. Section **13-1b-402** is enacted to read:

13-1b-402 (Effective 05/06/26). Scope of practice review -- Process.

- (1) A requestor may request a scope of practice review by submitting a request for scope of practice review in a form the office approves.
- (2)(a) Upon receipt of a request for scope of practice review, the office shall make a determination as to whether the office will conduct a scope of practice review.
 - (b) After making a determination described in Subsection (2)(a), the office shall:
 - (i) if the office declines to conduct a scope of practice review, provide the requestor with a reason for the denial; or
 - (ii) if the office intends to conduct a scope of practice review:
 - (A) inform the requestor that the office will conduct a scope of practice review; and
 - (B) conduct a scope of practice review in accordance with Subsection (3).
 - (3)(a) When conducting a scope of practice review, the office shall convene a group of individuals to advise on the impact of the expansion of the scope of review.
 - (b) When selecting the individuals for the group described in Subsection (3)(a), the

133 office:

134 (i) in consultation with the applicable board appointed in accordance with Section
135 58-1-201, shall select at least two individuals from each regulated occupation that
136 the proposed expansion of scope will affect; and

137 (ii) may select one or more of the following individuals:

138 (A) a representative of an entity that employs healthcare practitioners; and

139 (B) a representative of an institution of higher education that provides training to
140 prospective and current healthcare practitioners.

141 (c) In consultation with the group described in Subsection (3)(a), the office shall:

142 (i) consider the criteria described in Section 13-1b-403; and

143 (ii) determine whether to provide a recommendation that a regulated healthcare
144 occupation incorporate an innovation into the regulated healthcare occupation's
145 practice.

146 (4) If the office determines that a regulated healthcare occupation should incorporate an
147 innovation into the regulated healthcare occupation's practice, the office shall create a
148 report that:

149 (a) recommends how the regulated healthcare occupation may incorporate the
150 innovation into the regulated healthcare occupation's scope of practice; and

151 (b) describes how incorporating the innovation expands the regulated healthcare
152 occupation's scope of practice.

153 (5) The office shall provide the report described in Subsection (4) to the Business and
154 Labor Interim Committee in accordance with Section 13-1b-304.

155 Section 5. Section **13-1b-403** is enacted to read:

156 **13-1b-403 (Effective 05/06/26). Scope of practice review -- Criteria.**

157 When conducting a scope of practice review in accordance with Subsection 13-1b-203(7)
158 and Section 13-1b-402, the office shall consider the following criteria:

159 (1) the strength of evidence, data, or information indicating the innovation will provide:

160 (a) safer or more effective healthcare;
161 (b) more accessible healthcare; or
162 (c) more affordable healthcare;

163 (2) the potential of the innovation to improve the following:

164 (a) the safety or efficacy of healthcare;
165 (b) healthcare accessibility; or
166 (c) healthcare affordability;

167 (3) the probability, severity, and permanence of any risk an innovation poses to a patient;

168 (4) the level of interest from employers, healthcare practitioners, and educators to test or
169 adopt the innovation;

170 (5) the availability of adequate training or education for healthcare practitioners to learn
171 about the innovation;

172 (6) the degree to which other jurisdictions adopt or use the innovation; and

173 (7) any other criteria that the office adopts by rule that the office makes in accordance with
174 Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

175 **Section 6. Effective Date.**

176 This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.