

STATE OF UTAH
SENATE JOURNAL
ELEVENTH EXTRAORDINARY SESSION
of the
SIXTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

The Senate of the Sixty-sixth Legislature of the State of Utah met in the Senate Chamber at the State Capitol Complex and virtually in the Eleventh Extraordinary Session at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 17, 2026.

The Senate was called to order at 4:11 p.m., with President J. Stuart Adams presiding.

Prayer – Senator Brady Brammer

Pledge – Senator Karen Kwan

Phalin Flowers, Secretary of the Senate, read the following communication:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, since the close of the 2026 General Session of the 66th Legislature of the State of Utah, certain matters have arisen which require immediate legislative attention; and

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 6 of the Constitution of the State of Utah provides that the governor may, by proclamation, convene the Senate into Extraordinary Session; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Spencer J. Cox, Governor of the State of Utah, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Utah, do by this Proclamation call the Senate only of the 66th Legislature of the State of Utah into the Eleventh Extraordinary Session at the Utah State Capitol in Salt Lake City, Utah, on the 17th day of June 2026, at 4:00 p.m., for the following purpose:

For the Senate to consent to appointments made by the Governor to positions within state government of the State of Utah since the close of the 2026 General Session of the Legislature of the State of Utah.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Utah. Done at the Utah State Capitol in Salt Lake City, Utah, this 16th day of June 2026.

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

Deidre M. Henderson
Lieutenant Governor

* * *

Roll call – All Senators present

President Adams appointed Senator McCay to notify the Governor's representative that the Senate is convened in the Eleventh Extraordinary Session.

Senator McCay advised the Senate that the Governor's representative has been notified of the convening of the Eleventh Extraordinary Session.

On motion of Senator Fillmore, the same rules, joint rules, and interim rules adopted for the 2026 Tenth Extraordinary Session were adopted as the rules for the Eleventh Extraordinary Session of the Sixty-sixth Legislature.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

Mr. President: June 2, 2026
I am pleased to inform you that I have appointed Stephen Dent as a Justice of the Utah Supreme Court, pursuant to Article VIII, Section 8 of the Utah Constitution and Utah Code Section 78A-10a-101, et seq. Thank you for your timely consideration and confirmation of Mr. Dent.

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. President: June 15, 2026
The Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee met on June 15, 2026, and reports a favorable recommendation for Stephen P. Dent to be confirmed to the position of Justice for the Utah Supreme Court.

Todd Weiler, Chair

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On motion of Senator Weiler, the Senate voted to consent to the appointment of Stephen Dent on the following roll call vote:

Yeas, 24; Nays, 5; Absent, 0.

Voting in the affirmative were: Senators

Adams, J.	Balderree, H.	Brammer, B.	Buss, E.
Cullimore, K.	Fillmore, L.	Grover, K.	Harper, W.
Hinkins, D.	Ipson, D.	Johnson, J.	McCay, D.
McKell, M.	Millner, A.	Musselman, C.	Owens, D.
Pitcher, S.	Sandall, S.	Stevenson, J.	Stratton, K.
Vickers, E.	Weiler, T.	Wilson, C.	Winterton, R.

Voting in the negative were: Senators

Blouin, N.	Escamilla, L.	Kwan, K.	Plumb, J.
Riebe, K.			

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

On motion of Senator Cullimore, Judge Stephen Dent spoke in Committee of the Whole.

On motion of Senator Cullimore, the Committee of the Whole was dissolved.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

Mr. President: June 2, 2026
 I am pleased to inform you that I have appointed Jay Jorgensen as a Justice of the Utah Supreme Court, pursuant to Article VIII, Section 8 of the Utah Constitution and Utah Code Section 78A-10a-101, et seq. Thank you for your timely consideration and confirmation of Mr. Jorgensen.

Spencer J. Cox
 Governor

CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. President: June 15, 2026
 The Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee met on June 15, 2026, and reports a favorable recommendation for Jay T. Jorgensen to be confirmed to the position of Justice for the Utah Supreme Court.

Todd Weiler, Chair

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On motion of Senator Weiler, the Senate voted to consent to the appointment of Jay Jorgensen on the following roll call vote:

Yeas, 22; Nays, 7; Absent, 0.

Voting in the affirmative were: Senators

Adams, J.	Balderree, H.	Brammer, B.	Cullimore, K.
Fillmore, L.	Grover, K.	Harper, W.	Hinkins, D.
Ipson, D.	Johnson, J.	McCay, D.	McKell, M.
Millner, A.	Musselman, C.	Owens, D.	Sandall, S.
Stevenson, J.	Stratton, K.	Vickers, E.	Weiler, T.
Wilson, C.	Winterton, R.		

Voting in the negative were: Senators

Blouin, N.	Buss, E.	Escamilla, L.	Kwan, K.
Pitcher, S.	Plumb, J.	Riebe, K.	

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

On motion of Senator Cullimore, Judge Jay Jorgensen spoke in Committee of the Whole.

On motion of Senator Cullimore, the Committee of the Whole was dissolved.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

Mr. President: May 18, 2026
In accordance with Utah Code §§ 67-1-1 and 67-1-2, I propose and transmit the following appointments:

Board of the Utah Geological Survey:

Neil Burk is appointed as the groundwater representative for the Board of the Utah Geological Survey, a term to expire June 30, 2030. See Utah Code 79-3-302(2)(d).

Child Care Provider Licensing Committee:

Monica Gailey is reappointed as a parent with a child in licensed center-based child care for the Child Care Provider Licensing Committee, a term to expire June 30, 2030. See Utah Code 26B-1-414(1)(d)(i)(B).

Labor Commission Appeals Board:

Patricia Abbott is appointed to replace Eric Stringberg as a member who is an employee representative for the Labor Commission Appeals Board, a term to expire March 1, 2032. See Utah Code 34A-1-205(2)(a)(ii).

Permanent Community Impact Fund Board:

Curtis Wells is reappointed as the chair, who is an individual who resides in a county of the third, fourth, fifth, or sixth class for the Permanent Community Impact Fund Board, a term to expire June 15, 2030. See Utah Code 35A-8-304(1)(k).

Purchasing from Persons with Disabilities Advisory Board:

Shane Hughes is appointed to replace Alana Parslow, who is a member of the private business community for the Purchasing from Persons with Disabilities Advisory Board, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 63G-6a-805(3)(c).

School and Institutional Trust Lands Board of Trustees:

Spencer Moffat is appointed to replace Bryan Harris as a member of real estate development expertise for the School and Institutional Trust Lands Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2032. See Utah Code 53C-1-202(6)(b)(iii).

Kelly Williams is appointed to replace Tiffany James as a member of energy infrastructure expertise for the School and Institutional Trust Lands Board of Trustees, for the remainder of the term to expire June 30, 2027. See Utah Code 53C-1-202(6)(b)(ii).

Utah Behavioral Health Commission:

Evan Done is reappointed as a member who has lived experience with a substance use disorder for the Utah Behavioral Health Commission, a term to expire June 30, 2030. See Utah Code 26B-5-702(2)(a).

Jordan Sorenson is appointed as a member who represents private acute care providers for the Utah Behavioral Health Commission, a term to expire June 30, 2030. See Utah Code 26B-5-702(2)(f).

Adam Cohen is appointed as a member who represents the private outpatient providers for the Utah Behavioral Health Commission, a term to expire June 30, 2030. See Utah Code 26B-5-702(2)(g).

Josie White is reappointed as a member who has lived experience with a mental disorder of the Utah Behavioral Health Commission, the remainder of the term to expire June 30, 2030. See Utah Code 26B-5-702(2)(b)

Utah State Retirement Board:

Christie Behunin is reappointed as a member representing a person experienced in banking and investments for the Utah State Retirement Board, the term to expire July 1, 2030. See Utah Code 49-11-202(1)(a).

State Charter School Board:

Adam Gerlach is appointed to replace Eric Olson as a member nominated by an organization that represents Utah's charter schools, and has expertise or experience in developing or administering a charter school, for the State Charter School Board, a term to expire June 30, 2030. See Utah Code 53G-5-201(2)(b)(ii).

Brandon Johnson is appointed to replace Stacey Hutchings as a member nominated by the State Board of Education for the State Charter School Board, a term to expire June 30, 2030. See Utah Code 53G-5-201(2)(b)(iii).

Mickelle Bos is appointed to replace Krystle Bassett as a member who has expertise in innovation in education for the State Charter School Board, a term to expire June 30, 2030. See Utah Code 53G-5-201(2)(b)(iv).

Utah Transit Commission:

Mike Caldwell is appointed as the representative for Davis County and Weber County for the Utah Transit Commission, a term to expire June 30, 2031. See Utah Code 17B-2a-807.3(2)(b)(i)(A).

Jeff Silvestrini is appointed as the Salt Lake County representative for the Utah Transit Commission, a term to expire June 30, 2028. See Utah Code 17B-2a-807.3(2)(b)(iii)(A).

Muriel Xochimitl is appointed as the Utah County representative for the Utah Transit Commission, a term to expire June 30, 2028. See Utah Code 17B-2a-807.3(2)(b)(ii)(A).

Thank you for your timely consideration and confirmation of the above appointments.

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

Mr. President: June 1, 2026

In accordance with Utah Code §§ 67-1-1 and 67-1-2, I propose and transmit the following appointments:

Board of Economic Opportunity:

Nate Walkingshaw is appointed to replace Heather Kahlert as the member who associated with a targeted industry for the Board of Economic Opportunity, a term to expire March 15, 2030. See Utah Code 63N-1a-401(1)(b)(iv).

Utah Housing Corporation Board of Trustees:

Harris Simmons is appointed as a member for the Utah Housing Corporation Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2030. See Utah Code 63H-8-201(2)(d).

Natalie Gochnour is appointed as a member for the Utah Housing Corporation Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2028. See Utah Code 63H-8-201(2)(d).

Clark Ivory is appointed as a member for the Utah Housing Corporation Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2028. See Utah Code 63H-8-201(2)(d).

Wayne Niederhauser is appointed as a member for the Utah Housing Corporation Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2030. See Utah Code 63H-8-201(2)(d).

Dan Lofgren is appointed as a member for the Utah Housing Corporation Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2028. See Utah Code 63H-8-201(2)(d).

Dannielle Larkin is appointed as a member for the Utah Housing Corporation Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2030. See Utah Code 63H-8-201(2)(d).

Thank you for your timely consideration and confirmation of the above appointments.

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

President Adams stated that a majority of the Senate President, Majority Leader, and Minority Leader voted to waive the 30-day requirement for the following appointments: Nate Walkingshaw, Harris Simmons, Natalie Gochnour, Clark Ivory, Wayne Niederhauser, Dan Lofgren, and Dannielle Larkin.

CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. President: June 15, 2026
The Senate Business and Labor Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 15, 2026, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Patricia Abbott as a member of the Labor Commission Appeals Board.

Evan Vickers, Chair

Mr. President: June 15, 2026
The Senate Economic Development and Workforce Services Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 15, 2026, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Nate Walkingshaw as the Commissioner for the Board of Economic Opportunity; and

The Senate Economic Development and Workforce Services Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 15, 2026, and reports a favorable recommendation for the reappointment of Curtis Wells as the Chair for the Permanent Community Impact Fund Board.

Ann Millner, Chair

Mr. President: June 8, 2026
The Senate Education Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 8, 2026, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Mickelle Bos as a member of the State Charter School Board; and

The Senate Education Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 8, 2026, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Adam Gerlach as a member of the State Charter School Board; and

The Senate Education Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 8, 2026, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Brandon Johnson as a member of the State Charter School Board.

Ann Millner, Chair

Mr. President: June 16, 2026
The Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 16, 2026, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Neil Burk to the Board of the Utah Geological Survey; and

The Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 16, 2026, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Spencer Moffat to the School and Institutional Trust Lands Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 16, 2026, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Kelly Williams to the School and Institutional Trust Lands Board of Trustees.

Derrin Owens, Chair

Mr. President: June 8, 2026
The Senate Retirement and Independent Entities Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 8, 2026, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Natalie Gochmour as a member of the Utah Housing Corporation Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Retirement and Independent Entities Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 8, 2026, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Clark Ivory as a member of the Utah Housing Corporation Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Retirement and Independent Entities Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 8, 2026, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Dannielle Larkin as a member of the Utah Housing Corporation Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Retirement and Independent Entities Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 8, 2026, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Dan Lofgren as a member of the Utah Housing Corporation Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Retirement and Independent Entities Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 8, 2026, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Wayne Niederhauser as a member of the Utah Housing Corporation Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Retirement and Independent Entities Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 8, 2026, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Harris Simmons as a member of the Utah Housing Corporation Board of Trustees.

Wayne A. Harper, Chair

Mr. President: June 2, 2026
The Senate Transportation, Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 2, 2026, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Mike Caldwell as a representative from Davis County and Weber County for the Utah Transit Commission; and

The Senate Transportation, Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 2, 2026, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Jeff Silvestrini as a representative from Salt Lake County for the Utah Transit Commission; and

The Senate Transportation, Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 2, 2026, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Muriel Xochimiltl as a representative from Utah County for the Utah Transit Commission.

Wayne A. Harper, Chair

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On motion of Senator Hinkins, the Senate voted to consent to the appointments as read by staff on the following roll call vote:

Yeas, 28; Nays, 1; Absent, 0.

Voting in the affirmative were: Senators

Adams, J.	Balderree, H.	Brammer, B.	Buss, E.
Cullimore, K.	Escamilla, L.	Fillmore, L.	Grover, K.
Harper, W.	Hinkins, D.	Ipson, D.	Johnson, J.
Kwan, K.	McCay, D.	McKell, M.	Millner, A.
Musselman, C.	Owens, D.	Pitcher, S.	Plumb, J.
Riebe, K.	Sandall, S.	Stevenson, J.	Stratton, K.
Vickers, E.	Weiler, T.	Wilson, C.	Winterton, R.

Voting in the negative was: Senator Blouin, N.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

President Adams directed Senator McCay to notify the Governor’s representative that the Senate has concluded its business in the Eleventh Extraordinary Session.

Senator McCay reported that the Governor’s representative has been notified that the Senate has concluded its business in the Eleventh Extraordinary Session.

On motion of Senator Cullimore, and at 5:21 p.m., the Senate adjourned sine die.