



# MINUTES

## SENATE JUDICIARY, LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE STANDING COMMITTEE

LEGISLATURE

Monday, February 13, 2023 | 8:00 a.m. | 210 Senate Building

**Members Present:**

Sen. Todd D. Weiler, Chair  
Sen. Kirk A. Cullimore  
Sen. Luz Escamilla  
Sen. Michael S. Kennedy

**Members Absent:**

Sen. Jerry W. Stevenson  
Sen. Daniel W. Thatcher

**Staff Present:**

Sarah Flanigan, Policy Analyst  
Nancy Skidmore, Committee Secretary

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

Chair Weiler called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

**MOTION:** Sen. Kennedy moved to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2023, minutes. The motion passed with a vote of 3 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 3

Sen. K. Cullimore  
Sen. M. Kennedy  
Sen. T. Weiler

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. J. Stevenson  
Sen. D. Thatcher

**1. H.J.R. 10 Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution - Election of County Sheriffs (Wilson, B.)**

Rep. Wilson presented the bill with the assistance of Mike Smith, Utah County Sheriff, President, Utah Sheriffs' Association and Rosie Rivera, Salt Lake County Sheriff.

Maryann Christensen, Executive Director, Utah Eagle Forum, spoke in favor of the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Kennedy moved to pass H.J.R. 10 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 3 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 3

Sen. K. Cullimore  
Sen. M. Kennedy  
Sen. T. Weiler

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. J. Stevenson  
Sen. D. Thatcher

**2. 1st Sub. S.B. 156 Investigative Genetic Genealogy Modifications (Weiler, T.)**

Sen. Kennedy assumed the chair.

Sen. Weiler presented the bill with the assistance of CeCe Moore, Chief Genetic Genealogist, Parabon, Erin Ryan, Director, Sherry Black Foundation, and Ben Pender, Unified Police Detective.

Connor Boyack, President, Libertas Institute, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Erin Ryan, Director, Sherry Black Foundation, spoke in favor of the bill.

Maryann Christensen, Executive Director, Utah Eagle Forum, spoke to the bill.

Ben Pender, Unified Police Detective, spoke in favor of the bill.

Brendan Belair, Chief Strategy Officer, Othram, spoke in favor of the bill.

Mark Allen, citizen, spoke to the bill.

Leah Hansen, citizen, spoke in opposition to the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Weiler moved to replace 1st Substitute S.B. 156 with 2nd Substitute S.B. 156. The motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 4

Sen. K. Cullimore  
Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. M. Kennedy  
Sen. T. Weiler

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Sen. J. Stevenson  
Sen. D. Thatcher

**MOTION:** Sen. Kennedy moved to pass 2nd Substitute S.B. 156 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 3 - 1 - 2.

Yeas - 3

Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. M. Kennedy  
Sen. T. Weiler

Nays - 1

Sen. K. Cullimore

Absent - 2

Sen. J. Stevenson  
Sen. D. Thatcher

Sen. Weiler resumed the chair.

**3. 1st Sub. H.B. 216 Business and Chancery Court Amendments (*Brammer, B.*)**

Rep. Brammer presented the bill with the assistance of Erik Christiansen, President Elect, Utah State Bar.

Greg Duerden, State Chair, Independent American Party, spoke in opposition to the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Kennedy moved to pass 1st Substitute H.B. 216 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 2 - 0 - 4.

Yeas - 2

Sen. M. Kennedy  
Sen. T. Weiler

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Sen. K. Cullimore  
Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. J. Stevenson  
Sen. D. Thatcher

**4. 1st Sub. H.B. 251 Court Amendments (*Brammer, B.*)**

Rep. Brammer presented the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Kennedy moved to pass 1st Substitute H.B. 251 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 3 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 3

Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. M. Kennedy  
Sen. T. Weiler

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Sen. K. Cullimore  
Sen. J. Stevenson  
Sen. D. Thatcher

**MOTION:** Sen. Kennedy moved to place 1st Substitute H.B. 251 on the Consent Calendar. The motion passed with a vote of 3 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 3

Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. M. Kennedy  
Sen. T. Weiler

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Sen. K. Cullimore  
Sen. J. Stevenson  
Sen. D. Thatcher

**5. H.B. 300 Voluntary Firearm Restrictions Amendments (*Eliason, S.*)**

Rep. Eliason presented the bill with the assistance of Jody S. Dial, citizen.

Taryn Hiatt, Area Director, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, Utah Chapter, spoke in favor of the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Escamilla moved to pass H.B. 300 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 3 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 3

Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. M. Kennedy  
Sen. T. Weiler

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Sen. K. Cullimore  
Sen. J. Stevenson  
Sen. D. Thatcher

**MOTION:** Sen. Kennedy moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 3 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 3

Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. M. Kennedy  
Sen. T. Weiler

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Sen. K. Cullimore  
Sen. J. Stevenson  
Sen. D. Thatcher

Chair Weiler adjourned the meeting at 9:18 a.m.