



Interim Highlights

September 2022, Vol. 22, No. 4



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Legislative Interim Meetings

Meetings were held September, 21, 2022, or as noted

Business and Labor

Collection Agencies

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2023 General Session draft legislation, "Collection Agency Amendments," which would repeal provisions that:

- require collection agencies to register with the Division of Corporations and Commercial Code;
- govern certain bond requirements for collection agencies;
- require certain records related to registrations and bonds;
- relate to violations and penalties of title provisions;
- govern assignments of debts involving collection agencies; and
- require certain registration forms and registration fees for collection agencies.

Consumer Complaints

Received a presentation from the Division of Consumer Protection about industries that generate the most consumer complaints. Compared the top 10 industries that generated the most consumer complaints in 2020, 2021, and 2022 and examined why certain industries are prone to fraud, scams, and consequently consumer complaints.

Hearing Instrument Specialist Licensing Act

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Hearing Instrument Specialist Licensing Amendments](#)," which would extend the sunset date for the Hearing Instrument Specialist Licensing Act, modify certain licensing requirements, and provide administrative rulemaking authority to the Division of Professional Licensing.

License by Endorsement

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Commerce about expanding license by endorsement from professions regulated by the Division of Professional Licensing to include occupations and professions that are regulated by other departments to allow for endorsement of like credentials, including those earned outside of the United States.

Discussed creating a license advisor position in the Office of Professional Licensure Review to help applicants navigate the discussed licensing reciprocity process.

Postsecondary Schools

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Commerce about postsecondary schools regulated by the department. Postsecondary school regulations have been administered by the department for 20 years with an emphasis on consumer protection for students. The department provides oversight separate from the Utah System of Higher Education of non-public postsecondary schools.



Discussed the department's legislative recommendations to improve regulatory efficiency and effectiveness and to facilitate new forms of delivering education.

Required Reports

Received the Worker Classification Coordinated Enforcement Council [Annual Report](#). The council, comprised of the State Tax Commission, Office of the Attorney General, Department of Commerce, Labor Commission, and Department of Workforce Services, recommended no legislative changes for the 2023 General Session.

Statewide Licensing Census

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of Professional Licensure Review about a statewide licensing census that the office conducted among state agencies that oversee and issue professional licenses. There are 15 state agencies that issue professional licenses to a total of 711,000 licensees.

Chairs: Rep. Timothy D. Hawkes / Sen. Curtis S. Bramble
Staff: Adam J. Sweet (Policy Analyst) / Ericka A. Evans (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Amy Shewan (Attorney) / Royce Gador (Administrative Assistant)

Criminal Code Evaluation Task Force

September 20, 2022

Arson Amendments

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on proposed changes to the definition of "habitable structure" in Utah Code Section [76-6-101](#).

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Arson Amendments](#)," which would amend the definition of "habitable structure."

Criminal Code Recodification

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on the current state of the Criminal Code Recodification.

Action: Approved as committee bills 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Criminal Code Recodification](#)" and "[Criminal Code Recodification Cross References](#)," which would modify Title 76, Chapters 6, Offenses Against Property, and 6a, Pyramid Scheme Act, by redrafting offense statutes into a new structure and clarifying existing law.

Protective Order Amendments

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on proposals to allow individuals under a jail release agreement or jail release court order to retrieve their personal belongings, and to ensure that a jail release agreement or jail release court order does not expire after 30 days if there is a scheduled initial court appearance.

Action: Voted to amend 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Protective Order Amendments](#)," which concerns jail release agreements and jail release court orders, and to revisit the bill at a later meeting.

Chairs: Rep. Matthew H. Gwynn / Sen. Karen Mayne
Staff: John Feinauer (Managing Policy Analyst) / Sarah Flanigan (Policy Analyst) / Shad Larson (Attorney) / Esther D. Chelsea-McCarty (Attorney) / Jackie Rogers (Attorney) / Taylor Calabrese (Administrative Assistant)

Digital Wellness, Citizenship, and Safe Technology Commission

September 20, 2022

Gabb Wireless

Received a [presentation](#) about the work of Gabb Wireless, including its filtration services and partnerships.

School Community Councils

Heard a [presentation](#) about School Community Councils and Charter Trust Land Councils, including their responsibility to provide school leaders and families with education and awareness of digital citizenship and school safety.

Utah Protection Registry

Received a [presentation](#) about the [Utah Child Protection Registry](#).

Working Groups

Received updates from each of the following three working groups on its progress:

- informational website;
- partnerships; and
- advertising and marketing.

Chairs: Rep. Jon Hawkins / Sen. Derrin R. Owens
Staff: Micah Ann Wixom (Policy Analyst) / Amy Shewan (Attorney) / Tracey Fredman (Administrative Assistant)

Economic Development and Workforce Services

Governor's Early Childhood Commission

Received a presentation from a legislator, the Department of Workforce Services, and the Department of Health and Human Services about moving the functions of the Governor's Early Childhood Commission to the Department of Health and Human Services.

***Action:** Voted to open a committee bill file to move the functions of the Governor's Early Childhood Commission to the Department of Health and Human Services.*

Legislative Audit: A Limited Review of the Utah Inland Port Authority

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General on audit report #2022-07, "[A Limited Review of the Utah Inland Port Authority](#)." Heard a response from the Utah Inland Port Authority to audit findings.

Legislative Audit: A Performance Audit of Tax Increment Financing

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General on audit report #2022-10, "[A Performance Audit of Tax Increment Financing](#)." Heard a response from the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity and the Utah League of Cities and Towns to audit findings.

Chairs: Rep. Stephen G. Handy / Sen. Ronald M. Winterton
Staff: Chris Stitt (Policy Analyst) / Gus Harb (Attorney) / Tracey Fredman (Administrative Assistant)



Education

Higher Education: Institutional Program

Duplication

Heard from Utah System of Higher Education officials about areas of potential program duplication between various institutions of higher education and technical colleges.

Higher Education: Presidential Search Process

Heard from Utah System of Higher Education officials about the presidential search process for institutions of higher education, including areas for potential legislative changes.

Higher Education: Shared Administrative Services

Heard a [presentation](#) about findings from a study commissioned by the Utah System of Higher Education to identify areas for shared services and redundancies across the state's higher education administrative system following the merger of the state's technical college and higher education systems in 2020.

Higher Education: Statewide Online Courses

Initiative

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah System of Higher Education on a potential program that would offer online higher education courses to students statewide through Utah's institutions of higher education.

Legislative Audit: Comprehensive Education Audit Capstone

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General on audit report #2022-08, "[Comprehensive Education Audit Capstone](#)." This report provides an overview of seven audits on the public education system, including the status of implementing the recommendations from these audits.

Action: Voted to open two committee bill files to address audit recommendations to:

- establish required training requirements for charter school governing board members; and
- require the state superintendent of public instruction's annual report to include information about teacher turnover, including the reasons teachers are leaving the profession.

Chairs: Rep. V. Lowry Snow / Sen. John D. Johnson
Staff: Alex R. Janak (Managing Policy Analyst) / Micah Ann Wixom (Policy Analyst) / Mike Curtis (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Taylor Calabrese (Administrative Assistant)

Education and Mental Health

Coordinating Council

September 14, 2022

Early Childhood Mental Health Public Awareness and Education Campaign

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah Early Childhood Mental Health Working Group on opportunities for an early childhood mental health public awareness campaign.

Live On

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Health and Human Services on the Live On campaign, titled "Leveraging the Power of Public-Private Partners to Develop a Statewide Suicide Prevention Campaign."

Medicaid Reimbursement

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah Early Childhood Mental Health Working Group on strategies to expand access to mental health screenings, assessments, and treatment available to Medicaid-enrolled children.

Chairs: Rep. Melissa G. Ballard / Rebecca Dutson
Staff: Seth Anderson (Policy Analyst) / Victoria Ashby (Attorney) / Michelle Clifford (Administrative Assistant)

Federalism Commission

September 20, 2022

Education

Received a presentation from the State Board of Education regarding the state's role versus the federal government's role in funding and administering public education. Also discussed some federal government education policies that impact public education in the state.

Energy

Received a presentation from the Office of Energy Development regarding the state energy policy and state energy plan.

Environmental, Social, and Corporate Governance

Received a presentation from the State Treasurer's Office regarding the impact of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors on the state's credit rating. ESG potentially impacts the state's operations with investing, insurance, and other business opportunities.

Statewide Resource Management Plan

Received a presentation from the Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office regarding the statewide resource management plan and recommended changes to the plan.

Action: Voted to open a bill file to address changes to the statewide resource management plan.

Chairs: Rep. Keven J. Stratton / Sen. Ronald M. Winterton
Staff: Nathan W. Brady (Policy Analyst) / Robert H. Rees (Attorney) / Jacqueline Carlton (Attorney) / Finn Andrew Rose (Administrative Assistant)

Government Operations

Annexation and Incorporation Process

Received a [presentation](#) from the Lieutenant Governor's office regarding the current municipal incorporation process and proposed changes to the process.

Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to clarify the municipal incorporation process.

Boards and Commissions

Reviewed 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Boards and Commissions Amendments](#)," which would address reporting requirements relating to an executive board and establish a procedure to consider adding a repeal date or sunset review date for an executive board that failed to comply with the five-year reporting requirement.

Local District Amendments

Action: Approved as committee bills 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Local District Amendments](#)," and "[Local District Revisions](#)," which would replace the term "local district" with "special district" throughout the Utah Code.

Local Official Amendments

Discussed the status of a committee bill file that would provide additional direction in statute regarding municipal governance. The committee provided additional input for drafting the legislation.

Mental Health Crisis Intervention Council

Received a [report](#) from the Mental Health Crisis Intervention Council within the Department of Health and Human Services regarding the protocols and standards it created for the training and functioning of local mental health crisis intervention teams.

Open and Public Meetings Act

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Open and Public Meetings Act Amendments](#)," which would amend the open meeting requirements of the Open and Public Meetings Act, including requiring a public body holding an open meeting to allow a reasonable opportunity for the public to provide verbal comment at the meeting, with exceptions.

Public Notice Requirements

Discussed 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Public Notice Requirements](#)," which would create a public notice classification system to address the various public notice requirements.

Chairs: Rep. A. Cory Maloy / Sen. Daniel W. Thatcher
Staff: Lisa Sorensen (Policy Analyst) / Alan Houston (Attorney) / Thomas R. Vaughn (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Tracey Fredman (Administrative Assistant)

Health and Human Services

Behavioral Health Receiving Centers

Received presentations from the [Department of Health and Human Services](#) and the [Utah Association of Counties' Behavioral Healthcare Committee](#) on the status of behavioral health receiving centers in the state.

Committee Business

Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to address gender transitioning surgical procedures for minors.

Voted to open a committee bill file to address transgender hormone therapies for minors.

Healthcare Reform: Prescription Drugs

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Prescription Discount Program Amendments](#)," which would allow the Public Employees' Benefit and Insurance Program to add additional drugs to the prescription drug discount program.

Medicaid: Pregnancy Postpartum Coverage

Received a [presentation](#) from a legislator on 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Pregnancy Medicaid Coverage Amendments](#)," which would expand eligibility for Medicaid coverage for certain pregnant women and address Medicaid coverage for postpartum women.



Sunset Review: Assisted Living Facility Transfers

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on [Section 62A-3-209](#), "Assisted Living Facility Transfers," which will be repealed on July 1, 2023, absent further action by the Legislature.

Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to eliminate the sunset of Section 62A-3-209, "Assisted Living Facility Transfers," and to incorporate agency recommendations.

Sunset Review: Behavioral Health Crisis Response Commission

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on the Behavioral Health Crisis Response Commission, which will be repealed on July 1, 2023, absent further action by the Legislature.

Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to extend the sunset date of the Behavioral Health Crisis Response Commission by five years.

Sunset Review: Behavioral Health Receiving Center Grant Program

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on the Behavioral Health Receiving Center Grant Program, which will be repealed on December 31, 2023, absent further action by the Legislature.

Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to clarify funding for receiving centers and to allow the grant program to sunset.

Sunset Review: Forensic Mental Health Coordinating Council

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Forensic Mental Health Amendments](#)," which would modify the duties and membership of the Utah Substance Use and Mental Health Advisory Council.

Chairs: Rep. Merrill F. Nelson / Sen. Michael S. Kennedy
Staff: Mark D. Andrews (Policy Analyst) / Seth Anderson (Policy Analyst) / Victoria Ashby (Attorney) / Christopher Williams (Attorney) / Daniel M. Cheung (Attorney) / Naomi Garrow (Administrative Assistant)

Judiciary

Draft Legislation: Administrative Amendments

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Administrative Appeals Amendments](#)," which would address the call for legislative action in *C.R. England v. Labor Commission* (2021) regarding cross-petitions in an administrative appeal.

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2023 General Session draft legislation, "Administrative Appeals Amendments."

Sunset Review: Expungement Fees

Conducted a review of the sunset provisions of 2022 General Session H.B. 392, "[Expungement Fee Amendments](#)," which suspended certain expungement fees from May 4, 2022, to June 30, 2023.

Received presentations from [committee staff](#) and the [Rasa Public Benefit Corporation](#) regarding the sunset review process and expungement fees, as well as reports from the [Bureau of Criminal Identification](#) and the [courts](#) on expungement data.

Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to streamline expungement fees instead of extending the sunset dates.

Treatment of Expunged Records

Heard from a legislator regarding employer treatment of the expunged records of job applicants and on ways to more generally protect and limit access to expunged records.

Victim Services

Heard from a legislator, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the Office on Domestic and Sexual Violence regarding a proposal to create a commission to oversee victim services statewide.

Chairs: Rep. Jon Hawkins / Sen. Todd D. Weiler
Staff: Jonathan Adams (Policy Analyst) / Michael Cipriano (Attorney) / Jacqueline Carlton (Attorney) / Naomi Garrow (Administrative Assistant)



Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice

Driving Under the Influence and Interlock Devices

Received a [presentation](#) from NORC at the University of Chicago about the effectiveness of alcohol ignition interlocks as a deterrent for drunk driving.

Received a presentation from Defense Attorneys for Balanced Criminal Justice about making statutory changes to how the interlock devices are currently used in driving under the influence cases.

Received comments from the Department of Public Safety about challenges it sees in making changes to the current program.

Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to address the issues raised regarding the alcohol ignition interlock program.

Firearm-related Crimes

Received a [presentation](#) from the Violent Crimes Working Group – a joint working group consisting of the Utah Sentencing Commission, Juvenile Justice and Youth Services, the Salt Lake County Criminal Justice Advisory Council, and the Utah Criminal Justice Center – about the efficacy of certain interventions intended to prevent gun violence.

Online Dating Safety Amendments

Received a [presentation](#) from a legislator about 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Online Dating Safety Amendments](#)," which concerns online dating service safety requirements.

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Online Dating Safety Amendments](#)," which would require certain safety notifications and disclosures by an online dating service provider.

Rape Crisis Center Modifications

Received a presentation from a legislator on 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Rape Crisis Center Modifications](#)," which would address services for sexual assault survivors.

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2023 General Session draft legislation "[Rape Crisis Center Modifications](#)," which would amend definitions relating to rape crisis centers and sexual assault counselors.

Chairs: Rep. Ryan D. Wilcox / Sen. Keith Grover
Staff: John Feinauer (Managing Policy Analyst) / Sarah Flanigan (Policy Analyst) / Shad Larson (Attorney) / Esther D. Chelsea-McCarty (Attorney) / Jackie Rogers (Attorney) / Taylor Calabrese (Administrative Assistant)

Legislative Management Committee

September 7, 2022

Selection of New Legislative General Counsel

Action: Voted to appoint Victoria Ashby as the Legislative General Counsel, beginning January 1, 2023, and to prepare a joint resolution for consideration by the full Legislature confirming her appointment.

Chairs: Rep. Brad Wilson / Sen. J. Stewart Adams
Staff: John Q. Cannon (Director) / John L. Fellows (General Counsel) / Amy Hawkes (Executive Assistant)

Legislative Water Development

Commission

September 22, 2022

Draft Legislation: Water Related Liability

Amendments

Discussed 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Water Related Liability Amendments](#)," which would modify provisions related to the liability of owners or operators of water facilities, streams, or rivers.

Action: Voted to support 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Water Related Liability Amendments](#)."

Impact of Water Reuse on Great Salt Lake Levels

Received a [presentation](#) and [handout](#) from the Wasatch Front Water Quality Council regarding the impacts of water reuse on Great Salt Lake levels.

Secondary Water Metering in Rural Agricultural or Residential Systems

Received comments from Paradise Irrigation and Aurora City regarding challenges faced by rural communities in implementing secondary water metering requirements enacted by 2022 General Session H.B. 242, "[Secondary Water Metering Amendments](#)."

Chairs: Rep. Casey Snider / Sen. David P. Hinkins
Staff: Charley Hart (Policy Analyst) / Julie Humberstone (Policy Analyst) / Patricia Owen (Attorney) / Alan Houston (Attorney) / Finn Andrew Rose (Administrative Assistant)

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment

Domesticated Elk

Received a [presentation](#) and [handout](#) from the Department of Agriculture and Food regarding challenges facing domestically raised elk that are bred for commercial purposes.

Draft Legislation: Off-highway Vehicle Registration Requirements

Discussed 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Off-highway Vehicle Registration Requirements](#)," which would exempt a snowmobile from the requirement for an off-highway vehicle to obtain and display a license plate and would amend requirements related to off-highway vehicle safety courses.

Action: Voted to favorably recommend as a committee bill 2023 General Session draft legislation, "Off-Highway Vehicle Registration Requirements."

Radon Gas Study

Received a presentation from the Utah Geological Survey on the final findings and recommendations of a [statutorily required report](#) on ways to increase public education and outreach regarding the risks of radon gas and ways to mitigate exposure to radon.

Water Supply and Conservation

Received an [update](#) from the Department of Agriculture and Food on its Agricultural Water Optimization Program.

Received an update from the Department of Natural Resources on the current status of the state's water supply.

Received a presentation from the Division of Water Resources and a [presentation](#) from the Department of Facilities Construction and Management on efforts to reduce outdoor water use on state properties.

Chairs: Rep. Keven J. Stratton / Sen. Scott D. Sandall
Staff: Charley Hart (Policy Analyst) / Julie Humberstone (Policy Analyst) / Patricia Owen (Attorney) / Alan Houston (Attorney) / Finn Andrew Rose (Administrative Assistant)

Political Subdivisions

Draft Legislation: County Auditor Amendments

Considered 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[County Auditor Amendments](#)," which would modify provisions relating to the scope and duties of the county auditor.

Process for Replacing Municipal Vacancies

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff and a legislator regarding the current process to replace municipal elected officials.

Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to address replacing municipal vacancies.

Tax Increment Financing Audit

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General regarding the findings and recommendations of "[A Performance Audit of Tax Increment Financing](#)" (TIF). The audit findings include recommendations for the following three areas: TIF fund balances, TIF expenditure reporting by agencies, and justification analyses regarding the use of TIF funds. Also heard from the League of Cities and Towns and the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity regarding the audit findings and recommendations.

Chairs: Rep. James A. Dunnigan / Sen. Michael K. McKell
Staff: Nathan W. Brady (Policy Analyst) / Greg Gunn (Attorney) / Michelle Clifford (Administrative Assistant)

Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology

Draft Legislation: State Financial Contracts

Amendments

Received a presentation from a legislator regarding 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[State Financial Contracts Amendments](#)," which would enact language relating to certain financial services contracts. Discussed the implications of the draft legislation and next steps.

Natural Gas Leakages

Received a [presentation](#) from the Bingham Research Center at Utah State University on findings from a study it completed on natural gas emissions in the Uinta Basin and on its recommendations to the industry to reduce leaks.

Heard comments from the Utah Petroleum Association and Caerus Oil and Gas on steps they have taken to reduce natural gas emissions.

Ozone Transport Rule

Heard a [presentation](#) from the Division of Air Quality (DAQ) on the Clean Air Act's "Good Neighbor" provision and how it applies to Utah. Heard a [summary](#) of the comments DAQ gave to the EPA regarding the provision.

Heard comments from the Division of Public Utilities on the potential costs of implementing the provisions outlined in the recent EPA ruling on Utah's State Implementation Plan related to the Clean Air Act. Also heard comments from the Solicitor General on the legal implications of Utah responding to the EPA's ruling and from Rocky Mountain Power and Deseret Power about the implications of complying with the regulation in the timeframe outlined in the ruling.

Rural Natural Gas Expansion Project Updates

Received a [presentation](#) from Dominion Energy on updates to natural gas expansion projects in rural Utah.

Chairs: Rep. Carl R. Albrecht / Sen. David P. Hinkins
Staff: Samantha D. Brucker (Managing Policy Analyst) / Scott Elder (Attorney) / Finn Andrew Rose (Administrative Assistant)

Retirement and Independent Entities

September 20, 2022

Independent Entity Review: Military Installation Development Authority

Received a [presentation](#) from the Military Installation Development Authority (MIDA) on the entity's mission, projects, coordination with other government entities, and status as an independent entity.

Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to address issues raised by MIDA.

Mental Health Treatment Amendments

Received a presentation on 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Mental Health Treatment Amendments](#)", which would modify the Accident and Health Insurance provisions of the Insurance Code to address mental health coverage requirements for health plans offered by certain governmental entities.

Public Employee Disability Benefits Amendments

Received a presentation on 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Public Employee Disability Benefits Amendments](#)," which would amend the coverage of mental health disabilities under the Public Employees' Long-Term Disability Act.

Retirement and Independent Entities Committee Code Clean-Up

Action: Voted to approve as a committee bill 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Retirement and Independent Entities Amendments](#)," which would amend provisions of the Independent Entities Code.

Retirement Fiscal Note Requirements

Action: Voted to approve as a committee bill 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Retirement Fiscal Note Requirements](#)."

Total Compensation for State Employees

Received a presentation on 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[State Employee Benefit Amendments](#)," which would create the State Employees Benefits Advisory Commission.

Chairs: Rep. Walt Brooks / Sen. Wayne A. Harper
Staff: Sarah Flanigan (Policy Analyst) / Alan Houston (Attorney) / Andrea Valenti Arthur (Attorney) / Royce Gador (Administrative Assistant)

Revenue and Taxation

Income Tax Credits

Received [information](#) from the Department of Environmental Quality on the Recycling Market Development Zones tax credit and conducted a review of the credit as required by Utah Code [Section 59-7-159](#).

Income Tax Credits Proposal

Heard a proposal for tax credit [legislation](#) and examined Utah individual and corporate [credits](#) and their [fiscal impacts](#) to the state. Discussed potential policy approaches moving forward.

Property Tax Values

Heard a [presentation](#) from Utah County assessors on recent trends in property assessment and received a detailed 29-county [report](#) on shifts in tax liability between different property categories.

Revenue Update

Received an [update](#) on the current status of revenue and employment in the state from the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program

Received an [overview](#) of the VITA program from committee staff. VITA provides grants and support for free tax preparation services through various partner organizations. Also received a [presentation](#) from the Connect to Collect program at the University of Utah which links taxpayers to services such as VITA.

Chairs: Rep. Casey Snider / Sen. Daniel McCay
Staff: Kristina King (Policy Analyst) / Andrea Valenti Arthur (Attorney) / Christine R. Gilbert (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Royce Gador (Administrative Assistant)

Transportation

Advanced Air Mobility

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) on the project objectives and findings of the Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) Working Group, convened by 2022 General Session S.B. 122, "[Unmanned Aircraft Amendments](#)." The working group reviewed existing AAM infrastructure and assets, performed a comprehensive review of programs and processes, and provided suggestions on policies and regulations that would support AAM in the state.

Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to address the state's needs for Advanced Air Mobility.

Airport Owner Report

Received a [presentation](#) from the Salt Lake City Department of Airports that discussed TNC operations at Salt Lake City International Airport, the use of private hangars, and an update on Tooele Valley Airport and South Valley Regional Airport.

Highway and Bridge Memorial Signs

Received a [proposal](#) from a legislator to provide standards and procedures for naming state highways, where the Legislature would defer to UDOT to approve special designations.

Received [information](#) on state highway and bridge naming procedures in other states. Also received a [presentation](#) from UDOT on the current road naming policy, existing special designations, and national standards for special designations.

Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to codify the standards and procedures for special designations.

Roadway Safety

Received a [proposal](#) from Utah Highway Patrol (UHP) based on a 2022 staffing study that showed a need to hire additional troopers and UDOT Incident Management Team members to patrol Bangerter Highway and Mountain View Corridor. UHP is also considering the needs along the West Davis Corridor and Mountain View Corridor as population and traffic growth continues. The proposal was accompanied by an [analysis](#) and [handout](#).

State Aircraft Overview

Received [information](#) from committee staff on professional pilot bachelor's degree programs at public universities and an [overview](#) of aircraft owned by the Departments of Natural Resources, Agriculture and Food, and Public Safety. The [overview](#) included information on the purpose and use of each aircraft, hangar locations and maintenance, and overall budget.

Received a [presentation](#) from UDOT on the use of the fleet from fiscal year 2015 through fiscal year 2022 and operations and maintenance costs, and a proposal to replace the state's two airplanes with one passenger plane.

Discussed the repeal and wind down of the Aeronautics Restricted Account.

State Airplane Fee Proposal

Received a [presentation](#) from UDOT on current user fees for the state airplane, and a comparison between a flight hour cost and a destination-based fee.

Chairs: Rep. Kay J. Christofferson / Sen. Wayne A. Harper
Staff: Alma Weber (Policy Analyst) / Kurt P. Gasser (Attorney) / Amy Shewan (Attorney) / Michelle Clifford (Administrative Assistant)

