



Interim Highlights

June 2026, Vol. 26, No. 2



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As of June 23, 2026

Legislative Interim Meetings

Meetings were held June 17, 2026, or as noted

Business and Labor

Consumer Protection Issues

Received a [presentation](#) from the Division of Consumer Protection on the most common complaints and scams involving consumers.

Heard from local event venue owners on ticketing chargeback scams and the impact on their businesses.

Draft Legislation: Construction Amendments

Discussed 2027 General Session draft legislation, "[Construction Amendments](#)," which would amend provisions of the construction code and create professional licensing standards for electrical utility contractors.

Homeowners Insurance

Received presentations from [committee staff](#) and representatives from the [Insurance Department](#), fire chiefs, and [industry partners](#) on concerns related to affordability for homeowners' insurance, particularly in wildfire-prone areas.

Discussed policies enacted in other states to address gaps in coverage or to provide premium relief for homeowners through mitigation efforts.

Insurance Market Updates

Received an [update](#) from the Insurance Department on current trends in health, auto, and homeowners' insurance markets, including changes in average premiums over the past year.

Response to OPLR's Policy Recommendations in Annual Review

Discussed [recommendations](#) from the Office of Professional Licensure Review on proposed legislative changes relating to its annual review and research on two study items relating to national groups and healthcare consumer protections.

Action: Opened a committee bill file to adopt recommendations from the Office of Professional Licensure Review relating to physicians and allied health professions.

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

Child Welfare Legislative Oversight Panel

A Performance Audit of the Division of Child and Family Services: The Need for Improved Oversight and Controls in Child Welfare

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General on [A Performance Audit of the Division of Child and Family Services](#). Heard responses from the [Division of Child and Family Services](#) and the [Office of Service Review](#) on implementation of audit recommendations.

Child Fatality Review and Individual Child Welfare Cases

Received detailed reports of fatality reviews conducted in FY2026 involving individuals who had an open case for child welfare services within one year of death.

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

Economic Development and Workforce Services

Artificial Intelligence and Data Center Policy

Received an [overview](#) from committee staff regarding data centers, including definitions of "data center" currently in Utah Code.

Action: Opened a committee bill file to address large data centers in Utah.

Governor's Office of Economic Development

Received a [presentation](#) from the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) on the [Strategic Plan](#), including the foundational pillars and guiding principles of GOED and its programs and partners.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on the history of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, the allowable uses for TANF funds, and how the money flows from the federal government to the state.

Received an [overview](#) from the Department of Workforce Services on the purposes of TANF and the process of reviewing all contracts.

Workforce Needs

Received a [presentation](#) from Talent Ready Utah and Education Workforce Programs. Discussed the mission and purpose of Talent Ready Utah, the partnerships and impacts of its programs, and the goals of an upcoming study on workforce needs.

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

Education

Legislative Audit: Public Education Reading Programs

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General on [A Performance Audit of Public Education K-3 Reading Programs](#) and heard a [response](#) from the State Board of Education.

Public Education: Successful Arts Education Implementation

Received presentations from [Magna STEAM Elementary](#) and [Syracuse Arts Academy](#) on how they've implemented arts education programs.

Sunset Review: Food Security Council

Conducted a review of the [Food Security Council](#) at Utah State University, which is scheduled to sunset on July 1, 2027.

Sunset Review: Higher Education Corrections Council

Received a [review](#) of the Higher Education and Correctional Council, from the Department of Corrections and Davis Technical College, which is scheduled to sunset on July 1, 2027.

Chairs: Rep. R. Neil Walter / Sen. John D. Johnson
Staff: Finn 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)

Government Operations

Chief Privacy Officer Report

Received a [presentation](#) from the chief privacy officer on Utah's current privacy strategy, privacy program reports, and recommendations for statutory changes.

Cost of Elections

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on the costs of elections in Utah and other states, different types of elections, and estimated cost projections.

Received presentations from:

- the [Office of the Lieutenant Governor](#) on state election administration costs;
- [Weber County](#) on costs of local election administration; and
- [Salt Lake County](#) on the costs for municipal elections.

Judicial Invitation to Amend the Utah Procurement Code

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on the Utah Court of Appeals decision, *WellSky Corp v. Procurement Policy Board*, and possible amendments to the Utah Procurement Code.

Sunset Review Process

Received an [overview](#) from committee staff of the sunset review process and the sunset reviews assigned to the committee.

Sunset Review: Approval of International Trade Agreement

Received information from committee staff regarding the history of Section [67-1-15](#) Approval of International Trade Agreement - Consultation with the International Relations and Trade Commission, which is scheduled to sunset on December 31, 2027.



Sunset Review: Multi-Agency Strike Force Annual Report

Received [information](#) from the Office of the Utah Attorney General regarding the purpose and implementation of Section [67-5-22.7](#), Multi-agency strike force annual report, which is scheduled to sunset on January 1, 2027.

Utah Voter Registration Citizenship Review

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor on the Utah [voter registration citizenship review](#), including methodology used, summary of findings, and recommendations from the review.

Chairs: Rep. Calvin Roberts / Sen. Ronald M. Winterton
Staff: Devon Schechinger (Policy Analyst) / Kirsi Jarvis (Policy Analyst) / Michael Cipriano (Associate General Counsel) / Thomas R. Vaughn (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Tracey Fredman (Administrative Assistant)

Health and Human Services

Child Mental Health Wait Times Study

Received a [presentation](#) from the University of Utah on a preliminary report regarding a study of wait times and barriers to accessing pediatric mental health care in Utah.

Long Term Services and Supports Study

Heard from the Department of Health and Human Services on the [Long-Term Services and Supports Project](#) study, which was published in March 2026.

Medicaid and H.R. 1 Implementation

Received an update from the Department of Health and Human Services regarding the implementation of various changes to the Medicaid program, including Medicaid work requirements, phasing down provider tax rates, and changes to state directed payments.

Medicaid Skilled Nursing Facility Upper Payment Limit Program

Received presentations from [committee staff](#), [representatives](#) of a non-state government owned nursing care facility, the Department of Health and Human Services, representatives of Beaver Valley Hospital, and the [Utah State Auditor](#) regarding Utah's Medicaid Skilled Nursing Facility Upper Payment Limit Program.

Office of Inspector General of Medicaid Services

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of the Inspector General of Medicaid Services regarding emerging trends of Medicaid fraud, waste, and abuse and its actions to identify and address emerging trends, including preliminary investigations conducted by the office.

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

Indigent Defense Services

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah Indigent Defense Commission, along with comments from the Utah Attorney General's Office, on statewide indigent defense services and specific challenges related to indigent appellate defense.

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

Construction Fraud

Received an [overview](#) from the Attorney General's Office and the Division of Consumer Protection on construction fraud. Considered suggestions to address construction fraud in Utah.

DNA Program Funding

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Public Safety about the State Crime Lab's participation in the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) and the lab's funding structure for collecting and processing DNA.

Emerging Technologies Utilized by Law Enforcement

Received a [handout](#) and heard from Utah's Law Enforcement and Legislative Committee members on how technology like drones, facial recognition, artificial intelligence, and real time crime centers are being used by law enforcement. Discussed whether there should be a statutory framework for the use of these technologies by law enforcement.

Extending the Statute of Limitations on Patterns of Unlawful Activity

Received a [presentation](#) from the Attorney General's Office on whether Utah's criminal offense, pattern of unlawful activity, should have a longer statute of limitations.



Sunset Review: General Duties of the Search and Rescue Advisory Board

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Public Safety and Sevier County on Search and Rescue Advisory Board duties and whether the board should sunset next year.

Sunset Review: Grid Resilience Committee

Heard from the Department of Public Safety and the Division of Public Utilities on the impact and duties of Utah's [Grid Resilience Committee](#) to determine if the committee should sunset next year.

Sunset Review: Utah Attorney General Prosecution Council

Heard from the [Utah Prosecution Council](#) on the council's duties, how it trains prosecutors and law enforcement, and whether the council should sunset next year.

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 Process Committee

June 18, 2026

Sunset Bills

Received a [presentation](#) (slides 3 and 4) from committee staff on the sunset bill process and potential policy recommendations for the committee to consider.

Actions: Opened a House Rules Resolution, a Senate Rules Resolution, and a Joint Rules Resolution.

Moved to add the process of opening an "omnibus" sunset bill to the Joint Rules Resolution. The resolution would require interim committees to recommend sunset changes to be included in the omnibus sunset bill, and would narrow the definition of a sunset bill.

Call of the Senate and House

Action: Moved to clarify House and Senate rules to allow for a call of the House or Senate regardless of whether the vote is by roll call or electronically.

Other Technical Rule Changes

Action: Moved to add to the Joint Rules Resolution:

- clarification of terminology for rules governing appropriations committees and the budgeting process; and
- updates to references relating to the "General Oversight" committee.

Quorum Exceptions

Received a [presentation](#) (slide 6) from committee staff on the current quorum requirements and possible amendments.

Substituting Legislation

Received a [presentation](#) (slide 5) from committee staff on the current process for substituting legislation in both chambers and potential policy recommendations.

Workforce Growth

Received background information from the committee chair on a potential report to track workforce growth created as legislation passes.

Chairs: Rep. James A. Dunnigan / Sen. Lincoln Fillmore
Staff: John Q. Cannon (Director) / Megan L. Bolin (Senior Policy Analyst) / Christine R. Gilbert (Deputy General Counsel) / Victoria Firmage (Administrative Assistant Team Lead)

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment

Antifreeze Recycling

Received a [presentation](#) from the Division of Waste Management and Radiation Control regarding a study of the potential for antifreeze recycling.

Childcare Facility Lead Testing

Received a [proposal](#) from the Division of Drinking Water to continue testing and mitigating lead contamination in schools and childcare facilities.

Electronic Reporting of Drinking Water Data

Received a [proposal](#) from the Division of Drinking Water to allow the electronic submission of public drinking water monitoring data.

Electronic Waste Recycling

Received a [handout](#) and heard from Trans-Jordan Cities, Intermountain Regional Landfill, and the National Waste and Recycling Association about the need and potential for lithium-ion battery recycling. Heard comments from the Division of Waste Management and Radiation Control on lithium-ion battery recycling.

Emission Reduction Credit Markets

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of the State Auditor regarding carbon credit transaction reporting. Received a [presentation](#) by the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food and Working Lands Conservation about the Three Creeks carbon capture project. Heard from the Division of Air Quality about the differences between carbon credit markets and its Clean Air Act registry, which does not include carbon credits.

Sunset Reviews

Received a [presentation](#) and a [handout](#) from committee staff on four sunset reviews [assigned](#) to the committee, which are scheduled to sunset on July 1, 2027:

- Sections [19-4-115](#), [26B-2-407](#), and [53G-9-212](#), which address drinking water quality in schools and child care centers;
- Section [63L-11-204](#), which addresses a resource management plan for Provo Canyon;

- Section [4-39-104](#), which addresses the Domesticated Elk Act advisory council; and
- [Title 4, Chapter 46, Part 2](#) and Subsections [4-46-304\(2\)\(d\)](#), and [4-46-401\(3\)\(a\)](#), which address the Land Conservation Board.

Waste Tire Recycling Program

Received a [presentation](#) from the Division of Waste Management and Radiation Control regarding the [Waste Tire Recycling Program](#). Also heard comments from a lobbyist for a large waste tire recycler and a [presentation](#) from the Salt Lake County Health Department regarding issues with the program.

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) / Alyssa Castor (Administrative Assistant)

Political Subdivisions

Appointed Board Members to Special Districts

Discussed concerns with unelected individuals being appointed to boards of special districts that have authority to increase taxes. Considered creating a workgroup to study this issue and provide recommendations at a future meeting.

Draft Legislation: Municipal Incorporation

Amendments

Considered 2027 General Session draft legislation, "[Municipal Incorporation Modifications](#)," which would address the feasibility study process, application process, incorporation process, and public review of proposed preliminary municipalities.

Impact Fees on New Homes

Received a [presentation](#) from a legislator regarding impact fees charged on small homes relative to very large homes. Discussed the process of imposing an impact fee and how fees can be used.

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

Draft Legislation: Nuclear Energy Consortium Sunset Repeal

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2027 General Session draft legislation, "[Nuclear Energy Consortium Sunset Repeal](#)," which would remove the repeal date for the Nuclear Energy Consortium.

Balcony Portable Solar Generation Devices Safety Standards

Received an update from Utah Associate Municipal Power Systems and the [Utah Rural Electric Cooperative Association](#) on safety concerns with balcony portable solar generation devices.

Enbridge Gas Rates

Received a [presentation](#) from Enbridge Gas Utah on recent natural gas rate changes for consumers and broader context on natural gas market conditions.

Natural Gas Pipeline Capacity Study

Received presentations from [Williams Company](#) and [Kern River Gas Transmission](#) on natural gas pipeline systems and capacity in Utah.

Utah Energy and Geoscience Institute Update

Received a [presentation](#) from the University of Utah's Energy and Geoscience Institute on the work and modeling capabilities of the institute.

Utah Energy Council Update

Heard an update from the Utah Energy Council on its updated membership and recent [motion](#) authorizing the Intermountain Power Agency to initiate and conduct a Request for Proposals for the potential transfer of the Intermountain Power Plant coal plants.

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

Revenue and Taxation

Effectiveness and Utilization of Tax Credits

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff, as part of the five-year review cycle required by statute, on the following tax credits:

- the corporate and individual tax credit for a pass-through entity taxpayer;
- the individual tax credit for taxes paid by a pass-through entity;
- the corporate and individual tax credit for research activities conducted in the state;
- the individual tax credit for employment of persons who are homeless;
- the corporate and individual tax credit for a donation to the Carson Smith Opportunity Scholarship Program;
- the individual tax credit for Utah Educational Savings Plan contributions; and
- the individual tax credit for at-home parents.

Action: Voted to add to the opened omnibus committee bill:

- removal of the corporate and individual tax credits for a pass-through entity taxpayer from the required five-year review cycle;

- removal of carryforwards in the calculation for removal of a tax credit from the tax return; and
- language clarifying that the calculation should be made post audit.

International Money Transmissions

Heard from the Department of Financial Institutions and the Money Services Round Table on the process and potential issues relating to international money transmissions. Discussed 2026 General Session H.B. 141, [International Money Transmission Amendments](#), which would have imposed a tax on international money transmissions under certain circumstances.

Report: Utah's Growing Share of Nonprimary Residential Property Tax

Received a [presentation](#) from the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute on nonprimary residential property tax, which is a growing portion of property taxes in Utah.

Sales and Use Tax Filing Status

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on sales and use tax filing which can be done quarterly, monthly, or annually depending on the seller. Heard comments from the State Tax Commission on how the commission handles filing statuses.

Action: Voted to add clarification on who is eligible for the annual sales tax filing status and who may receive the seller discount to the omnibus committee bill.

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

Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee

June 12, 2026

Appointment of Jay Jorgensen

Considered the appointment of Jay Jorgensen to the Utah Supreme Court.

Appointment of Stephen Dent

Considered the appointment of Stephen Dent to the Utah Supreme Court.

June 15, 2026

Confirmation of Jay Jorgensen

Action: Recommended to the Senate the confirmation of Jay Jorgensen as a justice for the Utah Supreme Court.

Confirmation of Stephen Dent

Action: Recommended to the Senate the confirmation of Stephen Dent as a justice for the Utah Supreme Court.

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

Transportation

Bridge Conditions

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah Department of Transportation on bridge conditions across the state.

Child Restraints

Received a [presentation](#) from a legislator and Intermountain Health on 2027 General Session draft legislation, "[Child Car Seat Requirements](#)," which would modify child restraint and passenger safety requirements.

Electronic Titling

Received a [presentation](#) from the State Tax Commission on the Motor Vehicle Division's transition to electronic titling.

Emissions Testing

Received presentations from the [Division of Air Quality](#) and the [Association of Local Health Departments](#) on the current frequency and methods of vehicle emissions testing.

Trooper Funding

Received presentations from [committee staff](#) and the [Utah Highway Patrol](#) and heard an overview from the Utah Department of Transportation on proposed methods to tie funding for Highway Patrol troopers to road capacity projects.

Vehicle Taxes and Fees

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on taxes and fees associated with vehicle registration.

Discussed taxes and fees associated with vehicle registration and provisions proposed by 2026 General Session H.B. 505, "[Vehicle Tax and Fee Amendments](#)."

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)

Veterans and Military Affairs Commission

June 16, 2026

2026 General Session Bills

Received an [overview](#) from commission staff regarding relevant legislation passed during the 2026 General Session.

Commission Membership

Acknowledged Frank Maughan and Ross Ford, who are departing the commission, and welcomed new members, Greg Paras and Matthew J. Critchfield.

Department of Veterans and Military Affairs Update

Received an update from the Department of Veterans and Military Affairs, including June 2026 [data](#) on the department and its programs, the [layout](#) and [overview](#) of a new nursing home, and an [overview](#) and [master plan](#) of a new cemetery in northern Utah.

Hill Air Force Base Update

Received an update from Hill Air Force Base, including current activities and support of worldwide missions.

National Guard Update

Received an update from the Utah National Guard, including information regarding the new infantry battalion.

Veteran Suicide Prevention

Received presentations from the [Office of the Medical Examiner](#) and [Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute](#) regarding suicide prevention among Utah veterans.

Chairs: Rep. Val L. Peterson / Sen. Todd Weiler
Staff: Charley Hart (Policy Analyst) / Shad Larson (Associate General Counsel) / Tracey Fredman (Administrative Assistant)



Committee Bill Files Opened by Legislative Committees For the 2027 General Session, as of June 23 2026

Total number of committee bill files opened: 15
*Bills opened since the May interim meetings are in *italics*

Business and Labor

- *Health Professions Licensing Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 1

Economic Development and Workforce Services

- *Large Data Center Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 1

Health and Human Services

- *Behavioral Health Amendments**
- *Skilled Nursing Facility Upper Payment Limit Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 2

Judiciary

- Amendments to Protective Orders and Stalking Injunctions

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 1

Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice

- Speedy Trial Amendments
- *Law Enforcement Technology Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 2

Legislative Management Committee

- Revisor's Technical Corrections to Utah Code
- Revisor's Supplemental Corrections to Utah Code

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 2

Legislative Process Committee

- *Joint Rules Resolution—Changes to Joint Rules**
- *Senate Rules Resolution—Amendments to Senate Rules**
- *House Rules Resolution—Amendments to House Rules**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 3

Retirement and Independent Entities

- Utah Retirement Systems Amendments
- Independent Entities Amendments

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 2

Revenue and Taxation

- *Tax Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 1
