



Interim Highlights

October 2025, Vol. 25, No. 5



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List of Committee Bills for the 2026 General Session
As of October 17, 2025

Legislative Interim Meetings

Meetings were held October 15, 2025, or as noted

Business and Labor

Draft Legislation: Senior Care Facility Amendments

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Senior Care Facility Amendments](#)," which would address the closure, change of use, or sale of an assisted living facility.

Draft Legislation: Unfair and Deceptive Pricing Amendments

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Unfair and Deceptive Pricing Amendments](#)," which would prohibit hidden fees, mandate clear and conspicuous disclosure of prices, and direct the Division of Consumer Protection to enforce relevant regulations.

Legislative Audit: Department of Alcoholic Beverage Services

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of Legislative Auditor General on [A Systemic Performance Audit of the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Services](#). Heard a response from the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Services.

Nursing and Allied Health Professions

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of Professional Licensure Review on recommendations for statutory changes arising from its review of licensing for nursing and allied health professions.

Office of Professional Licensure Review

Considered potential changes to the statutory requirement that legislation establishing a licensing structure for an unregulated occupation undergo a sunset review through the Office of Professional Licensure Review.

Chairs: Rep. A. Cory Maloy / Sen. Evan J. Vickers
Staff: Rohnin Randles (Policy Analyst) / Robert Wood (Policy Analyst) / Tyler Moore (Associate General Counsel) / Austin Weenig (Associate General Counsel) / Kaelie Mortensen (Administrative Assistant) / Alyssa Castor (Administrative Assistant)

Child Welfare Legislative Oversight Panel

October 17, 2025

Child Fatality Reviews

Received detailed written reports of each fatality review conducted in FY 2025 involving individuals who had an open case for child welfare services within one year of death and, in closed session, asked questions about specific cases.

Division of Child and Family Services Oversight and Accountability

Heard comments from the Department of Health and Human Services regarding the oversight and accountability of caseworkers, including training, performance evaluations, and case reviews.

Statutorily Required Reports

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Health and Human Services regarding the annual review of child welfare cases and the fatality reviews for this last fiscal year.

Chairs: Rep. Christine F. Watkins / Sen. John D. Johnson
Staff: Lisa Sorensen (Policy Analyst) / Kami Orton (Associate General Counsel)

Economic Development and Workforce Services

Housing

Received a [presentation](#) from the Commission on Housing Affordability regarding its recommendations to streamline housing policies in Utah.

Housing Capacity Study

Received a [presentation](#) from the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity and Envision Utah on the results of a housing capacity study and model used to conduct the study.

Rural Film Incentive

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah Film Commission on the Rural Film Incentive program, the incentive budget, the impact of the film incentive, and how Utah compares to other film incentives.

Service Programs for At-Risk Youth in Utah

Received a [presentation](#) from the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute on a [study](#) of community-based approaches to educational achievement and workforce development, which compared different state and federal programs that focus on improving economic mobility for youth and reducing intergenerational poverty.

Tourism

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of Tourism and Film, the Utah Tourism Industry Association, and Wittwer Hospitality about the transient room tax, impacts of tourism on Utah's economy and rural economy, the challenges facing tourism, and past and upcoming marketing campaigns.

Workforce Services

Received a [presentation](#) from Talent Ready Utah regarding programs, partnerships, research, and the impact of Talent Ready Utah.

Chairs: Rep. Jon Hawkins / Sen. Ann Millner
Staff: Sivan Nizan (Policy Analyst) / Rhonda Bailey (Associate General Counsel) / Samantha Merrell (Administrative Assistant)

Education

Davis School District and Davis Catalyst Center

Introduction

Heard a welcome message from Davis School District representatives.

Draft Legislation: Education Board Amendments

Heard comments from a legislator on 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Education Board Amendments](#)," which would address the governance of the public education system.

Draft Legislation: Public School Attendance Amendments

Heard comments from a legislator on 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Public School Attendance Amendments](#)," which would address student attendance monitoring, chronic absenteeism supports, and accountability requirements for local education entities.

Draft Legislation: School Fee Waiver Amendments

Heard comments from a legislator on 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[School Fee Waiver Amendments](#)," which would address school fee waivers, including limiting the number of fee waivers a student may receive per school year.

State Board of Education Attendance Audit

Received a [presentation](#) on the State Board of Education's Attendance [Audit](#), prepared by the board's Internal Audit Department.

State Board of Education Legislative Priorities

Received a presentation from the State Board of Education on the board's legislative [priorities](#) and prioritized funding [requests](#) for the 2026 legislative session.

Action: Opened a committee file to address some of the State Board of Education's legislative priorities.

Chairs: Rep. R. Neil Walter / Sen. John D. Johnson
Staff: Finn Andrew Rose (Managing Policy Analyst) / Micah Ann Wixom (Policy Analyst) / Tyler Keetch (Associate General Counsel) / Jeff Van Hulten (Associate General Counsel) / Mike Curtis (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Amy Hawkes (Administrative Assistant)

Federalism Commission

October 16, 2025

Department of Environmental Quality

Heard a [presentation](#) by the Department of Environmental Quality on work being done by the department to implement long range goals and a strategic plan.

Federal Guidance Letters

Received a [presentation](#) from commission staff regarding federal guidance letters received from state agencies and the creation of a tracking spreadsheet to identify the guidance letters received and the criteria proposed to analyze the guidance letters.

Federalism Education and Training Program

Received a report from Utah Valley University regarding efforts with state agencies to create a federalism education and training program.

Federalism Summit Overview

Discussed the lessons learned, experiences, and future plans related to the recent federalism summit. Discussed plans for outreach to other states.

Law Enforcement Issues

Discussed law enforcement issues relating to federal government jurisdiction and local authority in general police powers. Heard from the sheriff of Utah County and the sheriff of Kane County regarding deputization under Rule 287G to enforce federal immigration laws. Heard from a law professor regarding the constitutional authority of the federal government in the area of law enforcement.

Report on Land Applications for Federally Managed Lands

Received a [report](#) from the Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office regarding a statutorily required survey of land applications within the state between July 1, 2014, and July 1, 2024.

State Resource Management Plan

Received a [presentation](#) from the Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office regarding [recommended statutory changes](#) to the state resource management plan.

Action: Opened a commission bill file to incorporate the recommended statutory changes to the state resource management plan.

Chairs: Rep. Ken Ivory / Sen. Keven J. Stratton
Staff: Nathan W. Brady (Policy Analyst) / Gus Harb (Senior Associate General Counsel) / Samantha Merrell (Administrative Assistant)

Government Operations

Division of Facilities Construction and Management Operations and Costs

Received a [presentation](#) and final [report](#) from the Department of Government Operations regarding the department's deep dive into the Division of Facilities Construction and Management's (DFCM) operations. Discussed a legislator's proposed changes to strengthen DFCM's role, evaluate return on investment, and ensure cost efficiency.

Division of Technology Services Annual Report

Received a [presentation](#) and annual [report](#) from the Division of Technology Services regarding the division's projects and emerging issues over the past year.

Draft Legislation: Political Signs Amendments

Discussed 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Political Signs Amendments](#)," which would amend provisions related to the defacement, placement, removal, and disposal of political signs.

Draft Legislation: State Credit Card Processing Fees

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Credit Card Processing Fee Amendments](#)," which would address the recovery of a fee charged by a credit card company or a processing agent to process an electronic payment.

Election Administration

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor regarding potential clean-up to the Election Code and changes to the way in which write-in candidates are processed.

Action: Opened two committee bill files: one to address changes to ballot processing for write-in candidates and one to address a variety of changes to the Election Code.



Legislative Audit - The Office of Inspector General of Medicaid Services

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General regarding [A Performance Audit of the Office of Inspector General of Medicaid Services, Policy Options for Improved Governance and Medicaid Oversight](#), and discussed the audit's policy options to improve accountability.

State-Endorsed Digital Identity

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Government Operations regarding progress towards implementation of a state-endorsed digital identity program.

Chairs: Rep. Jefferson S. Burton / Sen. Ronald M. Winterton
Staff: Kirsi Jarvis (Policy Analyst) / Megan L. Bolin (Senior Policy Analyst) / Michael Cipriano (Associate General Counsel) / Thomas R. Vaughn (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Tracey Fredman (Administrative Assistant)

Health and Human Services

Draft Legislation: Feminine Hygiene Products Amendments

Received a presentation from a legislator regarding 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Feminine Hygiene Products Amendments](#)," which would provide labeling requirements for menstrual products.

Draft Legislation: Health and Human Services Sunset Amendments

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Health and Human Services Sunset Amendments](#)," which would address certain health and human services related sunset provisions.

Draft Legislation: Health Data Amendments

Received a presentation from a legislator regarding 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Health Data Amendments](#)," which would amend provisions related to the Department of Health and Human Services' health data authority.



Opioid Settlement Fund

Received presentations from [committee staff](#), the [Department of Health and Human Services](#), and a [presentation](#) and [handout](#) from the Utah Association of Counties regarding the Opioid Settlement Fund. Received comments from the Office of the Attorney General regarding the fund.

Rural Health Transformation Program

Received a [presentation](#) and [handout](#) from the Department of Health and Human Services regarding an update on state efforts toward submitting the Rural Health Transformation Program application.

Chairs: Rep. Katy Hall / Sen. Keith Grover
Staff: Lisa Sorensen (Policy Analyst) / Seth Anderson (Policy Analyst) / Amy Shewan (Associate General Counsel) / Christopher Williams (Associate General Counsel) / Kami Orton (Associate General Counsel) / Gabi Prior (Administrative Assistant)

Judiciary

Draft Legislation: Adoption Amendments

Considered 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Adoption Amendments](#)," which would address:

- adoption agency licensing requirements and liability;
- advertising regulations, reporting obligations, and adoption-related expenses and fees;
- counseling for birth parents;
- requirements for consenting to adoption; and
- the circumstances under which consent may be revoked.

Draft Legislation: Joint Resolution Regarding Constitutional Brackets

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Joint Resolution Regarding Constitutional Brackets](#)," which would direct the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel to remove the brackets surrounding titles in future constitutional amendments and the published Utah Constitution.

Draft Legislation: Service Animal Amendments

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Service Animal Amendments](#)," which would require the Division of Corporations and Commercial Code to publish the contact information and website of the protection and advocacy agency that can assist the public in understanding current laws and regulations regarding service animals, and would enhance the penalty for injuring, harassing, or endangering a service animal.

Sentencing Guidelines

Received presentations from [committee staff](#) and 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. Karianne Lisonbee / Sen. Todd Weiler
Staff: Jonathan Adams (Policy Analyst) / Jacqueline Carlton (Senior Associate General Counsel) / Paige Nelson (Associate General Counsel) / Naomi Garrow (Administrative Assistant)

Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice

Collateral Consequence Guide

Received a [presentation](#) from the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice regarding the 2025 [Collateral Consequences Guide](#), which provides an overview of legal and regulatory restrictions for individuals who are convicted of criminal offenses.

Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Compensation

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah Conservation Officers Association regarding the Department of Natural Resources law enforcement compensation.

Action: Opened a committee bill file addressing law enforcement compensation within the Department of Natural Resources.

Draft Legislation: Assault or Threat of Violence Amendments

Received a presentation from committee staff, a legislator, and stakeholders on 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Assault or Threat of Violence Amendments](#)," which would make it a crime to assault or threaten violence against an off-duty peace officer, or their family members, if the assault or threat of violence is committed due to the individual's status as a peace officer.

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2026 General Session draft legislation, "Assault or Threat of Violence Amendments."

Draft Legislation: Criminal Offense Modifications

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Criminal Offense Modifications](#)," which would make technical corrections to certain Utah criminal offenses.

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2026 General Session draft legislation, "Criminal Offense Modifications."

Draft Legislation: Digital Evidence Amendments

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff and a legislator on 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Digital Evidence Amendments](#)," which would require an annual report listing agencies that do not comply with fee payments for digital evidence examination. The draft legislation would also require cities and counties to:

- have a digital forensics laboratory;
- contract to use a digital forensics laboratory;
- provide support to the Regional Computer Forensics Laboratory (RCFL); or
- pay an annual fee to the Department of Public Safety to utilize RCFL.

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2026 General Session draft legislation, "Digital Evidence Amendments."

Draft legislation: Human Trafficking Amendments

Received a presentation from committee staff and a legislator on 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Human Trafficking, Exploitation, and Smuggling Amendments](#)," which would revise elements of human trafficking offenses and create new offenses on patronizing a trafficking victim.

Chairs: Rep. Ryan D. Wilcox / Sen. Calvin R. Musselman
Staff: Lacey Johnson (Policy Analyst) / Taylor Calabrese (Policy Analyst) / Shad Larson (Associate General Counsel) / Jackie Rogers (Associate General Counsel) / Amy Hawkes (Administrative Assistant)

Legislative Redistricting

September 22, 2025

Draft Legislation "Redistricting Modifications"

Received a [presentation](#) on 2025 First Special Session draft legislation, "[Redistricting Modifications](#)," which would establish a statistical method to use in evaluating redistricting plans for compliance with a requirement under state law. Discussed the draft legislation and possible modifications to the draft legislation.

Overview of 2025 Redistricting

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on the redistricting process.

Presentation on Redistricting Methodology and Proposed Maps

Received a presentation from a redistricting expert on redistricting methodologies and Proposition 4 standards. Discussed proposed maps.

September 24, 2025

Consideration of Congressional Redistricting Maps

Received a [presentation](#) from committee chairs on five proposed congressional maps. Received a [presentation](#) from committee members and a redistricting expert on an additional proposed congressional map.

October 06, 2025

Consideration of Congressional Redistricting Maps

Action: Favorably recommended [map C](#) for consideration in the 2025 First Special Session.

Chairs: Rep. Candice B. Pierucci / Sen. Scott D. Sandall
Staff: John Q. Cannon (Director) / Joseph T. Wade (Data Analyst) / Mike Curtis (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Thomas R. Vaughn (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Sarah Flanigan (Legislative Operations Manager) / Kaelie Mortensen (Administrative Assistant)

Legislative Water Development

Commission

October 14, 2025

Central Iron County Water Conservancy District

Received a [handout](#) and [presentation](#) from the Central Iron County Water Conservancy District regarding an effluent water capture and reuse project in Cedar Valley.

Deer Creek Reservoir

Received a [presentation](#) from the Provo River Water Users Association regarding the replacement of the Deer Creek Reservoir inlet structure.

Draft Legislation: Drinking Water Utilities

Amendments

Received a presentation on 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Drinking Water Utilities Amendments](#)," which would address security at drinking water facilities.

***Action:** Expressed support for 2026 General Session draft legislation, "Drinking Water Utilities Amendments."*

Draft Legislation: Water Rates Amendments

Received a presentation from a legislator, the Division of Water Resources, and Utah Water Ways on 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Water Rates Amendments](#)," which would address the setting of water rates, including providing for increasing block units for residential water use in certain water rate structures.

Draft Legislation: Well Drilling Amendments

Considered 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Well Drilling Amendments](#)," which would address the drilling of water wells, including requiring the state engineer to require by rule that a well owner file a bond or other surety with the state engineer that is payable to the well driller for nonpayment.

Chairs: Rep. Thomas W. Peterson / Sen. Keven J. Stratton
Staff: Charley Hart (Policy Analyst) / Julie Humberstone (Managing Policy Analyst) / Patricia Owen (Senior Associate General Counsel) / Ryan C. Williams (Associate General Counsel) / Kaelie Mortensen (Administrative Assistant)

Medical Cannabis Governance Structure

Working Group

October 14, 2025

Agency Update

Received updates from the [Department of Agriculture and Food](#) and the [Department of Health and Human Services](#) on suggestions for legislative changes to improve Utah's Medical Cannabis Program.

Medical Cannabis Policy Advisory Board Update

Received an update from the Medical Cannabis Policy Advisory Board on recent advisory board activities and legislative recommendations.

Medical Cannabis Use in Hospitals

Heard comments from healthcare facility representatives and medical cannabis patient advocates on the possible benefits and drawbacks of medical cannabis use by terminally ill patients in healthcare facilities.

Program Accessibility for Medical Cannabis Patients

Received a [presentation](#) from University of Utah researchers about understanding the motives for illicit medicinal cannabis use.

THC Potency in Medical Cannabis Products

Considered the possible benefits and drawbacks of limiting THC potency for medical cannabis products in Utah.

Workers' Compensation and Medical Cannabis

Received a presentation from a Utah business owner and considered issues related to on-the-job injuries when illicit use of cannabis or use of medical cannabis is involved.

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

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment

Draft Legislation: Airborne Chemicals Amendments

Received a [presentation](#) and [handout](#) from the Division of Water Resources on the differences between the state's cloud seeding program and geoengineering activities. Received a [presentation](#) on 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Airborne Chemicals Amendments](#)," which would address the release of chemicals from aircrafts.

***Action:** Approved as a committee bill 2026 General Session draft legislation, "Airborne Chemicals Amendments."*

Draft Legislation: Geothermal Amendments

Received a [presentation](#) from the Division of Water Rights on geothermal projects in Utah.

Received a [handout](#) summarizing how other states address ownership and define geothermal resources. Considered 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Geothermal Amendments](#)," which would address geothermal resources or fluids, including modifying provisions related to ownership of geothermal resources or fluids.

***Action:** Approved as a committee bill 2026 draft legislation, "Geothermal Amendments."*

Draft Legislation: Land Trusts Protection and Advocacy Office Amendments

Received a [presentation](#), [handout](#), and [letter of support](#) regarding 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Land Trusts Protection and Advocacy Office](#)," which would clarify the Land Trusts Protection and Advocacy Office's role and implement distribution accountability requirements for non-public trust beneficiaries.

Draft Legislation: Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Technical Changes

Received a [presentation](#) and summary from committee staff on 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Technical Changes](#)," which would address obsolete programs and make technical changes.

Action: *Approved as a committee bill 2026 General Session draft legislation, "Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Technical Changes."*

Draft Legislation: Wildlife Management Area Amendments

Received a [presentation](#) regarding 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Wildlife Management Area Amendments](#)," which would address wildlife management areas, including modifying requirements related to access to a wildlife management area and providing for voluntary financial contributions for the benefit of wildlife management areas.

Action: *Approved as [amended](#) 2026 General Session draft legislation, "Wildlife Management Area Amendments," as a committee bill.*

Chairs: Rep. Carl R. Albrecht / Sen. Keven J. Stratton
Staff: Charley Hart (Policy Analyst) / Julie Humberstone (Managing Policy Analyst) / Patricia Owen (Senior Associate General Counsel) / Ryan C. Williams (Associate General Counsel) / Kaelie Mortensen (Administrative Assistant)

Political Subdivisions

County Recorders Standards Board Report

Received a statutorily required [report](#) from the County Recorders Standards Board regarding the operations and activities of the board and recommendations for statutory changes.

Action: *Opened a committee bill file to incorporate the recommended statutory changes from the County Recorders Standards Board.*

Housing and Transportation Planning Overview

Received a report from the Utah League of Cities and Towns regarding [recent legislation](#) on housing and transportation planning, [station area plans](#), and [housing and transit reinvestment zones](#).

Statewide Housing Plan

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on the statutory requirements that the Governor's Office of Planning and Budgets (GOPB) develop a statewide housing plan. Received a [report](#) from the GOPB that summarizes the development of the statewide [housing plan](#).

Chairs: Rep. James A. Dunnigan / Sen. Don L. Ipson
Staff: Nathan W. Brady (Policy Analyst) / RuthAnne Oakey-Frost (Senior Associate General Counsel) / Steve Schaefermeyer (Associate General Counsel) / Naomi Garrow (Administrative Assistant)

Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology

APEX Energy

Received a [presentation](#) from APEX Energy on the value of renewable energy resources.

Office of Energy Development: Statutorily Required Reports

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of Energy Development on the following statutorily required reports:

- Energy Research Grant Program;
- Alternative Energy Development Tax Credit;
- Utah Energy Research Board;
- Utah Energy Council;
- Energy Policy Review;
- High-Cost Infrastructure Tax Credit; and
- Strategic Energy Plan.

Public Service Commission: Statutorily Required Reports

Received a [presentation](#) from the Public Service Commission on the following statutorily required reports:

- [Electrical Power Delivery Quality Plan](#);
- Forced Retirement of Electrical Generation Facilities;
- Large-scale Electric Service Requirements; and
- Universal Public Telecommunications Service Support Fund.

Chairs: Rep. Colin W. Jack / Sen. Derrin R. Owens
Staff: Samantha Hermany (Senior Policy Analyst) / Scott Elder (Associate General Counsel) / Samantha Merrell (Administrative Assistant)



Revenue and Taxation

A Performance Audit of Local Authorities'

Property Tax and the Shifting Tax Burden

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General on a performance [audit](#) of local authorities' property tax differences and how property tax burden is shifting from commercial to residential property.

Property Tax Burden

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on property tax burden throughout the state and country.

Property Tax Solutions

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on property tax issues regarding tax burden and truth in taxation. Received potential solutions to the issues for the committee to consider and heard from the State Tax Commission.

***Action:** Opened a committee bill file to shift the property tax burden from residential property to other property types.*

Property Tax Trends

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst regarding property tax trends and the shifts happening throughout the state.

Sales Ratio Study

Received a [presentation](#) from the State Tax Commission regarding the purposes and uses of the Sales Ratio Study. Heard comments from various stakeholders, including the Utah Association of Counties, Salt Lake County Assessor's Office, and brokers from around the state.

Statutorily Required Reports

Heard from committee staff on the statutorily required reports the committee has received. The following reports can be found on the [agency reporting page](#):

- Property Assessment Review Information Report;
- Material Increase in State Income Tax Revenue Report;
- Electronic Cigarette and Nicotine Product Licensing and Taxation Act Report; and
- License Plates.

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

Rules Review and General Oversight Committee

September 25, 2025

Election Systems: Administration, Oversight, and Signature Verification

Received a presentation from the Lieutenant Governor's Office of Elections on [proposed changes](#) to administrative rules governing signature verification and ballot auditing. Discussed the timeline for processing candidate nominating petitions and statutory provisions creating a minimum number of signatures required for a candidate's initial submission of nominating packets.

High School Safety and Incident Reporting

Received testimony from former employees of Salt Lake City School District regarding an October 2023 stabbing incident at West High School. Discussed the process for reporting behavioral violations as students transfer between schools in the district and the district's response to employees raising safety concerns.

Kratom Product Regulation

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Agriculture and Food on [proposed changes](#) to administrative rules regulating kratom products. Discussed safety concerns involved with allowing the manufacture and sale of products containing kratom in conjunction with another substance. Received input from industry representatives on kratom safety and efficacy.

October 16, 2025

High School Activities Association Disciplinary Proceedings

Received comments from the Utah High School Activities Association outlining the structure of the association and the process for investigating potential violations by member schools. Discussed protections to ensure that association disciplinary committees are free from conflicts of interest.

High School Safety and Incident Reporting

Received testimony from representatives of Salt Lake City School District regarding information presented in testimony during the previous committee meeting. Discussed the facts known to the district prior to an October 2023 stabbing at West High School, the district's response to employee safety concerns, and the district's feedback on best practices to promote school safety.

Office of Inspector General of Medicaid Services Audit

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General on the *Performance Audit of the Office of Inspector General of Medicaid Services*. Discussed the audit findings and recommendations, including policy options for reorganization of the Office. Received a response from the interim inspector general responding to the audit findings and the Office's plan for improvement.

Action: Opened a committee bill file to address issues raised by legislative auditors in the audit report.

Protection of Public Employees

Discussed the current anti-retaliation protections for state employees that report government waste or violations of law under the [Utah Protection of Public Employees Act](#). Reviewed the list of protected activities and discussed the need to expand protections for other forms of retaliation.

Action: Opened a committee bill file to add protections against retaliation in the form of third-party complaints to licensing regulators and licensing sanctions for state employees.

Reauthorization of Administrative Rules

Received an explanation from committee staff on the administrative rules reauthorization [process](#), which currently states that all administrative rules are set to expire on May 1, 2026.

Action: Opened a committee bill file to reauthorize all administrative rules for a period of one year.

Chairs: Rep. Trevor Lee / Sen. Daniel McCay
Staff: Rohnin Randles (Policy Analyst) / Christopher Williams (Associate General Counsel) / Tracey Fredman (Administrative Assistant)

School Security Task Force

September 22, 2025

Higher Education Campus Safety

Heard from the School Security Task Force chairs about the shooting incident at Utah Valley University on September 10, 2025.

Roundtable Discussion

Discussed additional updates on and discussion about school safety issues and the task force's responsibilities.

School Safety Updates from the School Security Task Force

Received presentations from members of the School Security Task Force about how implementation of school safety legislation is proceeding, including any roadblocks, and other school safety issues the task force may want to consider. Presenters included the state security chief, the [State Board of Education](#), the [St. George Police Department](#), and a school security expert.

October 13, 2025

Campus Safety

Received a presentation from the University of Utah's Department of Public Safety, about the institutions' [Threat Assessment & Management Partnership](#) and [Public Safety Framework](#).

Cybersecurity Standards for Local Education Agencies

Received presentations about cybersecurity issues in public education, including recommendations for minimum cybersecurity standards for local education agencies from:

- the [Office of the Legislative Auditor General](#) regarding [A Performance Audit of Public and Higher Education Cybersecurity](#);
- [Utah Education and Telehealth Network](#) regarding its cybersecurity assessment;
- the [Utah Technology Coordinators Council](#); and
- the [Utah Cyber Center](#).

Roundtable Discussion

Discussed school safety issues and task force responsibilities.

School Safety Center Updates

Received an [update](#) from the School Safety Center on recent developments related to school safety.

School Safety Updates from the School Security Task Force

Received presentations from members of the School Security Task Force about how implementation of school safety legislation is proceeding. Presenters included:

- a legislator on SafeUT's draft [2025 Annual Report](#);
- a [school superintendent](#) sharing feedback on implementation of school safety legislation from various state superintendents;
- Juvenile Justice and Youth Services, sharing an update on reintegration plans; and
- the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office, sharing feedback about the implementation of school safety legislation from county security chiefs from around the state.

Chairs: Rep. Ryan D. Wilcox / Sen. Ann Millner
Staff: Micah Ann Wixom (Policy Analyst) / Jeff Van Hulten (Associate General Counsel) / Amy Hawkes (Administrative Assistant)

Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee

October 10, 2025

Confirmation of Todd Hilbig

Action: Recommended to the Senate the confirmation of Todd Hilbig as a judge in the Utah Third District Court.

Chairs: Sen. Todd Weiler
Staff: Jonathan Adams (Policy Analyst) / Jacqueline Carlton (Senior Associate General Counsel) / Naomi Garrow (Administrative Assistant)

Transportation

2026 Draft Legislation: Boating Safety Education

Received a presentation from a legislator and stakeholders on 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Boating Safety Education](#)," which would address education requirements for boating.

2026 Draft Legislation: Minor Driving Hours

Amendments

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Minor Driving Hours Amendments](#)," which would clarify that a licensed adult driver who can supervise learner permit driving hours includes a stepparent or foster parent.

2026 Draft Legislation: Road Jurisdiction

Amendments

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2026 General Session draft legislation, "[Road Jurisdiction Amendments](#)," which would address the annual transfer of roads into or out of the state highway system.

Local Government Transportation Connectivity Plans

Received a [presentation](#) the Wasatch Front Regional Council, Mountainland Association of Governments, Cache Metropolitan Planning Organization, and Dixie Metropolitan Planning Organization on transportation connectivity plans.

Mobility and Environmental Impact Analysis

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah Department of Transportation on its [Mobility and Environmental Impact Analysis](#).

Novel Vehicles

Received a [presentation](#) from the State Tax Commission on novel vehicle registrations.

Utah Population Database Internal Audit

Received a [presentation](#) from the University of Utah's Utah Population Database on the results of its biennial information security audit of the information systems that store driver license data.

Tax Commission Update

Received a [presentation](#) from the State Tax Commission on issues potentially needing legislative action. Discussed transferring license plates, special interest vehicles, impound yard fencing, fuel tax calculations, and electronic title fees.

Chairs: Rep. Kay J. Christofferson / Sen. Wayne A. Harper
Staff: Rachel Brooks (Policy Analyst) / Riley Williams (Associate General Counsel) / Kurt P. Gasser (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Gabi Prior (Administrative Assistant)



Committee Bill Files Opened by Legislative Committees For the 2026 General Session, as of October 17 2025

Total number of committee bill files opened: 88

Bills opened since the September interim meetings are in *italics

Business and Labor

- Behavior Analyst Licensing Amendments
- Consumer Protection Modifications
- Corporations Amendments
- Health Care Providers Immunity Amendments
- Office of Professional Licensure Review Amendments
- Property Rights Ombudsman Act Amendments
- Trust Business Amendments
- Utah Construction Trades Licensing Act Amendments
- Advertised Fee Amendments
- Business Entities Recodification
- Kratom Revisions
- *Scope of Practice Amendments**
- *Office of Professional Licensure Review Sunrise Amendments**
- *Construction Code Amendments**
- *Identification Verification Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 15

Economic Development and Workforce Services

- Bears Ears Visitor Center Advisory Committee Amendments
- Child Care Advisory Committee Amendments
- Housing Amendments

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 3

Education

- Online Education Service Provider Funding and Oversight
- Local Education Agency Financial Reporting
- High School Activities Appeals Panel
- Education Technology Vendor Amendments
- *Public Education Revisions**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 5

Federalism

- Statewide Resource Management Plan Amendments*

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 1

Government Operations

- Credit Card Processing Fees Amendments
- Voting Equipment Prohibitions Amendments
- Candidate Petition Amendments
- Signature Gathering and Verification Amendments
- Signature Verification Revisions
- Community Rehabilitation Program Amendments
- Signature Gathering and Verification Modifications
- *Write-in Candidates Amendments**
- *Election Code Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 9

Health and Human Services

- Health Plan Provider Directory Amendments
- Medicaid Expansion Amendments
- Healthcare Provider Noncompete Amendments
- Health and Human Services Sunset Amendments
- Correctional Health Services Amendments
- *Gold Medal Schools Pilot Program**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 6

Judiciary

- Amendments to Interdisciplinary Parental Representation Pilot Program
- Appeal Amendments
- Joint Resolution Amending Rules of Evidence Concerning Crimes or Other Acts
- Joint Resolution Regarding Constitutional Brackets
- Juvenile Justice Changes
- Limitations on the Use of Polygraphs
- Adoption Amendments
- Alternative Dispute Resolution Sunset Amendments
- Public Land Access Amendments
- Tribal Endorsement of Utah Driver License Amendments
- *Sentencing and Juvenile Disposition Guidelines Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 11

Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice

- Digital Evidence Amendments
- Human Trafficking Amendments
- Law Enforcement Use of Artificial Intelligence Amendments
- Criminal Offense Modifications
- Criminal Use of Cryptocurrency Amendments
- Prison and Jail Standards Amendments
- Statutorily Required Reports and Presentations Amendments
- Criminal Penalty Amendments
- *Law Enforcement Salary Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 9

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment

- Soil Health Program Amendments
- State Weed Committee Amendments
- Lead Acid Battery Disposal Sunset Amendments
- Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Technical Changes
- Used Oil Management Act Amendments
- *Weed Control Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 6

Political Subdivisions

- Title 17 Recodification
- County Forms of Government Amendments
- Title 10 Technical Amendments
- Municipal Fiscal Processes Technical Amendments
- County Government Amendments
- County Classification Modifications
- *County Recorder Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 7

Retirement and Independent Entities

- Administrative and Technical Modifications to Retirement

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 1

Continued on next page

Committee Bill Files Opened by Legislative Committees For the 2026 General Session, as of October 17, 2025

Total number of committee bill files opened: 88

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

Revenue and Taxation

- Tax Modifications
- Sales and Use Tax Exemptions Amendments
- Tax Credit Review Process Amendments
- *Property Valuation Amendments**
- *Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution—Primary Residential Exemption**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 5

Rules Review and General Oversight Committee

- Signature Gathering Amendments
- Joint Resolution Amending Rules Relating to the Practice of Law
- *Public Employee Retaliatory Action Amendments**
- *Medicaid Inspector General Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 4

Transportation

- Transportation Commission Amendments
- Boating Safety Education
- Motor Vehicle Division Amendments
- Road Jurisdiction Amendments
- Vintage Vehicle Amendments
- Motor Vehicle Data Privacy Amendments

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 6
