



# MINUTES

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

Thursday, February 22, 2024 | 4:00 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](http://www.le.utah.gov).

Chair Brooks called the meeting to order at 4:13 p.m.

**MOTION:** Rep. Bolinder moved to approve the February 21, 2024 minutes. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 7.

Yeas - 7

Rep. G. Bennion  
Rep. B. Bolinder  
Rep. W. Brooks  
Rep. S. Lund  
Rep. D. Owens  
Rep. T. Peterson  
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 7

Rep. S. Chew  
Rep. T. Jimenez  
Rep. M. Kohler  
Rep. M. Schultz  
Rep. R. Shipp  
Rep. C. Snider  
Rep. K. Stratton

**1. 2nd Sub. S.B. 118 Water Efficiency Amendments (McKell, M.)**

[Localscaping handout](#)

Sen. Mike McKell presented the bill with the assistance of Chris Gamvroulas, President, Ivory Development, and Joel Ferry, Executive Director, Department of Natural Resources.

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

**MOTION:** Rep. Bolinder moved to replace 2nd Substitute S.B. 118 with 4th Substitute S.B. 118. 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. T. Jimenez  
Rep. M. Kohler  
Rep. S. Lund  
Rep. R. Shipp  
Rep. K. Stratton  
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Rep. D. Owens  
Rep. T. Peterson  
Rep. M. Schultz  
Rep. C. Snider

**MOTION:** Rep. Bolinder moved to pass 4th Substitute S.B. 118 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 9 - 1 - 4.

Yeas - 9

Rep. G. Bennion  
Rep. B. Bolinder  
Rep. W. Brooks  
Rep. S. Chew  
Rep. M. Kohler  
Rep. S. Lund  
Rep. R. Shipp  
Rep. K. Stratton  
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 1

Rep. T. Jimenez

Absent - 4

Rep. D. Owens  
Rep. T. Peterson  
Rep. M. Schultz  
Rep. C. Snider

**2. H.B. 243 Riparian Amendments (*Bennion, G.*)**

Rep. Bennion presented the bill with the assistance of Joel Ferry, Executive Director, Department of Natural Resources.

Jeff Salt, citizen, spoke in favor of the bill.

Soren Simonsen, Executive Director, Jordan River Commission, spoke in favor of the bill.

Dex Winterton, General Manager, Moon Lake Water Users Association, spoke to the bill.

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

**MOTION:** Rep. Jimenez moved to replace H.B. 243 with 3rd Substitute H.B. 243. 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. R. Shipp  
Rep. C. Snider  
Rep. K. Stratton  
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Rep. T. Peterson  
Rep. M. Schultz

**MOTION:** Rep. Jimenez moved to pass 3rd Substitute H.B. 243 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 9 - 3 - 2.

Yeas - 9

Rep. G. Bennion  
Rep. B. Bolinder  
Rep. W. Brooks  
Rep. T. Jimenez  
Rep. S. Lund  
Rep. D. Owens  
Rep. R. Shipp  
Rep. K. Stratton  
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 3

Rep. S. Chew  
Rep. M. Kohler  
Rep. C. Snider

Absent - 2

Rep. T. Peterson  
Rep. M. Schultz

**3. H.B. 519 Department of Natural Resources Modifications (Snider, C.)**

Rep. Snider presented the bill with the assistance of Joel Ferry, Executive Director, Department of Natural Resources.

Matt Berry, on behalf of Utah Rivers Council, spoke to the bill.

Frances Benfell, Utah Chapter of the Sierra Club, spoke to the bill.

Joel Williams, Utah Division of Water Resources, provided some clarification.

**MOTION:** Rep. Owens moved to replace H.B. 519 with 1st Substitute H.B. 519. 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. R. Shipp  
Rep. C. Snider  
Rep. K. Stratton  
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Rep. T. Peterson  
Rep. M. Schultz

**MOTION:** Rep. Owens moved to amend 1st Substitute H.B. 519 with Amendment #1. The motion passed with a vote of 12 - 0 - 2.

Amendment 1  
1st Sub. H.B. 519

1. Page 50, Lines 1519 through 1524:

1519 (2) (a) A person that harvests unprocessed brine shrimp eggs shall report to the  
1520 {~~Department of Natural Resources~~} Division of Wildlife Resources the total number of pounds of  
unprocessed brine shrimp eggs

1521 harvested by that person for that tax year on or before the February 15 immediately following  
1522 the last day of that tax year.

1523 (b) The {~~Department of Natural Resources~~} Division of Wildlife Resources shall provide the following  
information to

1524 the commission on or before the March 1 immediately following the last day of a tax year:

2. Page 78, Lines 2396 through 2400:

2396 (b) The account consists of:

2397 (i) deposits to the account made under Section 51-9-306;

2398 (ii) deposits to the account made under Section ~~{59-23-4}~~ 59-21-2 ;  
2399 ~~[(#)]~~ (iii) appropriations of the Legislature; and  
2400 ~~[(##)]~~ (iv) interest and other earnings described in Subsection (2)(c).

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. R. Shipp  
Rep. C. Snider  
Rep. K. Stratton  
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Rep. T. Peterson  
Rep. M. Schultz

**MOTION:** Rep. Owens moved to pass 1st Substitute H.B. 519 out favorably as amended. The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 1 - 2.

Yeas - 11

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. R. Shipp  
Rep. C. Snider  
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 1

Rep. K. Stratton

Absent - 2

Rep. T. Peterson  
Rep. M. Schultz

**4. H.B. 502 Critical Infrastructure and Mining (Snider, C.)**

Rep. Snider presented the bill.

Jeff Silvestrini, Mayor, city of Millcreek, spoke in favor of the bill.

Jeff Salt, on behalf of Utah Anglers Coalition, spoke in favor of the bill.

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

Joe Johnson, citizen, spoke in favor of the bill.

Linda Smith, League of Women Voters, spoke in favor of the 1st substitute of the bill.

Steve Glaser, citizen, spoke to the bill.

Deborah Gardner, citizen, spoke to the bill.

**MOTION:** Rep. Stratton moved to replace H.B. 502 with 1st Substitute H.B. 502. The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 3.



Yeas - 11

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

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Rep. T. Jimenez  
Rep. M. Schultz  
Rep. R. Shipp

**MOTION:** Rep. Stratton moved to pass 1st Substitute H.B. 502 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 11

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

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Rep. T. Jimenez  
Rep. M. Schultz  
Rep. R. Shipp

**5. H.B. 535 Water Conservation Modifications (*Kohler, M.*)**

Rep. Kohler presented the bill with Tim Davis, Deputy Great Salt Lake Commissioner.

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

David Boettger, citizen and beekeeper, spoke to the bill.

**MOTION:** Rep. Lund moved to replace H.B. 535 with 1st Substitute H.B. 535. 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. S. Lund  
Rep. D. Owens  
Rep. T. Peterson  
Rep. K. Stratton  
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Rep. T. Jimenez  
Rep. M. Schultz  
Rep. R. Shipp  
Rep. C. Snider

**MOTION:** Rep. Lund moved to pass 1st Substitute H.B. 535 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. S. Lund  
Rep. D. Owens  
Rep. T. Peterson  
Rep. K. Stratton  
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Rep. T. Jimenez  
Rep. M. Schultz  
Rep. R. Shipp  
Rep. C. Snider

**MOTION:**

Rep. Chew moved to adjourn. 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. S. Lund  
Rep. D. Owens  
Rep. T. Peterson  
Rep. K. Stratton  
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Rep. T. Jimenez  
Rep. M. Schultz  
Rep. R. Shipp  
Rep. C. Snider

Chair Brooks adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.