



Interim Highlights

August 2024, Vol. 24, No. 3



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August 21, 2024

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As of August 23, 2024

Legislative Interim Meetings

Meetings were held August, 21, 2024, or as noted

Business and Labor

Fourth Special Session Legislation

Action: Reviewed and voted to support 2024 Fourth Special Session:

- S.J.R. 401, "[Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution - Voter Legislative Power](#)";
- S.B. 4002 Substitute, "[Ballot Proposition Amendments](#)"; and
- S.B. 4003 Substitute, "[Statewide Initiative and Referendum Amendments](#)."

Insurance Coverage for Ambulance Supplies

Heard comments from the Utah State Fire Chiefs Association, Grand County Emergency Medical Services, and the Utah Health Insurance Association on current and proposed payment models for ambulance service and the potential consequences of each model for different areas of the state.

OPLR Annual Review: Policy Recommendations

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of Professional Licensure Review on recommendations for statutory changes arising from its review of licensing for cosmetology, massage therapy, and building inspectors.

Chairs: Rep. A. Cory Maloy / Sen. Curtis S. Bramble
Staff: Rohnin Randles (Policy Analyst) / Robert Wood (Policy Analyst) / Tyler Moore (Attorney) / Austin Weenig (Attorney) / Victoria Garcia (Administrative Assistant)

Child Welfare Legislative Oversight

Panel

July 9, 2024

Child Fatality Review

Discussed the Division of Child and Family Services' current policies when responding to allegations of child abuse in a home.

Education Needs of Children in Foster Care

Discussed the efforts and progress being made to improve outcomes and meet the educational needs of children in foster care.

Chairs: Rep. Christine F. Watkins / Sen. John D. Johnson
Staff: Lisa Sorensen (Policy Analyst) / Alan Houston (Attorney) / Tracey Fredman (Administrative Assistant)

Economic Development and Workforce Services

Sunset Review: Board of Tourism Development

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Board of Tourism Development Amendments](#)," which would extend the sunset date of the board for five years.

Sunset Review: Native American Remains Review Committee

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Native American Remains Review Committee Amendments](#)," which would extend the sunset date of the committee for five years.

Technology: Training Programs

Received a [presentation](#) from Talent Ready Utah, Breakline and Tech-Moms on the objectives and timeline of the "Return to Work Initiative," including details on two of the grant recipients and the impact and target audience of each recipient.



Workforce Services

Received a joint [presentation](#) from the Division of Workforce Development and the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation on programs from their respective offices targeting individuals with disabilities, at-risk youth, and at-risk adult populations.

Received a joint [presentation](#) from the Department of Corrections and the Division of Reentry and Rehabilitation on efforts to provide inmates with individualized services to assist with long-term rehabilitation and re-entry upon release.

Workforce Services: Refugee Services Office

Received a [presentation](#) from the Refugee Services Office on the refugee population in Utah, the mission and impact of the office, and the various support programs for refugees.

Action: Opened a committee bill file to include the Refugee Services Office in Utah Code.

Chairs: Rep. Jeffrey D. Stenquist / Sen. Ronald M. Winterton
Staff: Sivan Nizan (Policy Analyst) / Rhonda Bailey (Attorney) / Samantha Merrell (Administrative Assistant)

Education

Classroom Reduction

Received presentations from [committee staff](#), Cache County School District, [Jordan School District](#), and Nebo School District about the class size reduction appropriation and districts' class size reduction efforts.

Action: Opened a committee bill file to address class size reduction.

Public Education Assessments

Received a [presentation](#) from the State Board of Education on the current number and purpose of statewide assessments in public education and a [presentation](#) from Wasatch School District officials on potential alternatives to current assessment standards.

Public Education: Serving English Learner Students

Received a [presentation](#) from the State Board of Education about English learner students statewide.

Sunset Review: Grant for Professional Learning

Received a [presentation](#) from the State Board of Education on the outcomes of the grant for professional learning and reasons to extend the sunset date.

Action: Opened a committee bill file to address all the committee's 2024 sunset reviews.

Chairs: Rep. Candice B. Pierucci / Sen. John D. Johnson
Staff: Finn Andrew Rose (Policy Analyst) / Micah Ann Wixom (Policy Analyst) / Jeff Van Hulten (Attorney) / Mike Curtis (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Tyler Keetch (Attorney) / Taylor Calabrese (Administrative Assistant)

Federalism Commission

August 19, 2024

AEON Contract

Heard comments from AEON Inc. regarding the development and ongoing maintenance of the public land valuation model.

Impact of Illegal Immigration

Heard comments from the Cache County sheriff on the impact of illegal immigration on law enforcement activities in the state. Discussed the higher standards for detainees of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement vs. criminal detainees and the strain that different standards place on local jails.

Presumption of State Jurisdiction

Discussed possible legislation for the 2025 General Session regarding state sovereignty and the possibility of establishing a presumption of state jurisdiction on public lands.

Proposed Federal Rules Changes

Heard comments from the Cache County sheriff on two proposed rules changes. OSHA has proposed a rule change that could have significant impacts on search and rescue efforts and the FCC has proposed a rule change that would cap the rates local law enforcement can charge for inmate telephone calls, video calls, and electronic communications.

Action: Voted to direct commission staff to apply for commission members to participate in the November 12 meeting regarding OSHA rule changes.

Public Lands Wildfire Management

Discussed wildfire management on public lands with the state forester, the Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Forest Service. This year, 50,170 acres of forest have burned in the state. Discussed coordination of efforts by state, local, and federal wildfire staff.

R.S. 2477 Litigation Update

Heard comments from the Office of the Attorney General regarding ongoing litigation relating to R.S. 2477 roads, which are roads constructed on public lands managed by the federal government. The state of Utah and 22 of its counties have filed suit to protect access to these roads, which constitute roughly 12,500 right of way claims in the state.

Recent U.S. Supreme Court Rulings

Received a [presentation](#) from commission staff regarding recent U.S. Supreme Court rulings that potentially impact state sovereignty and federalism.

Chairs: Rep. Keven J. Stratton / Sen. Ronald M. Winterton
Staff: Nathan W. Brady (Policy Analyst) / Gus Harb (Attorney) / Victoria Garcia (Administrative Assistant)

Government Operations

Candidate Naming Clarifications

Discussed whether a candidate may use a nickname or include a professional designation, such as Dr. or CPA, on a ballot. While there are some guardrails on ballot naming conventions in statute, there is limited guidance regarding nicknames and professional designations.

Division of Technology Services

Received a [presentation](#) from the Division of Technology Services on the executive branch's information technology strategic plan, cyber security threats and protections, and state agencies' use of generative artificial intelligence to improve efficiencies.

Chairs: Rep. Calvin R. Musselman / Sen. Daniel W. Thatcher / Sen. Ronald M. Winterton
Staff: Megan L. Bolin (Senior Policy Analyst) / Michael Cipriano (Attorney) / Thomas R. Vaughn (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Tracey Fredman (Administrative Assistant)

Health and Human Services

Medicaid Waiver: Justice-Involved Program

Received presentations from [committee staff](#) and the [Department of Health and Human Services](#) on the Utah Medicaid Justice-Involved Re-entry Initiative which will provide limited coverage for a targeted set of services to inmates in a state prison, county jail, or juvenile justice facility for up to 90 days prior to the individual's release date.

Mental Health Crisis Response

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Public Safety on peace officer training requirements related to intervention responses in cases of mental illnesses, autism spectrum disorders, and other neurological and developmental disorders.

Heard comments from the Office of the Attorney General regarding additional training resources for peace officers, including the VirTra simulator, a de-escalation and judgmental use of force training simulator.

Heard comments from a Utah resident regarding their family's experiences with law enforcement response involving a mental health crisis.

Action: Opened a committee bill file to address issues regarding breakdowns and silos in the criminal justice and mental health systems in Utah.



Sunset Review: Youth Electronic Cigarette, Marijuana, and Other Drug Prevention Program

Heard comments from the Department of Health and Human Services and the Utah Association of Local Health Departments on the Youth Electronic Cigarette, Marijuana, and Other Drug Prevention Program, which will be repealed on July 1, 2025, absent further action by the Legislature.

Action: *Opened a committee bill file to extend the sunset date of the Youth Electronic Cigarette, Marijuana, and Other Drug Prevention Program.*

Chairs: Rep. Ken Ivory / Sen. Michael S. Kennedy
Staff: Lisa Sorensen (Policy Analyst) / Seth Anderson (Policy Analyst) / Alan Houston (Attorney) / Christopher Williams (Attorney) / Greg Gunn (Attorney) / Shay Berger (Administrative Assistant)

Judiciary

2024 Special Session Legislation on Justice Court Jurisdiction

Reviewed and discussed 2024 Fourth Special Session S.B. 4001, "[Justice Court Jurisdiction](#)," which amends the jurisdiction of the justice court to correct an error arising from 2024 General Session S.B. 180, "[Court Jurisdiction Amendments](#)."

Administrative Law Judges

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff and a [report](#) from the Division of Human Resource Management on administrative law judges in Utah and issues related to their organization and independence.

Draft Legislation: Child Visitation Amendments

Action: *Approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Child Visitation Amendments](#)," which would clarify statutes related to custody and child visitation rights for non-parents in response to the Utah Court of Appeals' call for legislative action in *In re Adoption of J.E.* (2024).*

Draft Legislation: Judgment Renewal Amendments

Considered 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Judgment Amendments](#)," which would clarify statutes related to the renewal of judgments to address the Utah Court of Appeals' call for legislative action in *Zions Bancorporation v. Schwab* (2023).

Offender Management Software

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General, a [presentation](#) from the Department of Corrections, and comments from the Board of Pardons and Parole on the offender management system O-Track, which was designed to assist probation and parole officers with supervision of offenders in the community.

Chairs: Rep. Jon Hawkins / Sen. Todd D. Weiler
Staff: Jonathan Adams (Policy Analyst) / Eric N. Weeks (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Jacqueline Carlton (Attorney) / Naomi Garrow (Administrative Assistant)

Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice

Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Compensation

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah Conservation Officers Association on the compensation model for law enforcement officers in the Department of Natural Resources.

First Responder Mental Health Services

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Public Safety on updates regarding the implementation of 2024 General Session H.B. 378, "[First Responder Mental Health Services](#)."

Risk-based Sex Offense Registry

Received a [presentation](#) from the Sex Offense Management Advisory Committee within the Commission of Criminal and Juvenile Justice on a risk-based sex offense registry.

School Safety and Security Updates

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Public Safety's Division of State Security on the implementation of 2024 General Session H.B. 84, "[School Safety Amendments](#)."

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on other school security legislation.

Chairs: Rep. Ryan D. Wilcox / Sen. Keith Grover
Staff: John Feinauer (Managing Policy Analyst) / Lacey Johnson (Policy Analyst) / Shad Larson (Attorney) / Jackie Rogers (Attorney) / Taylor Calabrese (Administrative Assistant)

Legislative Management

August 20, 2024

State Armory Board Transaction

Received a presentation from the Utah National Guard about a proposed land purchase to expand the Beaver Utah National Guard Armory motor pool area.

Action: *Approved the property transaction as proposed by the State Armory Board.*

Chairs: President J. Stuart Adams / Speaker Mike Schultz
Staff: John Q. Cannon (Director) / Victoria Ashby (General Counsel) / Amy Hawkes (Administrative Manager)

Medical Cannabis Governance Structure

Working Group

August 19, 2024

Center for Medical Cannabis

Received an update from the Department of Health and Human Services on organizational changes impacting the location of the Center for Medical Cannabis.

Medical Cannabis Policy Advisory Board Update

Heard comments from representatives of the Medical Cannabis Policy Advisory Board about current activities and future plans.

Medical Cannabis Product Inventory

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Agriculture and Food on issues related to medical cannabis product inventory, including curative processes for technical violations and maintenance of patient safety.

Medical Cannabis Product Price Transparency

Discussed possible strategies to increase access to information for medical cannabis patients on available medical cannabis products and their costs.

Medical Cannabis Production Odor

Heard comments from a legislator and interested individuals on issues related to odor emitted in the production of medical cannabis.

Rescheduling Marijuana in the Federal Controlled Substances Act

Received a [presentation](#) from working group staff and discussed the implications of the possible federal rescheduling of marijuana, from Schedule I to Schedule III, and the impact it would have on Utah's medical cannabis program.

Chairs: Rep. Walt Brooks / Sen. Evan J. Vickers
Staff: Seth Anderson (Policy Analyst) / Christopher Williams (Attorney) / Victoria Firmage (Administrative Assistant)

Native American Legislative Liaison Committee

June 24, 2024

Indian Child Welfare Act

Heard comments from tribal stakeholders on the need for state Indian Child Welfare Act legislation.

Action: Voted to support a legislator's concept regarding language to address the Indian Child Welfare Act.

Murdered and Missing Indigenous Relatives Task Force Update

Heard an update on the Murdered and Missing Indigenous Relatives Task Force's final [report](#).

Action: Opened a committee bill file to extend the Murdered and Missing Indigenous Relatives Task Force.

Native American Education

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on Native American education and a copy of 2016 General Session S.C.R. 3, "[Concurrent Resolution Supporting American Indian and Alaskan Native Education State Plan](#)." Received presentations from grant recipients, [San Juan School District](#) and [Eagle View Elementary](#), and heard comments from the State Board of Education.

Utah Child Abduction Response Team

Received a [presentation](#) and handout on Utah's Child Abduction Response Team.

Chairs: Rep. Christine F. Watkins / Sen. David P. Hinkins
Staff: Rachel Brooks (Policy Analyst) / Patricia Owen (Senior Associate General Counsel) / Samantha Merrell (Administrative Assistant)

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment

Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement

Heard comments from the Division of Law Enforcement regarding the enforcement and documentation of violations by conservation officers.

Non-Game Species Mitigation

Received a [presentation](#) from the Division of Wildlife Resources regarding recovery and conservation costs for endangered and native species.

Raw Milk Regulations

Received a [presentation](#) and heard comments from a legislator, dairy farmers, a veterinarian, and the Department of Agriculture and Food regarding 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Raw Milk Amendments](#)," related to raw milk requirements.

Review of Supreme Court Decisions

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff regarding the Supreme Court rulings on the Chevron deference doctrine and EPA Good Neighbor Plan.

Action: Voted to request a copy of the report on federal regulations impacted by the Chevron deference ruling that will be submitted to the Office of the Attorney General by the Departments of Agriculture and Food, Environmental Quality, and Natural Resources.

Review of Watershed Councils Act

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff regarding the committee's statutory requirement to review the Watershed Councils Act. Received a [presentation](#) from the Division of Water Resources regarding the roles and status of the state and local councils.

Rocky Mountain Power Rates

Heard comments from Rocky Mountain Power regarding potential increases in residential electricity rates. The chairs asked Rocky Mountain Power to consider a new structure and report back to the Legislature in November.

Wildfire Issues

Received a [presentation](#) from the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands regarding wildfires in the state this year and the possibility of Utah entering an interstate wildfire compact.

Chairs: Rep. Walt Brooks / Sen. Scott D. Sandall
Staff: Charley Hart (Policy Analyst) / Julie Humberstone (Senior Policy Analyst) / Patricia Owen (Senior Associate General Counsel) / Ryan C. Williams (Attorney) / Victoria Garcia (Administrative Assistant)

Political Subdivisions

Exactions and Water Credits

Heard comments from a legislator and stakeholders regarding efforts to address how exactions are being used across the state and instances where local governments refuse to grant water credits to developers as a condition of developing land that has water rights.

Impact Fees and Housing Affordability

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on impact fees and the court cases that shaped the creation of the Impact Fees Act of 1995. Received a [presentation](#) from a legislator on how impact fees are being used in ways that may inadvertently increase the cost of housing in Utah.

Statewide Housing Policy

Heard comments from committee staff regarding [recommendations](#) from the Utah Housing Policy Audit. Heard [comments](#) from the Commission on Housing Affordability regarding work underway to address housing issues and [recommendations](#) for the Political Subdivisions Interim Committee to address in its committee bill file on housing affordability.

Voting Precinct Size

Heard comments from a legislator, the Davis County Clerk, and the Salt Lake County Clerk on a possible change to the cap on precinct size from 1,250 to 3,000 registered voters.

***Action:** Opened a committee bill file to increase the cap on voting precinct size.*

Chairs: Rep. James A. Dunnigan / Sen. Michael K. McKell
Staff: Nathan W. Brady (Policy Analyst) / RuthAnne Oakey-Frost (Senior Associate General Counsel) / Robert H. Rees (Senior Associate General Counsel) / Naomi Garrow (Administrative Assistant)

Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology

Cross-tie Transmission Project

Received a [presentation](#) from TransCanyon on the objectives, technical specifications, local impact, and timeline for the transmission line project.

Report from Enbridge Gas

Received a [presentation](#) from Enbridge Inc., the new owner of Dominion Energy, on its history, operation, philosophy, and vision for service provisions in Utah.

Report from Rocky Mountain Power

Heard comments from Rocky Mountain Power related to transmission system upgrades and delivery, capacity for new load requests, wildfire planning, summer outages, a proposed rate increase, and potential separation from PacifiCorp.

Sunset Review: Committee of Consumer Services

Heard comments from the Committee of Consumer Services (committee) and the Office of Consumer Services regarding whether the authorization for the committee should be extended or allowed to expire.

Chairs: Rep. Carl R. Albrecht / Sen. David P. Hinkins
Staff: Samantha Hermany (Managing Policy Analyst) / Scott Elder (Attorney) / Samantha Merrell (Administrative Assistant)

Revenue and Taxation

Sales and Use Tax: Transportation Taxes

Received a [presentation](#) from the Wasatch Front Regional Council on local option transportation sales taxes.

State Tax Commission

Heard comments from the State Tax Commission on issues related to income tax, sales and use tax, property tax, and mineral production tax withholding. Received recommendations on how to resolve these issues.

Tax Relief through Property Tax

Received a [presentation](#) regarding a proposal to recodify the tax relief provisions within the property tax code.

Transient Room Tax

Received an overview from committee staff on transient room taxes.

Received presentations from the [Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst](#) and the [Kem C Gardner Institute](#) analyzing how transient room taxes are being spent within the state.

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of the State Auditor and heard from Grand County commissioners regarding an audit of Grand County tourism related taxes.

Chairs: Rep. Steve Eliason / Sen. Daniel McCay
Staff: Alex R. Janak (Managing Policy Analyst) / Chris Stitt (Policy Analyst) / Gus Harb (Attorney) / Andrea Valenti Arthur (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Victoria Firmage (Administrative Assistant)

School Security Task Force

July 17, 2024

County Security Chief Updates

Received an update on progress in appointing a security chief in each county, as required by 2024 General Session H.B. 84, "[School Safety Amendments](#)." County security chiefs coordinate school safety and security efforts with local education agencies in the county, including:

- helping with building safety evaluations;
- helping with communications between school personnel and local law enforcement agencies; and
- administering the school guardian program for schools in the county.

Local Education Agency School Safety and Security Personnel Updates

Received presentations from school district and charter school authorizer officials about the progress of local education agencies in appointing a school safety and security director at each local education agency, as required by 2024 General Session H.B. 84, "[School Safety Amendments](#)."

School Safety and Security Personnel Requirements

Action: Approved funding from the \$50,000,000 appropriation in 2024 General Session H.B. 84, "School Safety Amendments," for the state security chief to acquire guardian identifiers, selected by the State Security Chief through an RFP process, for all guardians in Utah public schools.

School Safety Conference Update

Received an [update](#) summarizing recent school safety conferences, including lessons learned.

State Security Chief Updates

Received an update from the State Security Chief on the status of hiring staff for the State Security Chief's office and the Education Advisory Subcommittee.

Chairs: Rep. Ryan D. Wilcox / Sen. Ann Millner
Staff: Micah Ann Wixom (Policy Analyst) / Jeff Van Hulten (Attorney) / Taylor Calabrese (Administrative Assistant)

Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee

August 19, 2024

Confirmation of Rita Cornish

Action: Recommended to the Senate the confirmation of Rita Cornish as a judge of the Business and Chancery Court.

Confirmation of Shawn Howell

Action: Recommended to the Senate the confirmation of Shawn Howell as a judge of the Fourth District Court.

Chairs: Sen. Todd D. Weiler
Staff: Jonathan Adams (Policy Analyst) / Eric N. Weeks (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Naomi Garrow (Administrative Assistant)

Senate Judiciary Confirmation Committee

August 16, 2024

Confirmation of Georgia Thompson

Action: Recommended to the Senate the re-appointment of Georgia Thompson as a member of the Judicial Conduct Commission.

Chairs: Sen. Michael S. Kennedy
Staff: Jonathan Adams (Policy Analyst) / Naomi Garrow (Administrative Assistant)

Transportation

Advanced Air Mobility

Received a [presentation](#) from Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) on advanced air mobility.

Aircraft Registration

Received a [presentation](#) from UDOT on proposed strategies to increase compliance with aircraft registration requirements. Heard comments from the Utah Airport Operator Association.

Canyons Transportation

Received presentations from [UDOT](#) and [Utah Transit Authority](#) on transportation in Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons. Received public comment on this topic, including a handout from [Alta Ski Area](#).

State Tax Commission issues

Heard comments from the State Tax Commission on the potential need for a statutory change related to motor vehicle sales licenses and pending criminal charges.

Traffic Safety

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff and a [joint presentation](#) from UDOT, the Department of Public Safety, and the Salt Lake City Police Department on traffic safety topics, including aggressive driving, wrong way driving, and street racing.

Chairs: Rep. Kay J. Christofferson / Sen. Wayne A. Harper
Staff: Rachel Brooks (Policy Analyst) / Kami Orton (Attorney) / Kurt P. Gasser (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Shay Berger (Administrative Assistant)



Veterans and Military Affairs

Commission

August 20, 2024

Department of Veterans and Military Affairs Update

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Veterans and Military Affairs regarding services provided to veterans and current service members and their families.

Draft Legislation: Services for Department of Defense Civilian Employees

Discussed 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Services for Department of Defense Civilian Employees](#)," which would:

- provide in-state residency for tuition purposes at an institution of higher education for a United States Department of Defense employee and the employee's family;
- address k-12 requirements for a child of a United States Department of Defense employee; and
- provide certain exemptions from occupational and professional licensure in a variety of occupations and professions for a United States Department of Defense employee, or their spouse, if the employee has a valid license in another jurisdiction.

Draft Legislation: Utah Retirement System Amendments for Military Personnel

Discussed 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Utah Retirement Systems Amendments for Military Personnel](#)," which would:

- address retirement benefits for military service members who receive permanent change of station or relocation orders outside the state; and
- allow specified Utah National Guard personnel, including the adjutant general, to elect to be exempt from the retirement system, allowing employer contributions to vest immediately.

Great Salt Lake Sentinel Landscape Update

Received an [update](#) regarding the Great Salt Lake Sentinel Landscape, which spans over 2.7 million acres in northern Utah and encompasses Hill Air Force Base, Camp Williams, Tooele Army Depot, and the Air Force Little Mountain Test Facility.

Chairs: Rep. Jefferson S. Burton / Sen. Todd D. Weiler
Staff: Lisa Sorensen (Policy Analyst) / Shad Larson (Attorney) / Tracey Fredman (Administrative Assistant)





2024 Fourth Special Session

Utah State Legislature | August 21, 2024

Summary of considered legislation:

On August 21, 2024, the Utah Legislature convened in Special Session to consider four items.

S.B. 4001, *Justice Court Jurisdiction*, amends the jurisdiction of the justice court to fix an error arising from the 2024 General Session, S.B. **180**, Court Jurisdiction Amendments. S.B. 180 inadvertently omitted language that gave the justice court jurisdiction over minors and adult high school students in cases involving wildlife infractions, motor vehicle and boating infractions, and class B and C misdemeanors described in Title 41, Chapter 1a, Motor Vehicle Act.

To fix this error, this bill reinstates the words "and infraction" and "Title 41, Chapter 1a, Motor Vehicle Act," to Section 78A-7-106. S.B. 4004 makes this language apply retroactively to May 1, 2024, the date on which S.B. 180 went into effect.

S.J.R. 401, *Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution – Voter Legislative Power*, amends Article 1, Section 2, and Article VI, Section 1, of the Utah Constitution. The constitutional amendment will be on the ballot for voters to approve or reject at the upcoming general election on November 5, 2024.

The proposed constitutional amendment:

- Prohibits any foreign individual, entity, or government from, directly or indirectly, influencing, supporting, or opposing an initiative or referendum and allows the Legislature, by statute, to establish definitions and provide the scope and enforcement of that prohibition.
- Provides that the people's right to reform their government is through the initiative, referendum, and constitutional amendment processes under the Utah Constitution.
- Clarifies that the voters' exercise of their lawmaking power does not limit or preclude the Legislature's lawmaking power to amend, enact, or repeal a law. The same principle also applies to the legislative body of a county, municipality, or town related to a local initiative or referendum on a local law or ordinance.

S.J.R. 401 also provides retrospective operation to the reforming government and lawmaking power changes, allowing them to apply to past initiatives, referenda, or constitutional Amendments.

S.B. 4002, *Ballot Proposition Amendments*, enacts temporary provisions relating to the process and deadlines for putting a constitutional amendment on the ballot.

Due to the timing of the Fourth Special Session and the upcoming regular general election on November 5, 2024, certain procedural deadlines related to submitting a ballot title, analysis, arguments for and against, and rebuttal arguments must be adjusted accordingly.

S.B. 4002 provides that the provisions in this bill would automatically repeal on July 1, 2025.

S.B. 4003, *Statewide Initiative and Referendum Amendments*, amends the signature-gathering process for a referendum. The bill's provisions only become effective if the voters approve the constitutional amendment proposed in S.J.R. 401.

The bill extends the deadline for referendum petitioners to submit the requisite number of signatures from 40 to 60 days. As a result of this extension, subsequent deadlines would also adjust by 20 days.

Committee Bill Files Opened by Legislative Committees For the 2025 General Session, as of August 23, 2024

Total number of committee bill files opened: 58

*Bills opened since the June interim meetings are in *italics*.

Business and Labor

- Building Inspector Amendments
- Corporate Organization Amendments
- Cosmetology Amendments
- Health Facility Administrator Act Amendments
- Homeowner Insurance Market Amendments
- Insurance Investment Amendments
- Massage Therapy Amendments
- Solar Panel Disclosure Amendments
- Trust Company Eligibility Amendments
- *Ambulance Services Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 10

Economic Development and Workforce Services

- Board of Tourism Development Amendments
- Native American Remains Review Committee Amendments
- *Refugee Services Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 3

Education

- *Class Size Reduction Modifications**
- *Education Program Sunset Amendments**
- *English Learner Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 3

Government Operations

- Ballot Distribution Revisions
- Division of Purchasing and General Services Amendments
- Election Information Amendments
- Intergovernmental Support Agreement Modifications
- Internal Service Fund Amendments

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 5

Health and Human Services

- Correctional Health Amendments
- Health Care Facility Amendments
- Vaccine Modifications
- *Criminal Justice and Mental Health Coordination Amendments**
- *Youth Electronic Cigarette, Marijuana and Other Drug Prevention Program Sunset Extension**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 5

Judiciary

- Administrative Procedures Act Amendments
- Child Visitation Amendments
- Employer Liability Amendments
- Foreign Judgment Amendments
- Judgment Renewal Amendments
- Justice Court Amendments
- Juvenile Court Procedures Amendments
- Limitations on Liability Amendments

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 8

Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice

- Criminal Code Recodification
- Organized Crime Amendments
- *Prostitution Offense Amendments**
- *Sex Offense Registry Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 4

Legislative Water Development Commission

- Concurrent Resolution Regarding the Grand County Water Conservancy District

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 1

Native American Legislative Liaison

- *Murdered and Missing Indigenous Relatives Task Force Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 1

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment

- Livestock Brand Board Amendments
- Provo Canyon Resource Management Plan Amendments
- *Water Revisions**
- *Wildfire Resources Compact Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 4

Political Subdivisions

- Municipal Incorporation Amendments
- Title 17 Recodification
- Utah Housing Amendments
- *Voting Precinct Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 4

Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology

- *Decommissioned Asset Disposition Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 1

Retirement and Independent Entities

- Long-term Disability Amendments
- Retirement Amendments

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 2

Revenue and Taxation

- *Property Tax Act Modifications**
- *Sales and Use Tax Act Amendments**
- *Sales and Use Tax Remittance Amendments**
- *State Income Tax Amendments**
- *Tax Withholding Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 5

Transportation

- Motor Vehicle Division Amendments
- *Road Jurisdiction Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 2