MEMORANDUM FOR SOCIAL SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE

FROM: Stephen Jardine, Analyst
Hector Zumaeta Santiago, Analyst

DATE: September 7, 2016

SUBJECT: USOR Transition Plan Financing

House Bill 325, “Office of Rehabilitation Services Amendments” passed in the 2016 General Session moves the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation (USOR) from the State Board of Education to the Department of Workforce Services (DWS). The Utah State Office of Education currently provides day-to-day operational accounting and fiscal grant management services on behalf of USOR. To ensure the successful transition of these services from USOE to DWS, including federal grant authority, H.B. 225 created the Office of Rehabilitation Transition Restricted Account and made a one-time appropriation of $26.7 million in state funding into the account. H.B. 325 included intent language stating that both USOE and DWS may spend up to the $26.7 million appropriated to the restricted account for FY 2017 but that the total expenditures from the account coming from both agencies “may not exceed the total amount available in the account.” This restricted account, its one-time appropriation, and the intent language provided sufficient financial flexibility for USOR to transition to DWS.