



# MINUTES

## SENATE EDUCATION STANDING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, February 19, 2025 | 8:00 a.m. | 210 Senate Building

### Members Present:

Sen. John D. Johnson, Chair  
Sen. Heidi Balderree  
Sen. Lincoln Fillmore  
Sen. David P. Hinkins  
Sen. Michael K. McKell

Sen. Kathleen A. Riebe  
Sen. Chris H. Wilson

### Staff Present:

Micah Ann Wixom, Policy Analyst  
Calvin Cruz, 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 Johnson called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

**MOTION:** Sen. Hinkins moved to approve the minutes. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 2.

#### Yeas - 5

Sen. H. Balderree  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Sen. K. Riebe  
Sen. C. Wilson

#### Nays - 0

#### Absent - 2

Sen. L. Fillmore  
Sen. M. McKell

### 1. H.B. 228 Public Education Immunization Amendments (*Lisonbee, K.*)

Rep. Lisonbee presented the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Wilson moved to pass H.B. 228 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 1.

#### Yeas - 6

Sen. H. Balderree  
Sen. L. Fillmore  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Sen. K. Riebe  
Sen. C. Wilson

#### Nays - 0

#### Absent - 1

Sen. M. McKell

### 2. H.B. 265 Higher Education Strategic Reinvestment (*Peterson, K.*)

Rep. Peterson presented the bill with the assistance, Geoffrey Landward, Commissioner of Higher Education, Utah System of Higher Education.

**MOTION:** Sen. Wilson moved to amend H.B. 265 with Amendment #3. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 1.

#### Amendment 3

1. Line 216 through 218a:

216 (1) As used in this section:  
217 {(2)}(a) "Institution of higher education" means an institution described in Section  
217a 53B-1-102.  
218 {(a)}(b) "Program of instruction" means a program of curriculum that leads to the  
218a completion

2 . Line 219 through 221:

219 of a degree, diploma, certificate, or other credential.  
220 ~~{(b)}(2){(c)}~~(a) Under procedures and policies approved by the board and developed in  
221 consultation with each institution of higher education, each institution of higher

3 . Line 250 through 255:

250 (ii)The board may authorize a degree-granting institution to exceed the credit-hour  
251 limit described in Subsection (5)(a)(i) ~~{by six additional credit hours to no more}~~\_  
252 ~~{than 126 credit hours if the institution demonstrates to the board that a}~~\_  
253 ~~{professional licensing or accrediting body requires additional coursework or credit}~~\_  
254 ~~{hours in excess of the limit described in Subsection (5)(a)(i).}~~if the degree:  
(A)is required for professional licensure; or  
(B)has a nationally recognized accreditation standard that mandates a higher credit-hour minimum, including  
circumstances where additional coursework is necessary to protect public health, safety, and welfare.  
255 (b)The board shall develop a process to grant conditional approval of accelerated

Yeas - 6

Sen. H. Balderree  
Sen. L. Fillmore  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Sen. K. Riebe  
Sen. C. Wilson

Nays - 0

Absent - 1

Sen. M. McKell

Kelvyn H. Cullimore, CEO, BioUtah, spoke in favor of the bill.

John England, Education Policy Analyst, Libertas Institute, spoke in favor of the bill.

John Crossant, Utah College Council of American Confederation of Teachers, spoke in favor of the bill.

Krystal Young, lobbyist, Utah Music Educators Association and UAA, spoke to the bill.

Robert Schmidt, resident, spoke to the bill.

Brianne Kramer, ACLU, Utah Board of Directors, spoke to the bill.

Joseph Silverzweig, UAA and Utah Music Educators Association, spoke to the bill.

John Meisner, resident, spoke in opposition of the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Wilson moved to pass H.B. 265 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 1 - 0.

Yeas - 6

Sen. H. Balderree  
Sen. L. Fillmore  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Sen. M. McKell  
Sen. C. Wilson

Nays - 1

Sen. K. Riebe

Absent - 0

**MOTION:** Sen. Riebe moved to amend H.B. 265 with Amendment #4. The motion failed with a vote of 1 - 5 - 1.

Amendment 4

1. Line 92 through 94:

92 the status of a bond and bond payments specified in Section 63B-10-301.

93 (4)Beginning in the 2025 legislative interim, in consultation with the board and a council of presidents of  
94 higher education institutions, the Higher

94 Education Appropriations Subcommittee shall study a re-design of:

2. Line 216 through 218a:

216 (1) As used in this section:

217 {(2)}(a) "Institution of higher education" means an institution described in Section  
217a 53B-1-102.

218 {(a)}(b) "Program of instruction" means a program of curriculum that leads to the  
218a completion

3. Line 219 through 221:

219 of a degree, diploma, certificate, or other credential.

220 {(b)}(2){(c)}(a) Under procedures and policies approved by the board and developed in  
221 consultation with each institution of higher education, each institution of higher

Yeas - 1  
Sen. K. Riebe

Nays - 5  
Sen. H. Balderree  
Sen. L. Fillmore  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Sen. C. Wilson

Absent - 1  
Sen. M. McKell

### **3. S.B. 249 Student Integration Amendments (Cullimore, K. A.)**

Sen. Cullimore presented the bill with the assistance of Susan Edwards, Public Engagement Coordinator, Canyon School District.

Sen. Hinkins assumed the chair.

Brett Peterson, director, Utah Division of Juvenile Justice and Youth, spoke to the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Riebe moved to pass S.B. 249 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 6  
Sen. H. Balderree  
Sen. L. Fillmore  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. M. McKell  
Sen. K. Riebe  
Sen. C. Wilson

Nays - 0

Absent - 1  
Sen. J. Johnson

### **4. H.B. 184 School Trust Land Amendments (Miller, T.)**

Rep. Miller presented the bill.

Cade Douglas, superintendent, Sevier School District, spoke in favor of the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Riebe moved to pass H.B. 184 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 4

Sen. H. Balderree  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. M. McKell  
Sen. K. Riebe

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Sen. L. Fillmore  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Sen. C. Wilson

**MOTION:** Sen. McKell moved to place H.B. 184 on the Consent Calendar. The motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 4

Sen. H. Balderree  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. M. McKell  
Sen. K. Riebe

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Sen. L. Fillmore  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Sen. C. Wilson

**MOTION:** Sen. Riebe moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 4

Sen. H. Balderree  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. M. McKell  
Sen. K. Riebe

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Sen. L. Fillmore  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Sen. C. Wilson

Acting Chair Hinkins adjourned the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

NOTE: S.B. 0205 was not discussed in the meeting.