

Summary of Passed EDWS Legislation

2021 General Session | March 31, 2021

HERITAGE AND ARTS

1. [H.B. 313](#), “Heritage and Arts Amendments”

- Changes the name of the Department of Heritage and Arts (DHA) to the Department of Cultural and Community Engagement (DCCE).
- Modifies the duties of DCCE.

2. [S.B. 48](#), “State Flag Amendments”

- Establishes the State Flag Review Task Force, consisting of 9 members.
- Requires the Task Force to:
 - select up to 10 proposed state flag designs on or before 9/15/2021; and
 - provide a written report and recommendations to the EDWS Interim Committee on or before 11/1/2021.
- Establishes a commemorative state flag to be displayed in 2021.
- Sunsets the Task Force on 1/1/2023.

WORKFORCE SERVICES

1. [H.B. 35](#), “Child Care Advisory Committee Sunset”

- Extends the sunset date of the Department of Workforce Services’ (DWS) Child Care Advisory Committee to from 7/1/2021 to 7/1/2026.

2. [H.B. 56](#), “Intergenerational Poverty Mitigation Act”

- Adds the Director of the Division of Multicultural Affairs (within DHA/DCCE) as an 8th member of the Utah Intergenerational Welfare Reform Commission.
- Adds a representative of minority communities having children disproportionately impacted by intergenerational poverty as a 12th member of the Intergenerational Poverty Advisory Committee (appointed by the Commission’s chair).

3. [H.B. 82](#), “Single-Family Housing Modifications”

- Requires the Executive Director of DWS to create a two-year pilot program to provide loan guarantees for certain loans related to accessory dwelling units.

4. [H.B. 120](#), “Unemployment Insurance Amendments”

- Requires certain nonprofit organizations to notify an employee that the employee will be unable to claim service performed by the nonprofit as employment for the purpose of qualifying for unemployment insurance benefits.

5. [H.B. 277](#), “Child Care Eligibility Amendments”

- Allows the Office of Child Care (DWS) to award a child care subsidy or grant to an “income-eligible child” through the Employment Support Act, subject to available funds.
- Allows the Office of Child Care to make rules for the prioritization of child care subsidies and grants.

6. [H.B. 347](#), “Homeless Services Amendments”

- Creates the Office of Homeless Services within DWS.
- Creates the position of State Homelessness Coordinator (appointed by the Governor) to direct the Office of Homeless Services and advise the Governor on homelessness issues.
- Creates the Utah Homelessness Council within the Office of Homeless Services and establishes the Council’s duties, including to provide final approval of the homeless services budget, strategic plan, and funding for homeless services.

7. [H.B. 365](#), “State Agency Realignment”

- Modifies the duties of DWS to include certain responsibilities relating to the administration of Medicaid eligibility.

8. [H.B. 391](#), “Apprenticeship Nomenclature Act”

- Defines terms in the Apprenticeship Act.
- Modifies the duties of DWS’ Commissioner of Apprenticeship Programs.

9. [S.B. 141](#), “Task Force on Food Security”

- Creates the Task Force on Food Security within DWS.
- Requires the Task Force to submit a plan for increasing food security in Utah on or before 10/1/2021 to certain Legislative committees, including the EDWS Interim Committee.
- Sunsets the Task Force on 6/30/2022.

10. [S.B. 164](#), “Utah Housing Affordability Amendments”

- Allows the Executive Director of DWS to use funds from the Olene Walker Housing Loan Fund for:
 - awarding predevelopment grants to construct low-income housing units; and
 - creating a mediation program for landlords and tenants designed to minimize the loss of housing for low-income persons.

11. [S.B. 176](#), “Mineral Lease Funds Amendments”

- Allows DWS’ Permanent Community Impact Fund Board to provide a grant or loan regardless of whether the project results in more than one impact or outcome.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1. [H.B. 52](#), “Point of the Mountain Development Commission Act Modifications”

- Extends the duties of the Point of the Mountain Development Commission to facilitate cooperation and transportation planning between certain entities.
- Extends the sunset date of the Commission from 7/1/2021 to 7/1/2023.

2. [H.B. 217](#), “Regulatory Sandbox Program Amendments”

- Establishes the Utah Office of Regulatory Relief within the Governor’s Office of Economic Development (GOED).
- Establishes the General Regulatory Sandbox Program, which allows the Office of Regulatory Relief to waive laws or regulations applicable to a participant under certain circumstances.
- Establishes the General Regulatory Sandbox Program Advisory Committee.
- Requires the Office of Regulatory Relief to create a webpage for residents and businesses to submit suggestions for reducing the regulatory burden on residents/businesses.

3. **H.B. 346, “Natural Resources Entities Amendments”**

- Transfers certain grants administered by GOED’s Office of Outdoor Recreation to the Department of Natural Resources’ Division of Recreation.
- Delayed Effective Date: the bill takes effect on 7/1/2021.

4. **H.B. 348, “Economic Development Amendments”**

- Renames GOED to the Governor’s Office of Economic Opportunity or GO Utah Office.
- Establishes the Unified Economic Opportunity Commission and requires the Commission to develop a statewide economic development strategy.
- Requires the GO Utah Office to implement the statewide economic development strategy developed by the Commission.
- Establishes certain subcommittees within the Commission, including:
 - the Business and Economic Development Subcommittee (formerly the Board of Business and Economic Development); and
 - the Talent, Education, and Industry Alignment Subcommittee (formerly the Talent Ready Utah Board).
- Allows the GO Utah Board to provide talent development grants to for-profit businesses that create new incremental high-paying jobs in Utah.
- Establishes the Utah Broadband Center within the GO Utah Office and allows the Center to provide grants under the newly established Broadband Access Grant Program.
- Repeals:
 - the Governor’s Rural Partnership Board;
 - the Governor’s Economic Development Coordinating Council;
 - the “Technology Commercialization and Innovation Act”; and
 - the “Utah Business Resource Center Act”.
- Delayed Effective Date: the bill takes effect on 7/1/2021.

5. **H.B. 356, “Rural Economic Development Tax Increment Financing”**

- Modifies requirements for GOED’s authorization of tax credits in rural areas of the state to encourage investment in rural areas.

6. **H.B. 368, “State Planning Agencies Amendments”**

- Repeals the Employability to Careers Program within the Governor’s Office of Management and Budget.
- Delayed Effective Date: the bill takes effect on 7/1/2021.

7. **H.B. 404, “Utah Immigration Assistance Center”**

- Establishes the Utah Immigration Assistance Center within GOED to:

- coordinate and provide technical support to businesses in the state that intend to utilize federal foreign labor programs;
- provide outreach/information to businesses that could benefit from foreign labor programs;
- coordinate with state and federal government partners; and
- coordinate with other entities engaged in international efforts.
- Requires GOED to include information regarding the Immigration Assistance Center's activities within GOED's annual report to the Governor and Legislature.

8. **S.B. 29**, “Hotel Impact Mitigation Fund Sunset Extension”

- Extends the sunset date of the Hotel Impact Mitigation Fund (administered by GOED as part of the “New Convention Center Facility Development Incentives”) from 7/1/2021 to 7/1/2028.

9. **S.B. 55**, “Rural Online Initiative Sunset Amendments”

- Repeals the 7/1/2021 sunset date for the Remote Online Opportunities Program administered by Utah State University.

10. **S.B. 167**, “Utah Film Economic Incentives”

- Increases the maximum amount of motion picture tax credit incentives that GOED is authorized to issue during FY 2021-22.

11. **S.B. 194**, “Utah Main Street Program”

- Establishes the Utah Main Street Program within GOED to provide resources for the revitalization of downtown/commercial district areas of municipalities in Utah.
- Establishes the Utah Main Street Program Advisory Committee.

12. **S.B. 217**, “Housing and Transit Reinvestment Zone Act”

- Allows a municipality or public transit authority to establish a housing and transit reinvestment zone for the purpose of capturing tax increment revenue within a defined area surrounding certain public transit facilities.
- Requires GOED to conduct an analysis of the feasibility of a proposed housing and transit reinvestment zone.

13. **S.B. 224**, “Fund of Funds Amendments”

- Establishes the Utah Capital Investment Restricted Account (consisting of redemption reserve money from the Utah Capital Investment Corporation), administered by GOED for the purpose of funding economic development, infrastructure, state parks, recreation, education innovation, or other purposes as directed by the Legislature.