

STATE OF UTAH
SENATE JOURNAL
SEVENTH 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 Seventh Extraordinary Session at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 19, 2025.

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

Prayer – Senator Ronald Winterton

Pledge – Senator Luz Escamilla

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 Seventh Extraordinary Session at the Utah State Capitol in Salt Lake City, Utah, on the 19th day of November 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 18th day of November 2025.

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

Deidre M. Henderson
Lieutenant Governor

* * *

Roll call – All Senators present, except Senators Cullimore and Fillmore, excused, and Senators Grover and Musselman, absent.

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

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

On motion of Senator McKell, the same rules, joint rules, and interim rules adopted by the 2025 Sixth Extraordinary Session were adopted as the rules for the Seventh Extraordinary Session of the Sixty-sixth Legislature.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The Senate presented a citation to Colonel Mike Rapich for his years of service to the State of Utah and the Utah Highway Patrol.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

Mr. President: October 14, 2025
I am pleased to inform you that I have appointed Judge John Nielsen 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 Judge Nielsen.

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. President: November 3, 2025
The Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee met on November 3, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for Judge John Nielsen to be confirmed to the position of Justice on the Utah Supreme Court.

Todd Weiler, Chair

* * *

Senator Weiler made a motion to consent to the appointment of Judge John Nielsen.

Senators Pitcher, Sandall, Brammer, Blouin, and Weiler commented.

Senator Weiler's motion passed on the following roll call vote:

Yeas, 19; Nays, 6; Absent, 4.

Voting in the affirmative were: Senators

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

Voting in the negative were: Senators

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

Absent were: Senators

Cullimore, K.	Fillmore, L.	Grover, K.	Musselman, C.
---------------	--------------	------------	---------------

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

On motion of Senator McKell, Justice John Nielsen spoke in Committee of the Whole.

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

Mr. President: August 18, 2025
In accordance with Utah Code §§ 67-1-1 and 67-1-2, I propose and transmit the following appointment:

State Board of Financial Institutions:

Kip Cashmore is reappointed as a member who represents the consumer lending, money services business, or escrow agency business for the State Board of Financial Institutions, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 7-1-203(1)(b).

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

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

Mr. President:

October 20, 2025

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

Board of State History:

Axel Ramirez is reappointed as a member of the Board of State History, a term to expire October 31, 2029. See Utah Code 9-8-204(2).

Ryan Paul is appointed to replace Tara Beresh as a member of the Board of State History, a term to expire October 31, 2030. See Utah Code 9-8-204(2).

Health Data Committee:

Dorothea Verbrugge is appointed to replace Patrice Hirning as a member who is a physician representative of the Health Data Committee, a term to expire June 30, 2028. See Utah Code 26B-1-413(6)(d).

Board of Economic Opportunity:

Judd Cook is appointed to replace Brigham Tomco as a member at large, for the Board of Economic Opportunity, the remainder of the term to expire May 15, 2026. See Utah Code 63N-1a-401(1)(b)(v).

Brigham Tomco is appointed to replace Katelin Roberts as a member associated with a targeted industry, for the Board of Economic Opportunity, the remainder of the term to expire May 15, 2026. See Utah Code 63N-1a-401(1)(b)(iv).

Weber Basin Water Conservancy District Board of Trustees:

Tom Day is appointed to replace Paul Summers as the Davis County representative for the Weber Basin Water Conservancy District Board of Trustees, a term to expire January 31, 2030. See Utah Code 17B-2a-1005(2)(c).

Mark Anderson is reappointed as the Davis County representative for the Weber Basin Water Conservancy District Board of Trustees, a term to expire January 31, 2030. See Utah Code 17B-2a-1005(2)(c).

Logan Wilde is appointed to replace Jared Anderson as the Morgan County representative for the Weber Basin Water Conservancy District Board of Trustees, a term to expire January 31, 2030. See Utah Code 17B-2a-1005(2)(c).

Christopher Robinson is reappointed as the Summit County representative for the Weber Basin Water Conservancy District Board of Trustees, a term to expire January 31, 2030. See Utah Code 17B-2a-1005(2)(c).

Julie Snowball is appointed to replace Kym Buttschardt as the Weber County representative for the Weber Basin Water Conservancy District Board of Trustees, a term to expire February 23, 2030. See Utah Code 17B-2a-1005(2)(c).

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

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. President: November 4, 2025
The Senate Economic Development and Workforce Services Confirmation Committee met on November 4, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Judd Cook as a member of the Board of Economic Opportunity; and

The Senate Economic Development and Workforce Services Confirmation Committee met on November 4, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Brigham Tomco as a member of the Board of Economic Opportunity; and

The Senate Economic Development and Workforce Services Confirmation Committee met on November 4, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Ryan Paul as a member of the Board of State History.

Ann Millner, Chair

Mr. President: October 28, 2025
The Senate Health and Human Services Confirmation Committee met on October 28, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Dorothea Verbrugge as a member of the Health Data Committee.

Keith Grover, Chair

Mr. President: November 18, 2025
The Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Confirmation Committee held a meeting on November 18, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Tom Day to the Weber Basin Water Conservancy District Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Confirmation Committee held a meeting on November 18, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Logan Wilde to the Weber Basin Water Conservancy District Board of Trustees; and

The Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Confirmation Committee held a meeting on November 18, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Julie Snowball to the Weber Basin Water Conservancy District Board of Trustees.

Derrin Owens, Chair

* * *

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

Yeas, 19; **Nay**s, 6; **Absent**, 4.

Voting in the affirmative were: Senators

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

Voting in the negative were: Senators

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

Absent were: Senators

Cullimore, K. Fillmore, L. Grover, K. Musselman, C.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

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

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

On motion of Senator McKell, and at 4:49 p.m., the Senate adjourned sine die.