



MINUTES

SENATE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS STANDING COMMITTEE

LEGISLATURE

Monday, February 27, 2023 | 8:00 a.m. | 450 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Ronald M. Winterton, Vice Chair
Sen. David G. Buxton
Sen. John D. Johnson
Sen. Stephanie Pitcher
Sen. Jen Plumb
Sen. Evan J. Vickers

Members Absent:

Sen. Daniel W. Thatcher, Chair
President J. Stuart Adams

Staff Present:

Nathan W. Brady, Policy Analyst
Lorna Wells, Committee Secretary

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

MOTION: Sen. Buxton moved to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2023 meeting.. The motion passed with a vote of 3 - 0 - 5.

Yeas - 3

Sen. D. Buxton
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 5

Sen. J. Adams
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. S. Pitcher
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. D. Thatcher

Chair Winterton called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

1. S.B. 278 Cannabis Business Tax Credit Amendments (*Vickers, E.*)

Sen. Vickers presented the bill.

Scott Ericson, Executive Director. Utah Cannabis Co-Op, spoke in favor of the bill.

Desiree Hennessy, Executive Director, Utah Patients Coalition, spoke in favor of the bill.

Alyssa Smailes Executive Director, Utah Cannabis Association, spoke in favor of the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Buxton moved to pass S.B. 278 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0 - 4.

Yeas - 4

Sen. D. Buxton
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Sen. J. Adams
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. S. Pitcher
Sen. D. Thatcher

2. S.B. 291 Primary Election Modifications (*Harper, W.*)

Sen. Wayne Harper presented the bill.

Ricky Hatch, Weber County Clerk/Auditor and Chair of Clerks of Utah, spoke to the bill.

Fred Hayes,citizen, spoke to the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Vickers moved to pass S.B. 291 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0 - 4.

Yeas - 4
Sen. D. Buxton
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 4
Sen. J. Adams
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. S. Pitcher
Sen. D. Thatcher

3. 3rd Sub. H.B. 351 County Recorder Modifications (Teuscher, J.)

Rep. Jordan Teuscher presented the bill.

[HB 351 5th Sub County Recorder Modifications handout](#)

MOTION: Sen. Winterton moved to replace 3rd Substitute H.B. 351 with 5th Substitute H.B. 351. The motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0 - 4.

Yeas - 4
Sen. D. Buxton
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 4
Sen. J. Adams
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. S. Pitcher
Sen. D. Thatcher

Cort Ashton, Legislative Chair, Utah Land Title Association, spoke in favor of the bill.

Shelley Brennan, Duchesne County Recorder and Legislative Chair, Recorder's Association, spoke in favor of the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Vickers moved to pass 5th Substitute H.B. 351 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 5
Sen. D. Buxton
Sen. S. Pitcher
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 3
Sen. J. Adams
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. D. Thatcher

Chair Winterton stated that the committee would saunter.

4. 1st Sub. H.B. 414 Records Management Amendments (Snider, C.)

Rep. Casey Snider presented the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Vickers moved to pass 1st Substitute H.B. 414 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 5
Sen. D. Buxton
Sen. S. Pitcher
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 3
Sen. J. Adams
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. D. Thatcher

5. H.C.R. 5 Concurrent Resolution Opposing Federal Legislative Efforts to Strip States of Authority to Regulate Congressional Elections (Strong, M.A.)

Rep. Mark Strong presented the bill.

Whit Cook, Utah Eagle Forum, spoke in favor of the bill.

Fred Hayes, citizen, spoke in favor of the bill.

Greg Duerden, State Chair, Independent American Party, spoke in favor of the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Buxton moved to pass H.C.R. 5 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 3 - 2 - 3.

Yeas - 3

Sen. D. Buxton
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 2

Sen. S. Pitcher
Sen. J. Plumb

Absent - 3

Sen. J. Adams
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. D. Thatcher

6. 2nd Sub. H.B. 329 Adult Event Permit Amendments (Jack, C.)

Rep. Colin Jack presented the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Vickers moved to replace 2nd Substitute H.B. 329 with 3rd Substitute H.B. 329. The motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0 - 4.

Yeas - 4

Sen. D. Buxton
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Sen. J. Adams
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. S. Pitcher
Sen. D. Thatcher

Hailee Caplan, President, Washington County Republican Women, spoke in favor of the bill.

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

Brian Allen, Cottonwood Heights City, spoke against the bill.

David Reymann, First Amendment Attorney, spoke against the bill.

Johnnie Miller, Chief Executive Officer, Utah Counties Indemnity Pool, spoke against the bill.

Alexis Ence, Utah mom, spoke in favor the bill.

Michelle Tanner, St. George City Council, spoke in favor of the bill.

Marina Lowe, Policy Director, Equality Utah, spoke against the bill.

Lyla Mahmoud, Legislative and Policy Counsel, ACLU of Utah, spoke against the bill.

Emile Daly, Utah Parents United, spoke in favor of the bill.

Bill Hoster, Mayor of Leeds, spoke in favor of the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Vickers moved to pass 3rd Substitute H.B. 329 out favorably.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Sen. Plumb moved to return 3rd Substitute H.B. 329 to the Rules Committee The substitute motion failed with a vote of 2 - 3 - 3.

Yeas - 2
Sen. S. Pitcher
Sen. J. Plumb

Nays - 3
Sen. D. Buxton
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Absent - 3
Sen. J. Adams
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. D. Thatcher

Sen. Vickers' original motion passed with a vote of 3 - 2 - 3.

Yeas - 3
Sen. D. Buxton
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 2
Sen. S. Pitcher
Sen. J. Plumb

Absent - 3
Sen. J. Adams
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. D. Thatcher

7. S.B. 285 Social Work Licensure Compact (Weiler, T.)

Sen. Todd Weiler presented the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Vickers moved to pass S.B. 285 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 5
Sen. D. Buxton
Sen. S. Pitcher
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 3
Sen. J. Adams
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. D. Thatcher

8. S.B. 290 Juvenile Court Modifications (Weiler, T.)

Sen. Weiler presented the bill.

Adam Crayk, Immigration Attorney, spoke in favor of the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Buxton moved to pass S.B. 290 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 5
Sen. D. Buxton
Sen. S. Pitcher
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 3
Sen. J. Adams
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. D. Thatcher

9. S.B. 293 Expungement Revisions (Weiler, T.)

Sen. Weiler presented the bill.

Nick Mecham, Policy Manager, Salt Lake County Criminal Justice Initiatives Office, answered questions from committee members.

Jake Smith, former Expungement Workgroup Chair, spoke in favor of the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Buxton moved to pass S.B. 293 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 6
Sen. D. Buxton
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. S. Pitcher
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 2
Sen. J. Adams
Sen. D. Thatcher

10. 1st Sub. H.B. 450 Landscaping Requirements (*Wilcox, R.*)

Rep. Ryan Wilcox presented the bill.

MOTION: Chair Winterton moved to pass 1st Substitute H.B. 450 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 6
Sen. D. Buxton
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. S. Pitcher
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 2
Sen. J. Adams
Sen. D. Thatcher

11. H.B. 457 State Property Transfer Amendments (*Wilcox, R.*)

Rep. Wilcox presented the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Johnson moved to pass H.B. 457 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 6
Sen. D. Buxton
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. S. Pitcher
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 2
Sen. J. Adams
Sen. D. Thatcher

12. 1st Sub. H.B. 343 Government Records Modifications (*Moss, J.*)

Rep. Jefferson Moss presented the bill with the assistance of Chris Bramwell, Government Operations Privacy Officer.

Ron Mortensen, citizen, spoke in favor of the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Johnson moved to pass 1st Substitute H.B. 343 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 5
Sen. D. Buxton
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. S. Pitcher
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 3
Sen. J. Adams
Sen. D. Thatcher
Sen. E. Vickers

13. H.B. 433 Public Land Geographic Data Amendments (*Spendlove, R.*)

Rep. Robert Spendlove presented the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Buxton moved to pass H.B. 433 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 5

Sen. D. Buxton
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. S. Pitcher
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Sen. J. Adams
Sen. D. Thatcher
Sen. E. Vickers

14. 1st Sub. H.B. 451 State Entity Restrictions (Hall, K.)

Rep. Katy Hall presented the bill.

Jeannetta Williams, President, NAACP spoke against the bill.

Whit Cook, Utah Eagle Forum, spoke in favor of the bill.

Michelle Love-Day, educator, spoke against the bill.

Josie Ann Pettie, former member Community Advocates for Justice and Equity in Education, spoke against the bill.

Robert Burch, United States Navy veteran, spoke against the bill.

Betty Sawyer, President, Ogden Branch, NAACP, spoke against the bill.

Abigail Cook, Intern, Utah Eagle Forum, spoke in favor of the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Johnson moved to pass 1st Substitute H.B. 451 out favorably. The motion failed with a vote of 1 - 4 - 3.

Yeas - 1

Sen. J. Johnson

Nays - 4

Sen. D. Buxton
Sen. S. Pitcher
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. R. Winterton

Absent - 3

Sen. J. Adams
Sen. D. Thatcher
Sen. E. Vickers

MOTION: Sen. Buxton moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 6

Sen. D. Buxton
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. S. Pitcher
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Sen. J. Adams
Sen. D. Thatcher

Chair WInterton adjourned the meeting at 10:06 a.m.