

STATE OF UTAH
SENATE JOURNAL
FIFTH 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 Fifth Extraordinary Session at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 16, 2025.

The Senate was called to order at 4:14 p.m. with President J. Stuart Adams presiding.

Prayer – Senator Jerry Stevenson

Pledge – Senator Karen Kwan

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

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, since the close of the 2025 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 Fifth Extraordinary Session at the Utah State Capitol in Salt Lake City, Utah, on the 16th day of September 2025, 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 2025 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 15th day of September 2025.

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

Deidre M. Henderson
Lieutenant Governor

* * *

Roll call – All Senators present, except Senator Stratton, Brammer, Musselman, and Vickers excused, and Senator Grover.

President Adams appointed Senator Ipson to notify the Governor’s representative that the Senate is convened in the Fifth Extraordinary Session.

Senator Ipson advised the Senate that the Governor’s representative has been notified of the convening of the Fifth Extraordinary Session.

On motion of Senator Fillmore, the same rules, joint rules, and interim rules adopted by the 2025 Fourth Extraordinary Session were adopted as the rules for the Fifth Extraordinary Session of the Sixty–sixth Legislature.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The Senate observed a moment of silence for Charlie Kirk who was shot and killed at a public forum at Utah Valley University the previous week.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

Mr. President: July 21, 2025
In accordance with Utah Code §§ 67-1-1 and 67-1-2, I propose and transmit the following appointments:

University of Utah Board of Trustees:

Bassam Salem is reappointed as a member of the University of Utah Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 53B–2–104.

Utah State University Board of Trustees:

Tessa White is reappointed as a member of the Utah State University Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 53B–2–104.

Kacie Malouf is reappointed as a member of the Utah State University Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 53B-2-104.

Brett Hugie is appointed to replace John Ferry as a member of the Utah State University Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 53B-2-104.

Luke Johnson is appointed to replace Kent Alder as a member of the Utah State University Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 53B-2-104

Utah Valley University Board of Trustees:

Jeanette Bennett is reappointed as a member of the Utah Valley University Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 53B-2-104.

Blake Modersitzki is reappointed as a member of the Utah Valley University Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 53B-2-104.

Weber State University Board of Trustees:

Keith Titus is reappointed as a member of the Weber State University Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 53B-2-104.

Brent Bishop is reappointed as a member of the Weber State University Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 53B-2-104.

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

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

Mr. President:

August 18, 2025

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

Board of Water Resources:

Dale Buxton is appointed to replace Charles Holmgren as a member representing the Bear River District, comprising the counties of Box Elder, Cache, and Rich, for the Board of Water Resources, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 73-10-2(2)(a)(i).

Board of the Utah Geological Survey:

Richard Borden is appointed to replace Rick Chesnut as a member representing the mineral industry for the Board of the Utah Geological Survey, the remainder of the term to expire March 31, 2029. See Utah Code 79-3-302(2)(b).

Michael Hansen is appointed to replace David Garbrecht as a member who is knowledgeable in the field of geology as applied to the practice of civil engineering for the Board of the Utah Geological Survey, the remainder of the term to expire March 31, 2029. See Utah Code 79-3-302(2)(a).

Davis Technical College Board of Trustees:

Kyle Brostrom is appointed to replace Troy Wood as a member of the Davis Technical College Board of Trustees, a term to expire September 28, 2029. See Utah Code 53B-2a-108(2)(c)(ii)(C).

Kenneth Romney is appointed to replace Scot Merrihew as a member of the Davis Technical College Board of Trustees, a term to expire September 28, 2029. See Utah Code 53B-2a-108(2)(c)(ii)(C).

Drinking Water Board:

Hollie McKinney is appointed to replace Kristi Bell as an elected municipal official involved in management of a public water system, for the Drinking Water Board, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 19-4-103(1)(b)(ii).

Bryan Cox is appointed to replace Dawn Ramsey as an elected municipal official involved in management of a public water system, for the Drinking Water Board, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 19-4-103(1)(b)(ii).

Jason Luettinger is appointed to replace Eric Franson as a member representing professional engineers for the Drinking Water Board, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 19-4-103(1)(b)(i).

Ogden-Weber Technical College Board of Trustees:

Greg Sanders is appointed to replace Slade Opheikens for the Ogden-Weber Technical College Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 53B-2a-108(2)(c)(ii)(B).

State Charter School Board:

Stacey Hutchings is appointed to replace Brady Bowles as a member nominated by an organization representing Utah's charter schools, and has expertise in developing or administering a charter school, for the State Charter School Board, the remainder of the term to expire June 30, 2026. See Utah Code 53G-5-201(2)(b)(iii).

Title and Escrow Commission:

Warren Lignell is appointed to replace Jeff Mathews as a member of the general public with an interest in title insurance and escrow matters, for the Title and Escrow Commission, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 31A-2-403(1)(a)(iii).

Utah Victim Services Commission:

Dominique Kiahtipes is appointed to replace Matthew Hansen as a member who is a prosecuting attorney, for the Utah Victim Services Commission, the remainder of the term to expire January 1, 2028. See Utah Code 63M-7-902(2)(1).

Utah Valley University Board of Trustees:

Bradley Herbert is appointed to replace Paul Thompson as a member of the Utah Valley University Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 53B-2-104.

Kristin Andrus is appointed to replace Rick Nielsen as a member of the Utah Valley University Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 53B-2-104.

Shauna Smith is appointed to replace Jeremy Hafen as a member of the Utah Valley University Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 53B-2-104.

Justin Olson is appointed to replace Noel Vallejo as a member of the Utah Valley University Board of Trustees, the remainder of the term to expire June 30, 2027. See Utah Code 53B-2-104.

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

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. President: September 15, 2025
The Senate Business and Labor Confirmation Committee met on September 15, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for Warren Lignell to be confirmed as a member of the Title and Escrow Commission.

Evan Vickers, Chair

Mr. President: September 11, 2025
The Senate Education Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 11, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Kyle Brostrom as a member of the Davis Technical College Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Education Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 11, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Kenneth Romney as a member of the Davis Technical College Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Education Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 11, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Stacey Hutchings as a member of the State Charter School Board; and

The Senate Education Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 11, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the reappointment of Bassam Salem as a member of the University of Utah Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Education Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 11, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Brett Hugie as a member of the Utah State University Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Education Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 11, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Luke Johnson as a member of the Utah State University Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Education Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 11, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Kristin Andrus as a member of the Utah Valley University Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Education Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 11, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Bradley Herbert as a member of the Utah Valley University Board of Trustees.

Ann Millner, Chair

Mr. President: September 12, 2025
The Senate Education Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 12, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Greg Sanders as a member of the Ogden–Weber Technical College Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Education Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 12, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the reappointment of Kacie Malouf as a member of the Utah State University Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Education Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 12, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the reappointment of Tessa White as a member of the Utah State University Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Education Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 12, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the reappointment of Jeanette Bennett as a member of the Utah Valley University Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Education Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 12, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the reappointment of Blake Modersitzki as a member of the Utah Valley University Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Education Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 12, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Justin Olson as a member of the Utah Valley University Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Education Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 12, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Shauna Smith as a member of the Utah Valley University Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Education Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 12, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the reappointment of Brent Bishop as a member of the Weber State University Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Education Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 12, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the reappointment of Keith Titus as a member of the Weber State University Board of Trustees.

Ann Millner, Chair

Mr. President: September 9, 2025
The Senate Judiciary Confirmation Committee met on September 9, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Dominique Kiahtipes as a member for the Utah Victim Services Commission.

Brady Brammer, Chair

Mr. President: September 15, 2025
The Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 15, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Richard Borden for the Board of the Utah Geological Survey; and

The Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 15, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Michael Hansen to the Board of the Utah Geological Survey; and

The Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 15, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Dale Buxton to the Board of the Water Resources; and

The Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 15, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Bryan Cox to the Drinking Water Board; and

The Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 15, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Jason Luettinger to the Drinking Water Board; and

The Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Confirmation Committee held a meeting on September 15, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Hollie McKinney to the Drinking Water Board.

Derrin Owens, Chair

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President Adams stated that a majority of the Senate President, Majority Leader, and Minority Leader voted to waive the 30–day requirement for the appointments listed above.

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

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

Voting in the affirmative were: Senators

Adams, S.	Balderree, H.	Blouin, N.	Cullimore, K.
Escamilla, L.	Fillmore, L.	Harper, W.	Hinkins, D.
Ipson, D.	Johnson, J.	Kwan, K.	McCay, D.
McKell, M.	Millner, A.	Owens, D.	Pitcher, S.
Plumb, J.	Riebe, K.	Sandall, S.	Stevenson, J.
Thatcher, D.	Weiler, T.	Wilson, C.	Winterton, R.

Absent were: Senators

Brammer, B. Grover, K. Musselman, C. Stratton, K.
Vickers, E.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

President Adams directed Senator Ipson to notify the Governor's representative that the Senate has concluded its business in the Fifth Extraordinary Session.

Senator Ipson reported that Governor's representative has been notified that the Senate has concluded its business in the Fifth Extraordinary Session.

On motion of Senator Wilson, and at 4:38 p.m., the Senate adjourned sine die.