



# MINUTES

## HOUSE TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE

LEGISLATURE

Wednesday, February 25, 2026 | 8:00 a.m. | 445 State Capitol

**Members Present:**

Rep. Kay J. Christofferson, Chair  
Rep. Calvin Roberts, Vice Chair  
Rep. Kristen Chevrier  
Rep. Ariel Defay  
Rep. Rosalba Dominguez  
Rep. Ken Ivory  
Rep. Ashlee Matthews

Rep. Clinton D. Okerlund  
Rep. Michael J. Petersen  
Rep. Angela Romero  
Rep. Jake Sawyer  
Rep. Norman K Thurston

**Staff Present:**

Rachel Brooks, Policy Analyst  
Tisha Gibby, Committee Secretary

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

Chair Christofferson called the meeting to order at 8:12 a.m.

**MOTION:** Rep. Sawyer moved to approve the February 23, 2026 minutes. The motion passed with a vote of 8 - 0 - 4.

Yeas - 8

Rep. K. Chevrier  
Rep. K. Christofferson  
Rep. K. Ivory  
Rep. C. Okerlund  
Rep. M. Petersen  
Rep. C. Roberts  
Rep. J. Sawyer  
Rep. N. Thurston

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Rep. A. Defay  
Rep. R. Dominguez  
Rep. A. Matthews  
Rep. A. Romero

**1. S.B. 172 Airport and Air Amendments(Harper, W.)**

Sen. Wayne Harper presented the bill.

Paul Nielson, SLC Attorney's Office, SLC Department of Airports, provided clarification.

Dave Haymond, Utah General Aviation Association, and Utah Aviation Coalition, spoke in favor of the bill.

Seth Stewart, resident, spoke to the bill.

**MOTION:** Rep. Roberts moved to pass SB0172 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 9 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 9

Rep. K. Chevrier  
Rep. K. Christofferson  
Rep. A. Defay  
Rep. K. Ivory  
Rep. C. Okerlund  
Rep. M. Petersen  
Rep. C. Roberts  
Rep. J. Sawyer  
Rep. N. Thurston

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Rep. R. Dominguez  
Rep. A. Matthews  
Rep. A. Romero

**2. 1st Sub. H.B. 491 State Highway Designation Amendments(Shallenberger, D.)**

Rep. David Shallenberger presented the bill.

Leif Elder, Utah Department of Transportation, spoke in favor of the bill.

**MOTION:** Rep. Thurston moved to amend HB0491S01 with Amendment #2. The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 1.

Amendment 2

1. Line 148 through 161:

148 designation;  
149 (d)does not propose more than one special designation of a highway for the same  
150 individual; and  
151 (e)honors;  
(i) an individual who:  
152 ~~{(i)}~~~~(A)~~~~{(A)}~~exemplifies exceptional bravery in the line of duty, including as a fallen  
153 officer, fire fighter, emergency responder, or member of the armed forces~~{(i)}~~; or  
154 ~~{(B)}~~provided extraordinary contributions to the state or a particular region of the  
155 state that are of lasting and significant public importance;  
156 ~~{(ii)}~~~~(B)~~has significant ties to the state; and  
157 ~~{(iii)}~~~~(C)~~has been deceased for at least five years before the proposal of the special  
158 designation~~{(i)}~~; or  
(ii) a group with significant ties to the state.  
159 (3)(a)Signage for the special highway designation shall comply with department  
160 standards and specifications.  
161 (b)Signage is limited to two signs total, with one sign installed for each direction of

2. Line 165 through 169:

165 (i)state General Fund appropriations; or  
166 (ii)private donations or gifts, if the donation or gift is managed in accordance with  
167 applicable law and department policy.  
168 (4)A legislator may propose a special designation of a highway to ~~{the}~~The Natural highway designation  
169 committee created in Section 72-4-402.

3. Line 170 through 190:

170 Section . is enacted to read:  
171 Committee review of proposals of special designations of highways --  
172 Interim committee approval.  
173 (1)There is created ~~{the}~~The Natural highway designation review committee.  
174 (2)The committee is comprised of six legislators appointed as follows:  
175 (a)three senators appointed by the president of the Senate; and  
176 (b)three representatives appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.  
(3)The committee shall include at least two members of the minority party.  
177 ~~{(3)}~~~~(4)~~The president of the Senate shall designate one of the Senate appointees as one co-chair  
178 of the committee and the speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate one of  
179 the House of Representatives appointees as the other co-chair.  
180 ~~{(4)}~~~~(5)~~The committee is not a public body and is exempt from Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and  
181 Public Meetings Act.  
182 ~~{(5)}~~~~(6)~~The committee shall receive and hear proposals for special designations of state  
183 highways.  
184 ~~{(6)}~~~~(7)~~The committee may approve only one proposal for the special designation of a state  
185 highway each year.  
186 ~~{(7)}~~~~(8)~~If the committee approves a proposal for a special designation of a state highway, the

187 legislator who proposed the special designation may seek a recommendation from the  
188 Transportation Interim Committee.  
189 ~~(8)~~(9)The Transportation Interim Committee may approve only one proposal for the special  
190 designation of a state highway each year.

Yeas - 11

Rep. K. Chevrier  
Rep. K. Christofferson  
Rep. A. Defay  
Rep. R. Dominguez  
Rep. K. Ivory  
Rep. A. Matthews  
Rep. C. Okerlund  
Rep. M. Petersen  
Rep. A. Romero  
Rep. J. Sawyer  
Rep. N. Thurston

Nays - 0

Absent - 1

Rep. C. Roberts

**MOTION:** Rep. Thurston moved to pass HB0491S01 out favorably as amended. The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 11

Rep. K. Chevrier  
Rep. K. Christofferson  
Rep. A. Defay  
Rep. R. Dominguez  
Rep. K. Ivory  
Rep. A. Matthews  
Rep. C. Okerlund  
Rep. M. Petersen  
Rep. A. Romero  
Rep. J. Sawyer  
Rep. N. Thurston

Nays - 0

Absent - 1

Rep. C. Roberts

**3. H.B. 561 Use of Motorized Vehicles by Minors Amendments(Matthews, A.)**

Rep. Matthews presented the bill with the assistance of Angie Oldham, Unified Police Department.

Kigan Martineau, Utah Association for Justice, spoke to the bill.

Rachel Brooks, policy analyst, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, provided additional clarification on the bill.

Rep. Romero raised a point of order.

**MOTION:** Rep. Thurston moved to amend HB0561 with Amendment #1. The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 1.

**Amendment 1**

1. Line 735 through 743:

735 vehicle.  
736 ~~[(57)](59)~~ "Other on-track equipment" means a railroad car, hi-rail vehicle, rolling stock, or  
737 other device operated, alone or coupled with another device, on stationary rails.  
738 ~~(60)~~"Parent" or "guardian" means:  
739 ~~(a)~~ an individual with a parent-child relationship under Section ~~{78B-15-102; or}~~ 81-5-102.

740 ~~{(b)a legal parent under Section 78B-15-102.}~~  
 741 ~~[(58)](61)~~ (a) "Park" or "parking" means the standing of a vehicle, whether the vehicle is  
 742 occupied or not.  
 743 (b) "Park" or "parking" does not include:

2. Line 1183 through 1190:

1183 (i)the parent or guardian was convicted under Subsection (3)(a); and  
 1184 (ii)the child commits a new violation after the conviction described in Subsection  
 1185 (3)(b)(i).  
 1186 (4)~~(a)~~A law enforcement officer may impound a motorcycle if the operator commits a  
 1187 violation of this part.  
~~(b)A law enforcement officer shall notify the parent or guardian of a child who violates this part.~~  
 1188 (5)An impoundment under this section is subject to Section 41-6a-1406.  
 1189 (6)A motorcycle impounded for a violation of Subsection (1) is subject to an  
 1190 administrative impound fee of \$50.

Yeas - 11

Nays - 0

Absent - 1

Rep. K. Chevrier  
 Rep. K. Christofferson  
 Rep. A. Defay  
 Rep. R. Dominguez  
 Rep. K. Ivory  
 Rep. A. Matthews  
 Rep. C. Okerlund  
 Rep. M. Petersen  
 Rep. A. Romero  
 Rep. J. Sawyer  
 Rep. N. Thurston

Rep. C. Roberts

**MOTION:** Rep. Thurston moved to amend HB0561 with Amendment #2. The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 1.

Amendment 2

1. Line 8 through 15:

8 →amends the definition of "motorcycle" to include a mini-motorcycle;  
 9 →provides that mini-motorcycles are the same as a motorcycle for purposes of traffic laws,  
 10 registration, insurance, and driver license purposes;  
 11 →~~{creates an offense in certain circumstances for a parent or guardian of a child who violates~~  
 12 ~~certain safety provisions related to a bicycle, motorcycle, and other similar devices;}~~  
 13 →provides for the impoundment of a motorcycle involved in certain traffic violations; and  
 14 →makes technical changes.  
 15

2. Line 1175 through 1192:

1175 (1)An adult, parent, or guardian may not authorize or knowingly permit a child to violate  
 1176 this part.  
 1177 (2)A child who violates this part is guilty of an infraction.  
 1178 ~~{(3)A parent or guardian of a child described in Subsection (2) is guilty of:}~~  
 1179 ~~{(a)a class C misdemeanor if:}~~  
 1180 ~~{(i)the child has previously committed a violation of this part; and}~~  
 1181 ~~{(ii)the parent or guardian was notified of the prior violation; or}~~  
 1182 ~~{(b)a class B misdemeanor if:}~~

- 1183 ~~{(i)the parent or guardian was convicted under Subsection (3)(a); and}~~
- 1184 ~~{(ii)the child commits a new violation after the conviction described in Subsection }~~
- 1185 ~~(3)(b)(i).}~~
- 1186 ~~{(4)}(3)A law enforcement officer may impound a motorcycle if the operator commits a~~
- 1187 ~~violation of this part.~~
- 1188 ~~{(5)}(4)An impoundment under this section is subject to Section 41-6a-1406.~~
- 1189 ~~{(6)}(5)A motorcycle impounded for a violation of Subsection (1) is subject to an~~
- 1190 ~~administrative impound fee of \$50.~~
- 1191 ~~{(7)}(6)The fee described in Subsection {(6)}(5) shall be deposited into the Brain and Spinal Cord~~
- 1192 ~~Injury Fund created in Section 26B-1-318.~~

Yeas - 11

Nays - 0

Absent - 1

Rep. K. Chevrier  
Rep. K. Christofferson  
Rep. A. Defay  
Rep. R. Dominguez  
Rep. K. Ivory  
Rep. A. Matthews  
Rep. C. Okerlund  
Rep. M. Petersen  
Rep. A. Romero  
Rep. J. Sawyer  
Rep. N. Thurston

Rep. C. Roberts

**MOTION:** Rep. Romero moved to pass HB0561 out favorably as amended. The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 11

Nays - 0

Absent - 1

Rep. K. Chevrier  
Rep. K. Christofferson  
Rep. A. Defay  
Rep. R. Dominguez  
Rep. K. Ivory  
Rep. A. Matthews  
Rep. C. Okerlund  
Rep. M. Petersen  
Rep. A. Romero  
Rep. J. Sawyer  
Rep. N. Thurston

Rep. C. Roberts

**MOTION:** Rep. Thurston moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 11

Nays - 0

Absent - 1

Rep. K. Chevrier  
Rep. K. Christofferson  
Rep. A. Defay  
Rep. R. Dominguez  
Rep. K. Ivory  
Rep. A. Matthews  
Rep. C. Okerlund  
Rep. M. Petersen  
Rep. A. Romero  
Rep. J. Sawyer  
Rep. N. Thurston

Rep. C. Roberts

Chair Christofferson adjourned the meeting at 9:18 a.m.

NOTE: 01st Substitute H.B. 0398 was not discussed in the meeting.