

Stephanie Pitcher proposes the following substitute bill:

Surveillance Camera Amendments

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Stephanie Pitcher

House Sponsor:

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill concerns a law enforcement officer's ability to tamper with a privately owned surveillance camera.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- prohibits a law enforcement officer, or an individual acting on behalf of a law enforcement officer, from tampering with, changing the viewing direction of, or disabling a privately or commercially owned surveillance camera; and
- creates exceptions to the prohibition.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

53-25-1201, Utah Code Annotated 1953

53-25-1202, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

Section 1. Section **53-25-1201** is enacted to read:

Part 12. Law Enforcement Prohibitions

53-25-1201 . Definitions.

Reserved.

Section 2. Section **53-25-1202** is enacted to read:

53-25-1202 . Law enforcement officer prohibition on tampering with a private

surveillance camera -- Exceptions.

(1) Except as provided in Subsection (2) or (3), a law enforcement officer, or an individual acting on behalf of a law enforcement officer, may not tamper with, change the viewing direction of, or disable a privately or commercially owned surveillance camera.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply if the law enforcement officer, or the individual acting on behalf of a law enforcement officer:

(a) obtains the permission of the owner of the surveillance camera before taking the action described in Subsection (1);

(b) obtains a court order granting permission to take the action described in Subsection (1) before taking the action described in Subsection (1); or

(c) takes the action described in Subsection (1) while exigent circumstances exist, if the law enforcement officer, or the individual acting on behalf of the law enforcement officer:

(i) notifies the owner of the surveillance camera within 24 hours after the exigent circumstances no longer exist; or

(ii) obtains a court order as soon as practicable after the exigent circumstances no longer exist, and if a court refuses to issue a court order, informs the owner of the surveillance camera about the action taken on the surveillance camera within 24 hours after the court's refusal.

(3) This section does not apply to a trail camera as that term is defined in Section 23A-5-307.

Section 3. Effective Date.

This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.