

1 **Transportation Funding Revisions**

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Heidi Balderree

House Sponsor:

2 **LONG TITLE**

3 **General Description:**

4 This bill modifies and enacts provisions related to public school transportation funding.

5 **Highlighted Provisions:**

6 This bill:

7 ▶ amends provisions to allow a charter school to be eligible for state transportation funding
8 beginning on a certain date;

9 ▶ requires the Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee to conduct a study related to
10 charter school transportation funding;

11 ▶ creates a sunset provision; and

12 ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

13 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

14 None

15 **Other Special Clauses:**

16 None

17 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

18 AMENDS:

19 **53E-1-202**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 7

20 **53F-2-702**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 186

21 **63I-1-253**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special Session, Chapter 9

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

23 Section 1. Section **53E-1-202** is amended to read:

24 **53E-1-202 . Reports to and action required of the Public Education**

25 **Appropriations Subcommittee.**

26 (1) In accordance with applicable provisions and Section 68-3-14, the following recurring
27 reports are due to the Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee:

28 (a) the State Superintendent's Annual Report by the state board described in Section
29

31 53E-1-203;
 32 (b) the report described in Section 53E-10-703 by the Utah Leading through Effective,
 33 Actionable, and Dynamic Education director on research and other activities; and
 34 (c) the report by the STEM Action Center Board described in Section 9-22-109,
 35 including the information described in Section 9-22-113 on the status of the computer
 36 science initiative.

37 (2) In accordance with applicable provisions, the Public Education Appropriations
 38 Subcommittee shall complete,[-] if required, the study described in Section 53F-4-304 of
 39 scholarship payments.

40 (3) The Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee shall:

41 (a) study options for providing transportation funding or services for charter schools;

42 (b) include in the study described in Subsection (3)(a):

43 (i) projected costs of providing transportation funding to charter schools statewide;

44 (ii) funding models, including:

45 (A) per-pupil allocations;

46 (B) route-based or mileage-based funding; and

47 (C) regional or cooperative transportation models;

48 (iii) potential impacts on existing school district transportation funding;

49 (iv) equity considerations for rural, suburban, and urban charter schools; and

50 (v) statutory or rule changes necessary to implement charter school transportation
 51 funding;

52 (c) in conducting the study described in Subsection (3)(a), consult with:

53 (i) the state board;

54 (ii) charter school governing boards and administrators;

55 (iii) school district transportation directors; and

56 (iv) the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst; and

57 (d) report findings and recommendations made under this section to the Education
 58 Interim Committee before the November 2027 interim meeting.

59 Section 2. Section **53F-2-702** is amended to read:

60 **53F-2-702 . Funding for charter schools.**

61 (1) Except as described in Section 53F-2-302, a charter school shall receive state funds, as
 62 applicable, on the same basis as a school district receives funds.

63 (2)(a) As described in Section 53F-2-703, the state board shall distribute charter school
 64 levy per pupil revenues to charter schools.

65 (b) As described in Section 53F-2-704, and subject to future budget constraints, the
66 Legislature shall provide an appropriation for charter schools for each charter school
67 student enrolled on October 1 to supplement the allocation of charter school levy per
68 pupil revenues described in Subsection (2)(a).

69 (3) Charter schools are eligible to receive federal funds if they meet all applicable federal
70 requirements and comply with relevant federal regulations.

71 (4) The state board shall distribute funds for charter school students directly to the charter
72 school.

73 (5)(a) Notwithstanding Subsection (1), a charter school is not eligible to receive state
74 transportation funding before July 1, 2028.

75 (b) Beginning July 1, 2028, a charter school is eligible to receive state transportation
76 funding under this section on the same basis as a school district, subject to legislative
77 appropriation and rules the state board adopts.

78 [(b)] (c) The state board shall also adopt rules relating to the transportation of students to
79 and from charter schools, taking into account Sections 53F-2-403 and 53G-6-405.

80 [(e)] (d) A charter school governing board may provide transportation through an
81 agreement or contract with the local school board, a private provider, or parents.

82 (6)(a)(i) In accordance with Section 53F-2-705, the State Charter School Board may
83 allocate grants for start-up costs to charter schools from money appropriated for
84 charter school start-up costs.

85 (ii) The charter school governing board of a charter school that receives money from
86 a grant under Section 53F-2-705 shall use the grant for expenses for planning and
87 implementation of the charter school.

88 (b) The state board shall coordinate the distribution of federal money appropriated to
89 help fund costs for establishing and maintaining charter schools within the state.

90 (7)(a) A charter school may receive, hold, manage and use any devise, bequest, grant,
91 endowment, gift, or donation of any property made to the school for any of the
92 purposes of Title 53G, Chapter 5, Charter Schools, or related provisions.

93 (b) It is unlawful for any person affiliated with a charter school to demand or request any
94 gift, donation, or contribution from a parent, teacher, employee, or other person
95 affiliated with the charter school as a condition for employment or enrollment at the
96 school or continued attendance at the school.

97 Section 3. Section **63I-1-253** is amended to read:

98 **63I-1-253 . Repeal dates: Titles 53 through 53G.**

- 99 (1) Section 53-1-122, Road Rage Awareness and Prevention Restricted Account, is
100 repealed July 1, 2028.
- 101 (2) Section 53-2a-105, Emergency Management Administration Council created --
102 Function -- Composition -- Expenses, is repealed July 1, 2029.
- 103 (3) Section 53-2a-1103, Search and Rescue Advisory Board -- Members -- Compensation,
104 is repealed July 1, 2030.
- 105 (4) Section 53-2a-1104, General duties of the Search and Rescue Advisory Board, is
106 repealed July 1, 2027.
- 107 (5) Title 53, Chapter 2a, Part 15, Grid Resilience Committee, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 108 (6) Section 53-2d-104, State Emergency Medical Services Committee -- Membership --
109 Expenses, is repealed July 1, 2029.
- 110 (7) Section 53-2d-503, Establishment of maximum rates, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 111 (8) Section 53-5a-302, Concealed Firearm Review Board -- Membership -- Compensation
112 -- Terms -- Duties, is repealed July 1, 2029.
- 113 (9) Section 53-11-104, Board, is repealed July 1, 2029.
- 114 (10) Title 53, Chapter 31, Department Interaction With Local Law Enforcement, is repealed
115 July 1, 2027.
- 116 (11) Subsection 53C-3-203(4)(b)(vii), regarding the distribution of money from the Land
117 Exchange Distribution Account to the Geological Survey for test wells and other
118 hydrologic studies in the West Desert, is repealed July 1, 2030.
- 119 (12) Subsection 53E-1-201(1)(q), regarding the Higher Education and Corrections Council,
120 is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 121 (13) Subsection 53E-1-202(3), regarding a study for charter school transportation, is
122 repealed July 1, 2028.
- 123 ~~[(13)]~~ (14) Subsection 53E-2-304(6), regarding foreclosing a private right of action or
124 waiver of governmental immunity, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 125 ~~[(14)]~~ (15) Subsection 53E-3-503(5), regarding coordinating councils for youth in care, is
126 repealed July 1, 2027.
- 127 ~~[(15)]~~ (16) Subsection 53E-3-503(6), regarding coordinating councils for youth in care, is
128 repealed July 1, 2027.
- 129 ~~[(16)]~~ (17) Subsection 53E-4-202(8)(b), regarding a standards review committee, is repealed
130 January 1, 2028.
- 131 ~~[(17)]~~ (18) Section 53E-4-203, Standards review committee, is repealed January 1, 2028.
- 132 ~~[(18)]~~ (19) Title 53E, Chapter 6, Part 5, Utah Professional Practices Advisory Commission,

- 133 is repealed July 1, 2033.
- 134 [~~(19)~~] (20) Subsection 53E-7-207(7), regarding a private right of action or waiver of
135 governmental immunity, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 136 (21) Subsection 53F-2-702(5)(a), excluding a charter school from receiving state
137 transportation funding, is repealed July 1, 2028.
- 138 [~~(20)~~] (22) Section 53F-5-215, Elementary teacher preparation assessment grant, is repealed
139 July 1, 2028.
- 140 [~~(21)~~] (23) Section 53F-5-219, Local Innovations Civics Education Pilot Program, is
141 repealed July 1, 2026.
- 142 [~~(22)~~] (24) Title 53F, Chapter 10, Part 2, Capital Projects Evaluation Panel, is repealed July
143 1, 2027.
- 144 [~~(23)~~] (25) Subsection 53G-4-608(2)(b), regarding the Utah Seismic Safety Commission, is
145 repealed January 1, 2025.
- 146 [~~(24)~~] (26) Subsection 53G-4-608(4)(b), regarding the Utah Seismic Safety Commission, is
147 repealed January 1, 2025.
- 148 [~~(25)~~] (27) Section 53G-9-212, Drinking water quality in schools, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 149 [~~(26)~~] (28) Subsection 53G-9-703(4), regarding the parental video presentation concerning
150 student use of technology, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 151 [~~(27)~~] (29) Subsection 53H-1-402(1)(j), regarding the Higher Education and Corrections
152 Council, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 153 [~~(28)~~] (30) Section 53H-1-604, Higher Education and Corrections Council, is repealed July
154 1, 2027.
- 155 [~~(29)~~] (31) Subsection 53H-4-210(3), regarding the creation of the SafeUT and School
156 Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 157 [~~(30)~~] (32) Subsection 53H-4-210(4), regarding the appointment of the members of the
158 SafeUT and School Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 159 [~~(31)~~] (33) Subsection 53H-4-210(5), regarding the attorney general designating the chair of
160 the SafeUT and School Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 161 [~~(32)~~] (34) Subsection 53H-4-210(6), regarding the quorum requirements of the SafeUT and
162 School Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 163 [~~(33)~~] (35) Subsection 53H-4-210(7), regarding a formal action of the SafeUT and School
164 Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 165 [~~(34)~~] (36) Subsection 53H-4-210(8), regarding compensation for members of the SafeUT
166 and School Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.

167 [~~35~~] (37) Subsection 53H-4-210(9), regarding the support staff for the SafeUT and School
168 Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.

169 [~~36~~] (38) Section 53H-4-306.1, Definitions -- Electrification of Transportation
170 Infrastructure Research Center, is repealed July 1, 2028.

171 [~~37~~] (39) Section 53H-4-306.2, Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Research
172 Center -- Designation -- Duties, is repealed July 1, 2028.

173 [~~38~~] (40) Section 53H-4-306.3, Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Research
174 Center -- Steering committee, is repealed July 1, 2028.

175 [~~39~~] (41) Section 53H-4-306.4, Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Research
176 Center -- Industry advisory board, is repealed July 1, 2028.

177 [~~40~~] (42) Section 53H-4-306.5, Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Research
178 Center -- Duties of the project director, is repealed July 1, 2028.

179 [~~41~~] (43) Section 53H-4-306.6, Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Research
180 Center -- Project development and strategic objectives -- Reporting requirements, is
181 repealed July 1, 2028.

182 [~~42~~] (44) Section 53H-4-307.1, Center for Civic Excellence, is repealed July 1, 2030.

183 [~~43~~] (45) Section 53H-4-307.2, Center for Civic Excellence -- Duties -- Authority, is
184 repealed July 1, 2030.

185 [~~44~~] (46) Section 53H-4-307.3, Center for Civic Excellence -- Leadership, is repealed July
186 1, 2030.

187 [~~45~~] (47) Section 53H-4-307.4, Center for Civic Excellence -- Faculty, is repealed July 1,
188 2030.

189 [~~46~~] (48) Section 53H-4-307.5, Center for Civic Excellence -- Curriculum, is repealed July
190 1, 2030.

191 [~~47~~] (49) Section 53H-4-307.6, Center for Civic Excellence -- Oversight -- Reporting, is
192 repealed July 1, 2030.

193 [~~48~~] (50) Section 53H-4-313, Food Security Council, is repealed July 1, 2027.

194 [~~49~~] (51) Section 53H-8-305, Five-year performance goals, is repealed July 1, 2027.

195 [~~50~~] (52) Title 53H, Chapter 10, Part 4, Education Savings Incentive Program, is repealed
196 July 1, 2028.

197 Section 4. **Effective Date.**

198 This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.