



# MINUTES

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

Tuesday, February 20, 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 4:18 PM.

**MOTION:** Sen. Nate Blouin moved to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2024 meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 3 - 0 - 5.

Yeas - 3

Sen. N. Blouin  
Sen. S. Sandall  
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 5

Sen. D. Buxton  
Sen. K. Grover  
Sen. D. Owens  
Sen. S. Pitcher  
Sen. E. Vickers

**1. H.C.R. 13 Concurrent Resolution Related to the Division of Wildlife Resources (*Albrecht, C.*)**

Rep. Carl R. Albrecht presented the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Derrin R. Owens moved to pass H.C.R. 13 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 5

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

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Sen. K. Grover  
Sen. S. Pitcher  
Sen. E. Vickers

**2. 2nd Sub. H.B. 297 Utah Bee Inspection Act Amendments (*Shipp, R.P.*)**

Rep. Rex P. Shipp presented the bill.

Brian Allen, Lobbyist, Cottonwood Heights City, spoke in favor of the bill.

Terry Camp, Vice President of Public Policy, Utah Farm Bureau, spoke in favor of the bill.

Amber Brown, Director of Legislative and Government Affairs, Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, spoke in favor of the bill.

Sierra Nelson, Executive Director, Utah Wool Growers Association, spoke in favor of the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Scott D. Sandall moved to pass 2nd Substitute H.B. 297 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

**3. H.B. 291 Department of Agriculture and Food Amendments (*Shipp, R.P.*)**

Rep. Shipp presented the bill with the assistance of Amber Brown, Director of Legislative and Government Affairs, Utah Department of Agriculture and Food.

Terry Camp, Vice President of Public Policy, Utah Farm Bureau, spoke in favor of the bill.

Sierra Nelson, Executive Director, Utah Wool Growers Association, spoke in favor of the bill.

Michael Larson, President, Utah Association of Conservation Districts, spoke in favor of the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Owens moved to pass H.B. 291 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

**4. 3rd Sub. H.B. 222 Wildlife Hunting Amendments (*Gricius, S.*)**

Rep. Stephanie Gricius presented the bill with the assistance of J Shirley, Director of the Division of Wildlife Resources, Utah Department of Natural Resources.

Dave Davis, President, Davis Strategies, spoke in favor of the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Stephanie Pitcher moved to pass 3rd Substitute H.B. 222 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

**5. 2nd Sub. H.B. 433 Brine Amendments (*Bolinder, B.*)**

Rep. Bridger Bolinder presented the bill.

Mike Swenson, Lobbyist for Anson Resources, A1 Lithium and Blackstone Minerals, spoke in favor of the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Owens moved to pass 2nd Substitute H.B. 433 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

**6. 1st Sub. H.B. 453 Great Salt Lake Revisions (Snider, C.)**

Rep. Casey Snider presented the bill.

Brian Steed, Commissioner, Great Salt Lake, spoke in favor of the bill.

Rusty Cannon, President, Utah Taxpayers Association, spoke to the bill.

Rhonda Anderson-Lauritzen, Executive Vice President, Mineral Resources International, spoke to the bill.

Jamie Barnes, Director, Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands, spoke to the bill.

Mark Stratford, General Counsel, Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District, spoke to the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Sandall moved to replace 1st Substitute H.B. 453 with 2nd Substitute H.B. 453. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 7

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

Nays - 0

Absent - 1

Sen. K. Grover

**MOTION:** Sen. Sandall moved to pass 2nd Substitute H.B. 453 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 1 - 1.

Yeas - 6

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

Nays - 1

Sen. D. Buxton

Absent - 1

Sen. K. Grover

**7. 2nd Sub. H.B. 406 Firearms Financial Transaction Amendments (Maloy, A. Cory)**

Rep. A. Cory Maloy presented the bill.

Nephi Cole, Director of Government Relations and State Affairs, National Shooting Sports Foundation, spoke in favor of the bill.

Clark Aposhian, Chairman, Utah Shooting Sports Council and Member, National Rifle Association, spoke in favor of the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Owens moved to pass 2nd Substitute H.B. 406 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 2 - 1.

Yeas - 5

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

Nays - 2

Sen. N. Blouin  
Sen. S. Pitcher

Absent - 1

Sen. K. Grover

**8. H.B. 375 Domesticated Elk Amendments (Stratton, K.)**

Sen. Sandall presented the bill with Phil Crowther, Program Manager of the Domestic Elk Program, Utah Department of Agriculture and Food.

Steve Styler, Foxley & Pignanelli, Utah Elk Breeders Association, spoke in favor of the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Sandall moved to pass H.B. 375 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 7

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

Nays - 0

Absent - 1

Sen. K. Grover

**MOTION:** Sen. Pitcher moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 7

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

Nays - 0

Absent - 1

Sen. K. Grover

Chair Winterton adjourned the meeting at 5:40 PM.

NOTE: H.B. 0302 was not discussed in the meeting.