



UTAH STATE

LEGISLATURE

MINUTES

HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENT STANDING COMMITTEE

Monday, January 29, 2024 | 2:00 p.m. | 120 Senate Building

Members Present:

Rep. Walt Brooks, Chair
Rep. Rex P. Shipp, Vice Chair
Rep. Gay Lynn Bennion
Rep. Bridger Bolinder
Rep. Scott H. Chew
Rep. Tim Jimenez
Rep. Michael L. Kohler
Rep. Steven J. Lund
Rep. Doug Owens

Rep. Thomas W. Peterson
Rep. Casey Snider
Rep. Keven J. Stratton
Rep. Christine F. Watkins

Members Absent:

Speaker Mike Schultz

Staff Present:

Charley Hart, Policy Analyst
Tisha Gibby, Committee Secretary

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

Chair Brooks called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

MOTION: Rep. Owens moved to approve the January 24, 2024 minutes. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 7.

Yeas - 7

Rep. G. Bennion
Rep. W. Brooks
Rep. S. Chew
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. D. Owens
Rep. R. Shipp
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 7

Rep. B. Bolinder
Rep. T. Jimenez
Rep. S. Lund
Rep. T. Peterson
Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. C. Snider
Rep. K. Stratton

1. S.B. 17 Safe Drinking Water Act Sunset Extension (*Sandall, S.*)

Sen. Scott Sandall presented the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Watkins moved to pass S.B. 17 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 7.

Yeas - 7

Rep. G. Bennion
Rep. W. Brooks
Rep. S. Chew
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. D. Owens
Rep. R. Shipp
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 7

Rep. B. Bolinder
Rep. T. Jimenez
Rep. S. Lund
Rep. T. Peterson
Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. C. Snider
Rep. K. Stratton

2. H.B. 360 Outdoor Recreation Amendments (*Owens, D.*)

Rep. Owens presented the bill with the assistance of Jason Curry, Director, Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation.

MOTION: Rep. Shipp moved to pass H.B. 360 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 10 - 0 - 4.

Yeas - 10

Rep. G. Bennion
Rep. B. Bolinder
Rep. W. Brooks
Rep. S. Chew
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. D. Owens
Rep. T. Peterson
Rep. R. Shipp
Rep. K. Stratton
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Rep. T. Jimenez
Rep. S. Lund
Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. C. Snider

3. H.B. 363 Livestock Grazing Amendments (Albrecht, C.)

Rep. Carl Albrecht presented the bill with the assistance of Redge Johnson, Director, Utah Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office.

Redge Johnson, Utah Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office, spoke in favor of the bill.

Brad Horrocks, Producer and Commissioner, Uintah County, spoke in favor of the bill.

Will Talbot, Rancher and Commissioner, Piute County, spoke in favor of the bill.

Wade Garrett, Vice President, Utah Farm Bureau, spoke in favor of the bill.

Scott Stubbs, Utah Public Lands Council, spoke in favor of the bill.

Kael Weston, citizen, spoke to the bill.

Tammy Pearson, Farmer, Rancher, and Commissioner, Beaver County, spoke in favor of the bill.

Brandon Yardley, Commissioner, Beaver County, spoke in favor of the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Shipp moved to amend H.B. 363 with Amendment #1. The motion passed with a vote of 12 - 0 - 2.

Amendment 1 H.B. 363

1. Page 1, Lines 11 through 15:

11 Highlighted Provisions:

12 This bill:

- 13 ▸ recognizes a federal grazing ~~{-permit or lease-}~~ allotment as a valid existing right in range
14 management; and
15 ▸ makes technical and conforming changes.

2. Page 2, Lines 31 through 39:

31 (2) A property right associated with a ~~{-permit or lease to graze domestic livestock-}~~ grazing allotment on
32 public lands is a valid existing right if the ~~{-permit or lease holder-}~~ owner of the grazing allotment :

33 (a) has a valid permit or lease issued by a federal agency that authorizes the permit or
34 lease holder to use the public lands for grazing domestic livestock;

35 (b) grazes the land in a manner consistent with sustained yield;

36 (c) is able to demonstrate that the ~~{-resources of the land can support continued grazing-}~~ lands included in
the grazing allotment covered by the permit are chiefly valuable for grazing ;

37 and

38 (d) obtains the lease or permit described in Subsection (2)(a) and begins grazing livestock on the public
lands before a

39 final decision by a federal agency to withdraw the public lands from use for livestock grazing.

3 . Page 5, Lines 147 through 149:

147 (14) a {~~permit or lease to graze livestock on~~} grazing allotment on federal public lands is a valid existing right for

148 purposes of federal land withdrawals when the {~~permit or lease holder~~} owner of the grazing allotment meets the requirements

149 described in Section 63L-8-404.

Yeas - 12

Rep. G. Bennion
Rep. B. Bolinder
Rep. W. Brooks
Rep. S. Chew
Rep. T. Jimenez
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. S. Lund
Rep. D. Owens
Rep. T. Peterson
Rep. R. Shipp
Rep. C. Snider
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. K. Stratton

MOTION:

Rep. Shipp moved to pass H.B. 363 out favorably as amended. The motion passed with a vote of 12 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 12

Rep. G. Bennion
Rep. B. Bolinder
Rep. W. Brooks
Rep. S. Chew
Rep. T. Jimenez
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. S. Lund
Rep. D. Owens
Rep. T. Peterson
Rep. R. Shipp
Rep. C. Snider
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. K. Stratton

4. H.B. 280 Water Related Changes (Snider, C.)

5) HB280 Utah's Water Management

Rep. Snider presented the bill with the assistance of Candice Hasenyager, Director, Utah Division of Water Resources and Joel Ferry, Director, Department of Natural Resources.

Tim Davis, Deputy Commissioner, Great Salt Lake, spoke to the bill.

Laura Briefer, Director, Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities, spoke to the bill.

Matt Berry, Utah Rivers Council, spoke to the bill.

Dale Pierson, Executive Director, Rural Water Association of Utah, spoke to the bill.

Jack Ray, Utah Waterfowl Association, spoke in favor of the bill.

Kael Weston, citizen, spoke to the bill.

Dalane England, Utah Eagle Forum, spoke to the bill.

Justin Lee, Deputy Director, Utah League of Cities and Towns, spoke to the bill.

Jennifer Pennington, citizen, spoke against the bill.

Steve Erickson, Great Basin Water Network, spoke to the bill.

Steven Clyde, Utah Water Task Force, spoke to the bill.

Brandon Yardley, Commissioner, Beaver County, spoke to the bill.

Carl Mackley, General Manager, Bear River Water Conservancy District, spoke to the bill.

Warren Peterson, citizen, spoke in favor of the bill.

Chelcie Hope, citizen, spoke to the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Shipp moved to replace H.B. 280 with 1st Substitute H.B. 280. The motion passed with a vote of 10 - 0 - 4.

Yeas - 10

Rep. B. Bolinder
Rep. W. Brooks
Rep. S. Chew
Rep. T. Jimenez
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. S. Lund
Rep. D. Owens
Rep. R. Shipp
Rep. C. Snider
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Rep. G. Bennion
Rep. T. Peterson
Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. K. Stratton

MOTION: Rep. Lund moved to hold the bill. The motion passed with a vote of 10 - 0 - 4.

Yeas - 10

Rep. B. Bolinder
Rep. W. Brooks
Rep. S. Chew
Rep. T. Jimenez
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. S. Lund
Rep. D. Owens
Rep. R. Shipp
Rep. C. Snider
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Rep. G. Bennion
Rep. T. Peterson
Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. K. Stratton

MOTION: Rep. Shipp moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 10 - 0 - 4.



Yeas - 10

Rep. B. Bolinder
Rep. W. Brooks
Rep. S. Chew
Rep. T. Jimenez
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. S. Lund
Rep. D. Owens
Rep. R. Shipp
Rep. C. Snider
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Rep. G. Bennion
Rep. T. Peterson
Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. K. Stratton

Chair Brooks adjourned the meeting at 3:53 p.m.

NOTE: H.B. 0222, H.B. 0126 were not discussed in the meeting.