

1 **Protection and Advocacy Agency Reporting**

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Todd Weiler**

House Sponsor:

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

This bill addresses Utah's state protection and advocacy agency.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ clarifies the responsibilities of the state protection and advocacy agency;
- ▶ requires the state protection and advocacy agency to report; and
- ▶ defines terms.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:****ENACTS:**

**26B-6-901**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

**26B-6-902**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

Section 1. Section **26B-6-901** is enacted to read:

**Part 9. Utah Protection and Advocacy Agency****26B-6-901 . Definitions.**

As used in this part:

(1) "Disabled individual" means a person with a disability, as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. Sec.12102.

(2) "State protection and advocacy agency" means an entity designated by the governor as the protection and advocacy agency for disabled individuals in this state.

Section 2. Section **26B-6-902** is enacted to read:

**26B-6-902 . State protection and advocacy agency.**

31       (1) The state protection and advocacy agency shall:

32       (a) represent and advocate for the interests of all disabled individuals in the state;

33       (b) annually hold at least three meetings with the public throughout the state to:

34           (i) understand the needs in the local community; and

35           (ii) provide education, advocacy, and resources to disabled individuals in the local

36           community; and

37       (c) provide a written report annually to the Judiciary Interim Committee and Health and

38           Human Services Interim Committee on or before August 31.

39       (2) The report described in Subsection (1)(c) shall include:

40       (a) the number and location of public meetings;

41       (b) a description of the types of services and advocacy provided;

42       (c) a list of the government entities that the state protection and advocacy agency

43           worked with;

44       (d) the approximate number of individuals served that:

45           (i) are not capable of living independently;

46           (ii) can live somewhat independently, with formal supports;

47           (iii) live independently; and

48           (iv) are a family member of a disabled individual; and

49       (e) policy recommendations, if any.

50           **Section 3. Effective Date.**

51       This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.