

Protection and Advocacy Agency Reporting

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Todd Weiler

House Sponsor:

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

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.

- (1) The state protection and advocacy agency shall:
- (a) represent and advocate for the interests of all disabled individuals in the state;
 - (b) annually hold at least three meetings with the public throughout the state to:
 - (i) understand the needs in the local community; and
 - (ii) provide education, advocacy, and resources to disabled individuals in the local community; and
 - (c) provide a written report annually to the Judiciary Interim Committee and Health and Human Services Interim Committee on or before August 31.
- (2) The report described in Subsection (1)(c) shall include:
- (a) the number and location of public meetings;
 - (b) a description of the types of services and advocacy provided;
 - (c) a list of the government entities that the state protection and advocacy agency worked with;
 - (d) the approximate number of individuals served that:
 - (i) are not capable of living independently;
 - (ii) can live somewhat independently, with formal supports;
 - (iii) live independently; and
 - (iv) are a family member of a disabled individual; and
 - (e) policy recommendations, if any.

Section 3. **Effective Date.**

This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.