



# Interim Highlights

October 2024, Vol. 24, No. 5



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**List of Committee Bills for the 2025 General Session  
As of October 18, 2024**

## Legislative Interim Meetings

Meetings were held October 16, 2024, or as noted

### **Business and Labor**

#### **Child Influencer Protections**

Heard comments from a legislator and a stakeholder on the growing problem of exploitation of minors engaged as influencers on social media. Discussed a range of potential regulatory responses.

#### **Draft Legislation: Certified Public Accountant Amendments**

**Action:** Approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Certified Public Accountant Licensing Amendments](#)," which would amend provisions related to licensure requirements to become a certified public accountant (CPA) in the state.

#### **Draft Legislation: Child Labor Amendments**

**Action:** Approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Child Labor Amendments](#)," which would amend provisions relating to child labor, including classifying child labor-related acts as different crimes and allow the Labor Commission to request investigation by law enforcement.

#### **Draft Legislation: Consumer Protection Amendments**

Received a [presentation](#) from the Division of Consumer Protection on 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Consumer Protection Amendments](#)," which would amend provisions relating to protecting consumers from deceptive sales practices.

## Draft Legislation: Insurance Investment Amendments

Heard comments from the insurance commissioner and considered 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Insurance Investment Amendments](#)," which would repeal and reenact provisions relating to the scope of allowable insurance investments.

## Draft Legislation: Insurance Modifications

*Action: Approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Insurance Modifications](#)," which would amend provisions relating to insurance.*

## Draft legislation: Massage Therapy Amendments

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of Professional Licensure Review on 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Massage Therapy Amendments](#)," which would modify licensing requirements for practicing massage therapy in the state.

## Draft Legislation: Solar Panel Disclosure Amendments

Received a [presentation](#) from a legislator and the Division of Consumer Protection on 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Residential Solar Panel Consumer Protection Amendments](#)," which would establish additional protections for customers in the residential solar panel market.

## Office of Artificial Intelligence Policy Research Report

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of Artificial Intelligence Policy on its findings and policy recommendations, as required by Section [13-72-201](#).

## OPLR Prioritization of Licensing Reviews

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of Professional Licensure Review on the list of occupations proposed for review in calendar year 2025, as required by Section [13-1b-303](#).

*Action: Approved the list of proposed occupations to be reviewed and directed staff to forward a copy to the Legislative Management Committee for its approval.*

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

October 10, 2024

### Child Fatality Reviews

Briefed by the Department of Health and Human Services on its FY 2024 annual summary of fatality reviews involving individuals who had an open case for child welfare services within one year of death. Received recommendations for improving services to individuals in Utah's child welfare system.

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Health and Human Services regarding the fatality review process.

## Kinship Guidelines

Received a presentation from the Division of Child and Family Services regarding statutory requirements for locating kin and the preference for placement as it relates to the placement of children in foster care.

## Multi-Disciplinary Team Process

Received an update from the Division of Child and Family Services on its review of various models of the multi-disciplinary team process.

## Statutorily Required Reports

Received the following reports on processes and outcomes in Utah's child welfare system:

- [Foster Care Student Attendance in Utah High Schools](#), from the State Board of Education;
- [Child Welfare Statutory Time Requirements](#), from the Administrative Office of the Courts; and
- [Utah Psychotropic Oversight Panel](#), from the Division of Child and Family Services.

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

### Annual Report: Department of Cultural and Community Engagement

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Cultural and Community Engagement on the 2024 Annual [Report](#) highlighting major programming features of the department's divisions, such as volunteer hours served, number of student participants in programs, and economic impact of cultural industry.

### Annual Report: Department of Workforce Services

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Workforce Services on the 2024 Annual Report, highlighting solvency for unemployment insurance during the Great Recession and the COVID-19 pandemic, low error rates for unemployment insurance benefits, SNAP, Medicaid, and CHIP.

### Annual Report: Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity

Received a [presentation](#) from the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity (GOEO) on its Annual [Report](#), and from Strategic Initiatives regarding GOEO programs and incentives and their impacts on urban and rural Utah.

## Housing Affordability

Received a [presentation](#) from the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute on the current state of the housing market in Utah, including:

- price and availability trends in the rental and for-sale markets;
- societal needs for affordable housing; and
- the governor's goals and his role in addressing unaffordable housing in Utah.

Received a [presentation](#) from the Commission on Housing Affordability (CHA) on the work the CHA did this year and goals for the rest of the year.

## Sunset Review: Manufacturing Modernization Grant Program

Received a [presentation](#) from the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity providing an update on the return-on-investment to the state from the manufacturing modernization program.

*Action: Opened a committee bill file to extend the sunset date of the manufacturing modernization grant program by three years.*

## Utah Innovation Lab

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah Innovation Fund on the annual report of the fund and the Utah Innovation Lab, including:

- their mission and purpose;
- metrics of success;
- current projects; and
- results of the best practices self-assessment tool developed by the Office of Legislative Auditor General.

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

## Education

### Legislative Audit: An Initial Review of Merit Awards for Teachers

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General regarding *An Initial Review of Merit Awards for Teachers: Best Practices to Inform Program Implementation*.

### Legislative Audit: Rich School District

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General regarding *A Systematic Performance Audit of Rich School District* and heard a response from Rich School District officials.

## Public Education: Teacher Training

Received a [presentation](#) from the Davis School District regarding a teacher preparation [program](#) created in partnership with Utah State University's Center for the School of the Future, other institutions of higher education, and school districts.

## Public Education: State Board of Education Legislative Requests

Received a [presentation](#) from the State Board of Education on legislative requests for the 2025 General Session.

*Action: Opened a committee bill file to address legislative requests from the State Board of Education.*

## Required Report: Excellence in Education and Leadership Supplement Pilot Program

Received a [report](#) from the Center for the School of the Future at Utah State University on the Excellence in Education and Leadership Supplement pilot program, created by the Legislature in 2024.

Received an [update](#) on the science of reading program, created by the Legislature in 2022.

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)



## **Government Operations**

### **Ballot Curing**

Received information about the process to "cure" ballots that are initially rejected, including the percentages of ballots that go through the cure process and get resolved.

### **Election Fundraising**

*Action: Approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "Election Fundraising Amendments," which would amend provisions relating to prohibited campaign contributions.*

### **Mailed Ballots**

*Action: Opened a committee bill file to address mailed ballots and when they are considered valid.*

### **Special District Board Compensation**

*Action: Amended and approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "Limited Purpose Local Government Entities Board of Trustees Compensation Amendments," which would eliminate the compensation limit for a member of a board of trustees of a limited purpose local government entity.*

### **Tour of Davis County Ballot Processing**

Toured the Davis County ballot processing facility. Discussed the entire ballot process, from printing and distribution to collection, verification, and counting.

**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**

### **Draft Legislation: Controlled Substances Amendments**

Received a [presentation](#) and discussed 2025 General Session draft legislation, "Controlled Substances Act Amendments," which would add tianeptine and phenibut to the list of Schedule 1 controlled substances.

### **Draft Legislation: Health Care Facility Amendments**

Discussed 2025 General Session draft legislation, "Health Care Facility Amendments," which would establish standards for certain satellite emergency departments.

Reviewed a policy [statement](#) regarding freestanding emergency departments and received a [presentation](#) from a legislator regarding similar statutes in other states.

### **Mental Health Crisis Response**

Discussed options for statutory changes to include in committee bill file, "Criminal Justice and Mental Health Coordination Amendments."

## **Utah Office of Inspector General of Medicaid Services**

Received presentations from [committee staff](#) and the [Office of Inspector General of Medicaid Services](#) on the review of the independent entity status of the Office of Inspector General of Medicaid Services in accordance with Utah Code Title 63H, Chapter 9, [Oversight of Independent Entities](#).

**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**

### **Civil Commitment**

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Health and Human Services regarding civil commitment capacity in the state and the anticipated impact that changes to civil commitment standards could have on the number of individuals subject to civil commitment.

### **Draft Legislation: Limitations on Liability Amendments**

Heard comments from a legislator and committee staff regarding two draft bills to address employer liability for hiring an employee that had been previously convicted of an offense.

*Action: Approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "Limitations on Liability Amendments," which would remove the sunset provisions of Section 78B-4-518 by repealing Subsection 63I-1-278 (3) and make additional substantive changes to the limitations on employer liability.*

### **Justice Court Reform Task Force**

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff and heard comments from a legislator to inform the committee's sunset review of the Justice Court Reform Task Force.

*Action: Voted to take no action, allowing the Justice Court Reform Task Force to sunset on July 1, 2025.*

### **Reentry and Reintegration**

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Corrections and heard comments from a legislator regarding the agency's efforts to help offenders reenter and reintegrate into society after incarceration.

### **Sentencing Guidelines**

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff and a [presentation](#) from the Utah Sentencing Commission regarding legislative review and approval of the new sentencing guidelines.

*Action: Opened a concurrent resolution as a committee bill file to address the new sentencing guidelines.*

**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**

### **Child Abuse and Torture Amendments**

Received a presentation from a legislator, the Washington County Attorney's Office, and the Utah Children's Justice Centers on 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Child Abuse and Torture Amendments](#)," which would create a new offense and mandatory imprisonment for incidents of child torture.

*Action: Approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "Child Abuse and Torture Amendments."*

### **Criminal Code Recodification**

Received a [presentation](#) from a legislator and committee staff on 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Criminal Code Recodification and Cross References](#)," which would reorganize and [clarify](#) existing statutes.

*Action: Approved as a committee bill, 2025 General Session draft legislation, "Criminal Code Recodification and Cross References."*



## **Domestic Violence Enhancements**

Received a presentation from the Office of the Attorney General and the West Valley City chief prosecutor regarding domestic violence enhancements and how domestic violence abusers are sentenced to a general matrix.

### **Limitations on the Use of Polygraphs**

*Action: Approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Limitations on the Use of Polygraphs](#)," which would limit the use of a polygraph on victims of sexual offenses.*

### **Private Sale of a Firearm Sunset Review Amendments**

*Action: Approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Private Sale of a Firearm Sunset Review Amendments](#)," which would repeal Section [631-1-276](#), removing the sunset provisions of Section [76-10-526.1](#).*

### **Prostitution Offense Amendments**

*Action: Approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Prostitution Offense Amendments](#)," which would amend provisions concerning prostitution and similar offenses.*

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

## **Legislative Water Development**

### **Commission**

October 17, 2024

### **Draft Legislation: Concurrent Resolution Regarding the Grand County Water Conservancy District**

Considered 2025 General Session draft resolution, "[Concurrent Resolution Regarding the Grand County Water Conservancy District](#)," which would express support for the transfer of federal water infrastructure to the Grand County Water Conservancy District.

*Action: Amended and approved 2025 General Session draft resolution, "Concurrent Resolution Regarding the Grand County Water Conservancy District."*

### **Funding for Water-Related Capital Projects**

Received a [presentation](#) regarding funds used to finance water infrastructure projects.

### **Public Water Suppliers**

Received a [presentation](#) from the Division of Water Rights regarding statutes governing public water suppliers, water use reporting, and forfeiture.

**Chairs:** Rep. Casey Snider / Sen. David P. Hinkins  
**Staff:** Charley Hart (Policy Analyst) / Julie Humberstone (Managing Policy Analyst) / Patricia Owen (Senior Associate General Counsel) / Ryan C. Williams (Attorney) / Victoria Garcia (Administrative Assistant)

## **Medical Cannabis Governance Structure Working Group**

October 15, 2024

### **2025 General Session Medical Cannabis Related Bill Files**

Discussed current efforts on legislation for the 2025 General Session related to medical cannabis.

### **Medical Cannabis Affordability**

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Agriculture and Food on medical cannabis price analysis efforts.

### **Medical Cannabis Application Processes**

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Health and Human Services regarding patient access to medical cannabis in long-term care settings.

### **Medical Cannabis Education**

Received presentations from the [Department of Health and Human Services](#) and the [University of Utah Center for Medical Cannabis Research](#) on provider and patient education activities.

### **Medical Cannabis in Primary Care**

Discussed the effectiveness of previous legislative actions intended to encourage the use of insurance in medical cannabis recommendation processes.

### **Medical Cannabis Pharmacy Licensing**

Received an update from the Department of Agriculture and Food on the possibility of expanding the maximum number of medical cannabis pharmacy licenses.

### **Medical Cannabis Price Transparency**

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

### **Medical Cannabis Recommendation Processes**

Discussed the role of card clinics in Utah's medical cannabis program and whether there are instances when medical cannabis is being recommended inappropriately as a result of 'card clinic' locations or events.

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

## **Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment**

### **A Performance Audit of Mineral Royalty Agreements**

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General regarding the findings of *A Performance Audit of Mineral Royalty Agreements*. Heard comments from the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands.

### **Division of Drinking Water Fee Authority**

Received a [presentation](#) from the Division of Drinking Water regarding modifications to the Safe Drinking Water Act to address fee authority for the division.

### **Emerging Energy Policy Framework and Considerations**

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of Energy Development regarding new or updated frameworks for emerging energy sources.

### **Funding for Water-Related Capital Projects**

Received a [presentation](#) from the Division of Water Resources regarding a report on funds used to finance water infrastructure projects.

### **Predator Control Measures**

Received a [presentation](#) from the Division of Wildlife Resources regarding the findings from the predator control measures [report](#).

### **Private Property Rights**

Heard from a legislator and residents regarding private property protection and ownership issues. Received a [handout](#) regarding streambed navigability and legal issues.

### **Utah Lake Authority**

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah Lake Authority regarding the entity's goals and progress.

### **Veterinarian Education Loan Repayment Program**

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Agriculture and Food regarding the findings of the veterinarian education loan repayment program [report](#).

### **Water Reporting**

Heard from a legislator regarding proposed [intent language](#) requesting that the Division of Water Resources monitor statewide legislative water optimization efforts and report the Division's findings to the committee.

*Action:* Approved the proposed intent language.

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



## **Political Subdivisions**

### **Draft Legislation: Housing Policy Amendments**

Discussed two versions of 2025 General Session draft legislation, "Housing Policy Amendments," [version 7](#) and [version 8](#), which would address development in areas zoned as residential within counties of the first or second class. The two versions of the bill would also change the reporting requirements for moderate income housing from every year to every three years as follows:

- Version 7 of the draft legislation would address affordable housing on a lot, as long as the lot size is at least 3,500 sq ft; and
- Version 8 of the draft legislation would provide that a detached single family unit is allowable on a lot of any size and would authorize the construction of accessory dwelling units on any residential property.

### **Draft Legislation: Voter Precinct Size**

Considered 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Voter Precinct Amendments](#)," which would increase the maximum size of voter precincts from 1,250 to 3,000 voters and authorize county clerks to change voter precinct boundaries to match boundary changes already made by political subdivisions.

*Action: Approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "Voter Precinct Amendments."*

### **Evaluating Utah's Ranked Choice Voting Pilot Program**

Received a [presentation](#) by two professors from Utah Valley University regarding an evaluation of Utah's municipal ranked choice voting pilot program, which was enacted during the 2018 General Session and will sunset on January 1, 2026.

### **Municipality Liens for Utility Collections**

Received a presentation on the need for municipalities to assess a lien against properties for the collection of unpaid utility bills, similar to the authority currently granted to special districts.

*Action: Opened a committee bill file to address the recommendation that municipalities be authorized to assess liens on properties for unpaid utility bills.*

**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**

### **Recap: Legislator Field Trip to White Mesa**

Heard remarks from legislators that attended a field trip to the White Mesa Mill.

### **Energy Education Amendments Key Points**

Received an overview of draft legislation a legislator is working on with the Office of Energy Development regarding the creation of energy education curriculum for K-12 students.

### **Presentation: Grid Enhancing Technologies**

Received a [presentation](#) from the Energy Modernization Project with Pew on advanced transmission technologies and possible state policy options to facilitate modernizing the grid to meet growing electricity demands.

### **Presentation: HiTech Solutions**

Heard from HiTech Solutions on its focus to eliminate critical gaps in keeping nuclear power plants running safely and efficiently. Discussed the training facilities that HiTech intends to build in Utah.

### **Presentation: W2e Technology**

Heard from W2e Technology on its progress toward commercializing a waste-to-energy technology capable of vaporizing energy-rich material, including plastic, tires, and coal, into hydrogen and food-grade carbon dioxide.

### **Recap: Legislator Field Trip to San Rafael Energy Research Center**

Heard brief remarks from legislators that attended a field trip to the San Rafael Energy Research Center.

### **Status Report: Green River Energy Center**

Received a [presentation](#) from rPlus Energies on the status of its 800-megawatt combined solar plus storage project in Emery County. The project is the largest planned solar plus storage facility in Utah and one of the largest facilities in the PacifiCorp system.

### **Statutorily Required Report: Energy Balancing Account**

Received a [presentation](#) from Rocky Mountain Power on its required report regarding the status of the Energy Balancing Account, including an overview, process, history, and how it relates to the company's overall rate recovery.

### **Statutorily Required Report: Grid Resilience Committee**

Heard from the Grid Resilience Committee on the status of its efforts regarding recommendations for the Legislature to enhance the grid in Utah.



## Retirement and Independent Entities

October 17, 2024

### Draft Legislation: Long-Term Disability

**Actions:** Approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Long-Term Disability Benefit Modifications](#)," which would modify the definition of gainful employment and include pay for time that exceeds an eligible employee's regular schedule in the calculation of the eligible employee's regular monthly salary. The draft legislation would also establish a death benefit and make life assistance counseling available to employees receiving long-term disability benefits.

Approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Long-Term Disability Amendments](#)," which would modify the definition of objective medical impairment and amend provisions relating to the application for and determination of long-term disability benefits.

### Draft Legislation: Retirement Amendments

**Action:** Approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Retirement Amendments](#)," which would modify the contribution provisions of the New Public Employees' Tier II Contributory Retirement Act.

### Draft Legislation: Utah Retirement Systems Amendments for Military Personnel

**Action:** Approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Utah Retirement Systems Amendments for Military Personnel](#)," which would modify the vesting requirements for employer contributions made to a defined contribution plan.

### Utah Retirement Systems' Financial Status Report

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah Retirement Systems on the Utah Retirement Systems' funded status and preliminary contribution rates for FY 2026.

### Volunteer Firefighters and Post-Retirement Reemployment

**Action:** Opened a committee bill file related to volunteer firefighters and post-retirement reemployment that explores salary limitation policies without raising contribution rates.

Chairs: Rep. Cheryl K. Acton / Sen. Wayne A. Harper  
Staff: Adam J. Sweet (Deputy Director) / RuthAnne Oakey-Frost (Senior Associate General Counsel) / Christine R. Gilbert (Deputy General Counsel) / Victoria Firmage (Administrative Assistant)

### Statutorily Required Report: Tax Credits

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of Energy Development on the status of certain energy related tax credits.

### Statutorily Required Report: Utility Bill Assistance Program

Received a [presentation](#) from the Division of Public Utilities on the status of the Utility Bill Assistance Program.

### Statutorily Required: Energy Research Grant

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of Energy Development on the status of the grant program.

### Statutorily Required: Strategic Energy Plan

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of Energy Development on the status of an update to the plan.

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**

### **Draft Legislation: Petroleum Storage Tank Amendments**

Heard comments from the Department of Environmental Quality on 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Petroleum Storage Tank Amendments](#)," which would address the regulation of petroleum storage tanks.

*Action: Approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "Petroleum Storage Tank Amendments."*

### **Draft Legislation: Property Tax Code Recodification**

Received a [presentation](#) from a legislator and the Utah County Auditor's Office regarding 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Property Tax Recodification](#)," which would recodify the tax relief provisions within the property tax code. Heard comments from the State Tax Commission.

*Action: Amended and approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Property Tax Recodification](#)."*

### **Draft Legislation: Property Tax Reimbursement Amendments**

Heard comments from a legislator on 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Property Tax Reimbursement Amendments](#)," which would:

- allow certain rental businesses to charge a fee on the rental of heavy equipment;
- require recovery fees to be separately itemized;
- clarify that recovery fees are not subject to sales and use tax; and
- prohibit a rental business from charging a recovery fee to a governmental entity.

*Action: Approved as a committee bill 2025 General Session draft legislation, "Property Tax Reimbursement Amendments."*

### **Income Tax Credit Review**

Received presentations from the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst on the [High Cost Infrastructure Development Tax Credit](#) and the [Enterprise Zone Tax Credit](#).

### **Property Assessment Review Information Report**

Received an [overview](#) from committee staff on the Property Assessment Review Information Report. Heard responses to the report from the Utah Association of Counties and a Weber County assessor.

### **Refundable Economic Development Tax Credit Review**

Received a [presentation](#) from the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity and an audit partner from Tanner Accountants and Advisors on the Refundable Economic Development Tax Credit, also known as Economic Development Tax Increment Financing.

### **Social Security Taxation**

Heard comments from a legislator about how Utah taxes social security income and potential policy changes that could be considered during the upcoming 2025 General Session.

### **Statutorily Required Reports**

Received an overview from committee staff on the statutorily required reports received by the committee and the availability of the reports on the agency reporting [website](#).

### **Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement**

Received an [overview](#) from committee staff on the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement (SST). Heard comments from a legislator and the State Tax Commission on Utah's current SST status.

### **Utah Housing Corporation**

Received a presentation from the Utah Housing Corporation (UHC) on the tax credits, grant programs, and governance structure of UHC.

**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**

October 14, 2024

### **Chair Update**

Received an update from one of the task force chairs about a recent school shooting in Georgia.

### **Legislative Updates**

Heard an update from the task force chairs and task force staff on anticipated legislative changes related to school safety during the 2025 General Session.

### **Local Education Agency Compliance**

Heard from the task force chairs about issues related to local education agency compliance with school safety statutes and regulations.

### **Retirement Issues**

Heard from a legislator about recent changes to the state's retirement system for law enforcement officers and how that will impact their ability to work in schools.

### **SafeUT Update**

Heard an update from a legislator on developments with SafeUT and school safety.

## Salt Lake County Update

Received an update from Salt Lake County on a recent school safety issue in Salt Lake County, and about how the Salt Lake County Security Chief works with local jurisdictions.

## State Board of Education Update

Heard an update from the State Board of Education on recent actions related to school safety issues.

## Uintah County School District Update

Heard an update from Uintah School District about a recent school safety incident in the district.

**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

October 10, 2024

### Confirmation of Jared Anderson

**Action:** Recommended to the Senate the confirmation of Jared Anderson as a judge of the Fourth District Juvenile Court.

### Confirmation of John Nielsen

**Action:** Recommended to the Senate the confirmation of John Nielsen as a judge of the Third District Court.

### Confirmation of Meb Anderson

**Action:** Recommended to the Senate the confirmation of Meb Anderson as a judge of the Fifth District Court.

### Confirmation of Ryan Christiansen

**Action:** Recommended to the Senate the confirmation of Ryan Christiansen as a judge of the Fifth District Court.

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

## Transportation

### Autonomous Vehicles

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) on transportation technology.

### Draft Legislation: Road Jurisdiction Amendments

Heard a [presentation](#) from UDOT on 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Road Jurisdiction Amendments](#)," which would modify routes included in the state highway system.

**Action:** Approved as a committee bill, "[Road Jurisdiction Amendments](#)."

### Driver License Renewal Process

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff and the Driver License Division on the driver license renewal process.

## Litter and Carcass Removal

Heard comments from a legislator, UDOT, and community stakeholders on litter and carcass removal on state roads.

**Action:** Opened a committee bill file to address litter and unsecured loads.

## Required Report: Airports

Received annual reports from [Salt Lake City International Airport](#) and [Provo Airport](#) as required by statute.

## Required Report: Law Enforcement Responsibilities on State Roads

Received a [joint report](#) from the Department of Public Safety, State Highway Patrol, and UDOT on state highway patrol and enforcement as required by statute.

## Required Report: UDOT/Transportation Commission Annual Reports

Received a [presentation](#) from UDOT and the Transportation Commission's annual reports as required by statute.

## Vehicle Registration

Received a presentation and [handout](#) from a legislator on 2024 General Session H.B. 283 2nd Sub, "[Vehicle Registration Amendments](#)," and current 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Vehicle Registration Amendments](#)," which would create a month-to-month vehicle registration.

**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

October 15, 2024

### Disabled American Veterans

Received a presentation from the past national commander on their time as the national commander for the Disabled American Veterans.

### Draft Legislation: Active Duty and Veteran Amendments

Discussed 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[Active Duty and Veteran Amendments](#)," which would remove the residency requirement for in-state tuition at a state institution of higher education for certain individuals, including active military members, military veterans, family members of active military members, and family members of military veterans.

**Action:** Voted to formally express the commission's support for the bill.

### Draft Legislation: National Guard and Military Amendments

Discussed 2025 General Session draft legislation, "[National Guard and Military Amendments](#)," which would:

- clarify what electronic means the State Armory Board may use in conducting meetings and taking official action;

- exempt the Utah National Guard, in limited circumstances, from the Open and Public Meetings Act and the procurement code;
- allow the Utah National Guard to repay student loans for active members of the Utah National Guard;
- address the appointment and responsibilities of certain judge advocates;
- address the use of force by a military service member or a member of the National Guard in certain circumstances;
- clarify that the Department of Veterans and Military Affairs serves as the State Approving Agency for Utah under United States Code, Title 38, Veterans Benefits; and
- provide that a military chaplain may solemnize a marriage.

**Action:** *Voted to formally express the commission's support for the bill.*

### **North Dakota Native Veterans Guide**

Received a presentation regarding the [North Dakota Native Veterans Guide](#).

### **Veteran Access to State Parks**

Received an update from the Department of Veterans and Military Affairs regarding 2024 General Session S.B. 108, "[Veteran Access to State Parks](#)," which created a one-year pilot program that expands free access to state parks on a limited basis to veterans who have an Interagency Military-Lifetime Pass for national parks and are a resident of the state.

### **Veteran Service Organizations Update**

Received presentations from various veteran services organizations, including Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, and Disabled American Veterans, regarding key issues they are focusing on and their legislative priorities.

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



# Committee Bill Files Opened by Legislative Committees For the 2025 General Session, as of October 18, 2024

Total number of committee bill files opened: 102

\*Bills opened since the September interim meetings are in *italics*.

## Business and Labor

- Ambulance Services Amendments
- Building Inspector Amendments
- Certified Public Accountant Licensing Amendments
- Consumer Protection Amendments
- Corporate Organization Amendments
- Cosmetology Amendments
- Firefighter Cancer Amendments
- Health Facility Administrator Act Amendments
- Homeowner Insurance Market Amendments
- Insurance Investment Amendments
- Massage Therapy Amendments
- Solar Panel Disclosure Amendments
- Trust Company Eligibility Amendments
- Wildfire Modifications
- *Artificial Intelligence Changes\**
- *Equine Dentistry and Veterinary Practice Amendments\**
- *Insurance Modifications\**
- *Public Agency Insurance Mutual Amendments\**
- *Professional Licensure Background Checks\**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 19

## Economic Development and Workforce Services

- Board of Tourism Development Amendments
- Native American Remains Review Committee Amendments
- Refugee Services Amendments
- *Manufacturing Modernization Grant Sunset Amendments\**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 4

## Education

- Class Size Reduction Modifications
- Education Program Sunset Amendments
- English Learner Amendments
- Statewide Online Education Program Modifications
- *Education Testing Amendments\**
- *Public Education Revisions\**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 6

## Federalism Commission

- State Resource Management Plan Amendments

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 1

## Government Operations

- Ballot Distribution Revisions
- Division of Purchasing and General Services Amendments
- Election Fundraising Modifications
- Election Information Amendments
- Intergovernmental Support Agreement Modifications
- Internal Service Fund Amendments
- Limited Local Purpose Government Entities Board of Trustees Compensation Amendments
- *Ballot Counting Amendments\**
- *Construction Amendments\**
- *Election Code Amendments\**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 10

## Health and Human Services

- Correctional Health Amendments
- Criminal Justice and Mental Health Coordination Amendments
- Health Care Facility Amendments
- Vaccine Modifications
- 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
- *Concurrent Resolution Authorizing Adult Sentencing and Supervision Length Guidelines and Juvenile Disposition Guidelines\**
- *Ritual Abuse Amendments\**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 10

## Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice

- Criminal Code Recodification
- Criminal Offenses Modifications
- Private Sale of a Firearm Sunset Review Amendments
- Prostitution Offense Amendments
- Sex Offense Registry Amendments
- Sexual Extortion Amendments

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 6

## Legislative Water Development Commission

- Concurrent Resolution Regarding the Grand County Water Conservancy District
- Livestock Watering Rights Amendments
- Water Rights Applications Amendments
- Water Rights Recording Amendments

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 4

## 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
- Mineral Bonding Study
- Provo Canyon Resource Management Plan Amendments
- Water Revisions
- Wildfire Resources Compact Amendments
- *Hemp Amendments\**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 6

# Committee Bill Files Opened by Legislative Committees For the 2025 General Session, as of October 18, 2024

Total number of committee bill files opened: 102

\*Bills opened since the September interim meetings are in *italics*.

## Political Subdivisions

- Elected Official Bonding Requirements
- Municipal Incorporation Amendments
- Title 17 Recodification
- Utah Housing Amendments
- Voting Precinct Amendments
- *Municipal Liens for Utility Connections Amendments\**

**Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 6**

## Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology

- Decommissioned Asset Disposition Amendments
- *Committee of Consumer Services Sunset Amendments\**
- *Electricity Rate Amendments\**

**Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 3**

## Retirement and Independent Entities

- Long-term Disability Amendments
- Retirement Amendments
- *Long-term Disability Benefit Modifications\**
- *Utah Retirement Systems Amendments\**
- *Utah Retirement Systems Amendments for Military Personnel\**

**Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 5**

## Revenue and Taxation

- Centrally Assessed Property Amendments
- Petroleum Storage Amendments
- Property Tax Act Modifications
- Sales and Use Tax Act Amendments
- Sales and Use Tax Remittance Amendments
- State Income Tax Amendments
- Tax Withholding Amendments
- Vehicle Registration Modifications
- *High Cost Infrastructure Development Tax Credit Amendments\**
- *Income Tax Credit Review Amendments\**
- *Minimum Basic Program Amendments\**

**Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 11**

## Rules Review and General Oversight Committee

- Child Welfare Reporting Amendments

**Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 1**

## Transportation

- Motor Vehicle Division Amendments
- Road Jurisdiction Amendments
- Traffic Control Amendments
- *Unsecured Load Amendments\**

**Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 4**