



# MINUTES

## SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENT STANDING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 13, 2024 | 4:00 p.m. | 215 Senate Building

**Members Present:**

Sen. Ronald M. Winterton, Chair  
Sen. Nate Blouin  
Sen. David G. Buxton  
Sen. Derrin R. Owens  
Sen. Stephanie Pitcher  
Sen. Scott D. Sandall

Sen. Evan J. Vickers

**Members Absent:**

Sen. Keith Grover

**Staff Present:**

Charley Hart, Policy Analyst  
Emma Johnsen, 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 Ronald Winterton called the meeting to order at 4:11 PM.

**MOTION:** Sen. David G. Buxton moved to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2024 meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 5

Sen. N. Blouin  
Sen. D. Buxton  
Sen. S. Pitcher  
Sen. S. Sandall  
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Sen. K. Grover  
Sen. D. Owens  
Sen. E. Vickers

**1. S.B. 196 Great Salt Lake Amendments (Blouin, N.)**

**MOTION:** Sen. Nate Blouin moved to replace S.B. 196 with 1st Substitute S.B. 196. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 5

Sen. N. Blouin  
Sen. D. Buxton  
Sen. S. Pitcher  
Sen. S. Sandall  
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Sen. K. Grover  
Sen. D. Owens  
Sen. E. Vickers

Sen. Blouin presented the bill with the assistance of Tim Davis, Deputy Commissioner, Great Salt Lake.

Blake Bingham, Deputy State Engineer, Utah Division of Water Rights, spoke in favor of the bill.

Mark Stratford, General Counsel, Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District, spoke in favor of the bill.

Liam Mountain La Malfa, Founder, Youth Coalition for Salt Lake, spoke in favor of the bill.

Warren Peterson, Consultant, Utah Farm Bureau, spoke in favor of the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Stephanie Pitcher moved to pass 1st Substitute S.B. 196 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 6

Sen. N. Blouin  
Sen. D. Buxton  
Sen. D. Owens  
Sen. S. Pitcher  
Sen. S. Sandall  
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Sen. K. Grover  
Sen. E. Vickers

**2. S.B. 224 Energy Independence Amendments (Sandall, S.)**

Sen. Scott D. Sandall presented the bill.

Joel Ferry, Executive Director, Department of Natural Resources, spoke in favor of the bill.

Sophie Hayes, Senior Attorney, Western Resource Advocates, spoke to the bill.

Michele Beck, Director, Utah Office of Consumer Services, spoke to the bill.

Justin Farr, Executive Director, Utah Association of Energy, spoke to the bill.

Marlo Oaks, State Treasurer, Utah Office of State Treasurer, spoke to the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Sandall moved to pass S.B. 224 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 6

Sen. N. Blouin  
Sen. D. Buxton  
Sen. D. Owens  
Sen. S. Sandall  
Sen. E. Vickers  
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Sen. K. Grover  
Sen. S. Pitcher

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

Yeas - 6

Sen. N. Blouin  
Sen. D. Buxton  
Sen. D. Owens  
Sen. S. Sandall  
Sen. E. Vickers  
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Sen. K. Grover  
Sen. S. Pitcher

Chair Winterton adjourned the meeting at 5:09 PM.