Interim Highlights

October 2026, Vol. 26, No. 5



IN THIS ISSUE:

Business and Labor
Child Welfare Legislative Oversight Panel
Economic Development and Workforce Services
Education
Federalism Commission
General Oversight Committee
Government Operations
Health and Human Services
Judiciary
Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice
Legislative Water Development Commission
Medical Cannabis Governance Structure Working Group
Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment
Political Subdivisions
Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology
Revenue and Taxation
Transportation

List of Committee Bills for the 2027 General Session
As of October 23, 2026

Legislative Interim Meetings

Meetings were held October 21, 2026, or as noted

Business and Labor

Legislative Prioritization of Occupation Reviews Report

Received a presentation from the Office of Professional Licensure Review on proposed periodic occupation reviews for the upcoming year.

> *Action: Approved the list of periodic occupation reviews without modification.*

Residence Lien Recovery Fund Report

Received a report from the Division of Professional Licensing on the Residence Lien Recovery Fund balance and the division's recommendations regarding the repeal of certain provisions of the act.

> *Action: Directed staff to incorporate recommendations from the Division of Professional Licensing into draft legislation to repeal certain provisions of Title 38, Chapter 11, Residence Lien Restriction and Lien Act, that depend on money in the Residence Lien Recovery Fund, while retaining homeowner lien protections that do not.*

Draft Legislation: Health Professions Licensing Amendments

Considered 2027 General Session Draft Legislation, "Health Professions Licensing Amendments," which would modify licensing and regulation provisions for various health professions regulated by the Division of Professional Licensing.

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Health Professions Licensing Amendments."

Draft Legislation: Professional Licensing Modifications

Considered 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Professional Licensing Modifications," which would:

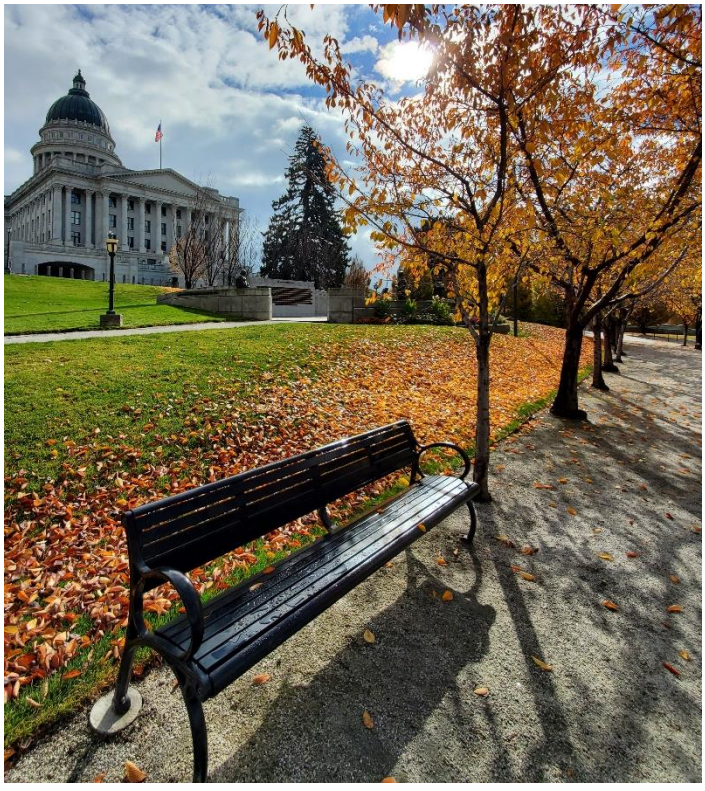
- amend provisions related to professional licenses by clarifying scope of practice for physicians, advanced practice registered nurses, physician assistants, nurses, and estheticians;
- establish provisions governing surgical procedures and surgical assisting;
- revise requirements related to medical spas and cosmetic medical procedures; and
- make other changes related to health care services.

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Professional Licensing Modifications."

Draft Legislation: Health Profession Licensing Modifications

Considered 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Health Profession Licensing Modifications," which would modify licensing requirements for radiologic and medical technologists and requirements related to medication administration in nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

Action: Approved as a committee bill 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Health Profession Licensing Modifications."



Draft Legislation: Property Management Amendments

Considered 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Property Management Amendments," which would amend provisions related to property management and address reporting for property management violations with the Division of Consumer Protection and Division of Real Estate.

Health Insurance Policy Review

Received a presentation from the Insurance Department on health insurance markets and state policy, including observations on Utah's health insurance marketplace and policy actions taken in other states.

Action: Opened a committee bill file to incorporate recommendations from the Insurance Department

Office of AI Policy: AI Learning Laboratory Report

Received a presentation from the Office of Artificial Intelligence Policy following up on recommendations presented during the September interim and detailing policy considerations resulting from the 2026 Learning Laboratory program.

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

October 22, 2026

Guardian Ad Litem Oversight Committee Update

Received an update from the Office of Guardian ad Litem on the Guardian ad Litem Oversight Committee and the implementation of the requirements in 2026 General Session H.B. 372, "Child Welfare Changes."

Child Welfare Parental Representation Program Report

Received a presentation from the Utah Indigent Defense Commission on the Child Welfare Parental Representation Program.

Child Protection Ombudsman Report

Received a presentation from the Department of Health and Human Services on the complaints filed with the Child Protection Ombudsman regarding the Division of Child and Family Services.

Division of Child and Family Services Audit Update

Received an update from the Department of Health and Human Services on implementation of the recommendations from *A Performance Audit of the Division of Child and Family Services*.

Child Fatality Review Executive Summary

Received a presentation from the Division of Continuous Quality and Improvement on the child fatality review executive summary and performance measure outcomes for the Division of Child and Family Services.

Child Fatality Review and Individual Child Welfare Cases

Received detailed written reports of each fatality review conducted in FY 2026 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.

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

Utah Inland Port Authority

Received a presentation from committee staff introducing the "Economic Development Authorities." Discussed the creation, statutory purposes, and governing board makeup of the Utah Inland Port Authority (UIPA).

Received a handout from UIPA regarding the investments and economic impact of UIPA, the core objectives and current project areas, and an explanation of tools available to UIPA..

Military Installation Development Authority

Received a presentation from committee staff regarding the creation, statutory purposes, and governing board makeup of the Military Installation Development Authority (MIDA).

Heard a presentation from MIDA on its mission, accomplishments, and how MIDA is accountable to the public.

Point of the Mountain State Land Authority

Received a presentation from committee staff regarding the creation, statutory purposes, and governing board makeup of the Point of the Mountain State Land Authority.

Heard a presentation from the Point of the Mountain State Land Authority on its purpose, timeline of redeveloping the Point, and plans for future development.

Draft Legislation: National Register Review Committee Sunset Amendments

Action: *Approved as a committee bill 2027 General Session draft legislation, "National Register Review Committee Sunset Amendments," which would extend the sunset of the committee by 10 years.*

Draft Legislation: Sunset Extension for Service Programs

Action: *Approved as a committee bill 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Sunset Extension for Service Programs," which would extend the sunsets of the One Utah Service Fellowship Program and the Utah Commission on Service and Volunteerism Act by 10 years.*

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

Education

Public Education Institutional Neutrality and Student Clubs

Received a presentation from the State Board of Education (USBE) on institutional neutrality and student clubs in public education.

Public Education Reports

Heard a presentation from USBE on two reports that are required by the provisions of 2025 General Session H.B. 508, "School Data Amendments":

- Reporting Requirements Study; and
- Data Retention Study of Local Education Agencies.

Public Education Legislative Requests

Heard a presentation from USBE on the state board's requests for statutory changes.

Public and Higher Education Workforce Partnerships

Received a joint presentation from USBE and the Utah System of Higher Education (USHE) on education and workforce readiness partnerships between the two systems.

Higher Education Campus Safety Task Force Updates

Received a presentation from USHE on the work and findings of the Campus Safety Task Force.

Legislative Audit: Higher Education High Risk - Tenure

Received a presentation from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General on *A Performance Audit of Tenured Faculty in Higher Education* and heard a response from USHE.

Chairs: Rep. R. Neil Walter / Sen. John D. Johnson
Staff: Finn Rose (Managing Policy Analyst) / Micah Ann Wixom (Senior 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 22, 2026

General Federalism Issues and Reports

Received reports from the federal delegation and the Utah Association of Counties regarding issues relevant to Utah and its citizens.

Wildland Urban Interface Planning

Heard from the Department of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands regarding the wildland-urban interface planning. 2025 General Session H.B. 48, "Wildland Urban Interface Modifications," requires the department to identify high-risk areas for possible wildfires in the wildland-urban interface areas.

H.B. 546 Implementation

Received a presentation from the Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office (PLPCO) regarding the implementation of 2026 General Session H.B. 546, "Public Lands Duty of Care Amendments," which requires PLPCO to:

- identify and map landscape-scale lands in the state;
- establish map layers for certain criteria on landscape-scale lands;
- map a landscape public nuisance area on landscape-scale lands containing forested areas; and
- report annually on the map to the Federalism Commission and Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee.

Action: Voted to create a work group to study state jurisdictional authority regarding public lands.



Law Enforcement Jurisdictional Issues

Received a presentation from the American Civil Liberties Union regarding federal law enforcement activities. Discussed immigration enforcement, what other states are doing to assert state jurisdictional authority, and actions that Utah could take to further assert state authority.

Federal Funds Risk Analysis

Heard from the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst and Utah State University regarding the requirements of 2026 General Session H.B. 249, "Federal Funds Modifications," to analyze the dependency of the state on federal funds, the risks associated with that dependency, and to model possible contingency planning.

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

General Oversight Committee

October 23, 2026

Administrative Rulemaking Act: Fiscal Impact Statements

Received a presentation from committee staff regarding fiscal impact statements and analyses required under the Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, including a comparison of requirements between regular and emergency rulemaking procedures. Discussed fiscal impacts in the context of proposals by the Department of Transportation to amend Utah Administrative Code R909-19.

Action: Opened a committee bill file to amend the Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act to define costs for the purposes of determining a rule's fiscal impact.

R70-940: Standards and Testing of Motor Fuel

Received a presentation from committee staff on proposed rulemaking by the Department of Agriculture and Food to require E15 fuel to be dispensed through dedicated hoses and systems. Received input from department and industry representatives and considered whether proposed rulemaking complied with legislative intent under the Motor Fuel Inspection Act.

R156-11a: Cosmetology and Associated Professions Licensing Act Rule

Received presentations from cosmetology stakeholders and representatives of the Division of Professional Licensing regarding proposed amendments to Utah Administrative Code R156-11a regarding cosmetology licensing standards. Discussed whether changes reflect the intent of the Legislature regarding language passed under 2025 General Session S.B. 330, "Cosmetology Modifications."

Chair: Sen. Daniel McCay
Staff: Rohnin Randles (Policy Analyst) / Ryan C. Williams (Associate General Counsel) / Tracey Fredman (Administrative Assistant)

Government Operations

Committee Bill Files

Action: Voted to open two committee bill files: one for an omnibus sunset review and another to address the cooperative contract fund reclassification, which would move from an internal service fund to an enterprise fund.

Performance Audit: Division of Facilities and Construction Management

Received a presentation from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General and an agency response from the Division of Facilities and Construction Management on *A Performance Audit of the Division of Facilities Construction and Management*. Discussed improving supervision and control of capital projects, and oversight of capital project planning.

Performance Audit: Examination of Utah's Election System

Received a presentation from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General and responses from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor and the Utah County Clerk on *A Performance Audit of Utah's Election System*, which addressed recurring election control issues.

Election Integrity, Security, Voter Participation

Received a presentation and a report from the Gary R. Herbert Institute for Public Policy at Utah Valley University on a study regarding election integrity, security, and voter participation.

Draft Legislation: Voter Registration Records Amendments

Heard a presentation from committee staff on 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Voter Registration Records Amendments," which would modify provisions regarding access to voter records, expand categories of at-risk voters, and modify requirements for at-risk voter eligibility.

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

Behavioral Health Commission

Received a presentation from the Behavioral Health Commission regarding its recommendations for the 2027 General Session, including proposed investments in behavioral health infrastructure and crisis services, as well as several statutory changes related to crisis response, first responder training, 911/988 coordination, and temporary commitment procedures.

Scarification Sunset Review

Received a presentation from the Office of Professional Licensure Review on a review of the practice and instruction of scarification.

HHS Sunset Reviews

Received an update from committee staff on the legislative sunset process and an overview of the sunset reviews assigned to the Health and Human Services Interim Committee by the Legislative Management Committee for 2026.

> ***Action:*** *Opened a committee bill file to extend some sunset dates in coordination with the Department of Health and Human Services.*

One Utah Health Collaborative

Received a presentation from One Utah Health Collaborative on efforts to improve Utah's healthcare system.

Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

Received a presentation from a Utah high school student on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, including potential sources of exposure, health and environmental concerns, and related policy considerations.

Other Committee Business

> ***Action:*** *Opened a committee bill file to address Meta settlement funds.*

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

Judiciary

Protective Order Working Group Update

Heard remarks from a legislator and the Victim Services Commission regarding working group efforts to amend and clarify protective orders in the related committee bill file.

Draft Legislation: Sexual Abuse of a Child Amendments

> ***Action:*** *Approved as a committee bill 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Sexual Abuse of a Child Amendments," which would amend provisions relating to sexual abuse of a child.*

Legislative Review of Sentencing Guidelines

Received a presentation from committee staff on the legislative review process for adult sentencing and supervision length guidelines and juvenile disposition guidelines and a presentation from the Sentencing Commission on key changes to these guidelines.

> ***Action:*** *Opened a concurrent resolution as a committee bill file to authorize the adult sentencing and supervision length guidelines and juvenile disposition guidelines.*

Audit Report Presentations

Received presentations from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General on the audits addressing judicial independence and accountability, the Utah State Courts, the Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission, and the Judicial Conduct Commission.

> ***Actions:*** *Opened a committee bill file to address the legislative audit recommendations in the first two audits related to the courts.*
>
> *Opened a committee bill file to address the legislative audit recommendations concerning the Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission.*

Chairs: Rep. Karianne Lisonbee / Sen. Todd Weiler
Staff: Jonathan Adams (Policy Analyst) / Lacey Johnson (Policy Analyst) / Jacqueline Carlton (Senior Associate General Counsel) / Paige Nelson (Associate General Counsel) / Naomi Garrow (Administrative Assistant)

Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice

Insanity Defense

Received presentations from the Department of Health and Human Services, the Statewide Association of Prosecutors, the Utah Medical Association, the Utah Psychiatric Association, and defense counsel on the insanity defense, mental examinations, and capacity in the Utah State Hospital.

Draft Legislation: Criminal Provision Technical Corrections

Action: *Approved as a committee bill 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Criminal Provision Technical Corrections," which would make corrections to provisions related to criminal conduct in the Utah Code.*

Electronic Privacy

Received presentations from Libertas Institute and the Institute for Justice on electronic privacy as it relates to law enforcement technology.

School Threat Assessments

Received a presentation from stakeholders, including Utah's State Security Chief and the State Board of Education, on school threat assessments.

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 (Senior Associate General Counsel) / Amy Hawkes (Administrative Assistant)

Legislative Water Development Commission

October 22, 2026

Draft Legislation: Groundwater Management Amendments

Considered 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Groundwater Management Amendments," which would address processes when water rights are subject to nonuse.

Draft Legislation: Water Rights Restricted Account Amendments

Action: *Approved as a commission bill 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Water Rights Restricted Account Amendments," which would modify purposes for the use of the Water Rights Restricted Account and prioritize water rights adjudication.*

Draft Legislation: Colorado River Authority Membership Amendments

Action: *Approved as a commission bill 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Colorado River Authority Membership Amendments," which would add an additional member to the Colorado River Authority and address how members are appointed.*

Draft Legislation: Transfer of Water Interests

Action: *Approved as a commission bill 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Transfer of Water Interests," which would address water rights, shares in water companies, and their relationship to land conveyances.*

Aquifer Study

Heard findings from an in-depth study of the Bountiful Sub-Area of the East Shore Area aquifer, including current groundwater status and the threat of salt infiltration into the aquifer.

Received a presentation and handout from committee staff related to the state water policy, which includes provisions related to groundwater and aquifer recharge.

Great Salt Lake Restoration

Received a presentation and handout from a water resources innovation consultant on a possible long-term water supply solution utilizing technological advances, including in desalination and pipe manufacturing, to restore the Great Salt Lake.

Private Sector Initiatives Supporting the Great Salt Lake

Received a presentation from the Great Salt Lake Watershed Enhancement Trust and a presentation from Great Salt Lake Accounting on their respective activities in support of the Great Salt Lake.

Phragmites Removal Coordination

Heard a presentation from the Division of Plant Industry on its role in phragmites removal.

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) / Alyssa Castor (Administrative Assistant)

Medical Cannabis Governance Structure Working Group

October 19, 2026

Department of Agriculture and Food Inventory Control System Implementation Update

Received an update from the Department of Agriculture and Food on the status of the inventory control system and efforts to implement a new system.

Medical Cannabis Policy Advisory Board Update

Received an update on recent recommendations from the co-chairs of the Medical Cannabis Policy Advisory Board.

Medical Cannabis Recommendation Processes

Considered Utah's medical cannabis virtual visit recommendation policy and received public comment.

Medical Cannabis Qualifying Conditions

Considered Utah's medical cannabis qualifying conditions list and received public comment.

Medical Cannabis and Behavioral Health Services

Received comments from a representative of the Southwest Behavioral Health Center and discussed medical cannabis use by patients served by Local Mental Health and Substance Use Authorities.

Out-of-state Marijuana Entity Advertising

Discussed concerns related to out-of-state marijuana entities placing advertisements in Utah.

Controlled Substance Database Update

Received a presentation from the Division of Professional Licensing on the implementation of a statutory requirement for communication between the medical cannabis electronic verification system and the controlled substance database.

Medical Cannabis Use in Hospitals

Received a presentation on the use of medical cannabis by terminally ill patients in healthcare facilities.

Federal Marijuana Scheduling Changes

Received an update from committee staff on the status of federal controlled substance scheduling changes related to marijuana.

Chairs: Rep. Walt Brooks / Sen. Evan J. Vickers
Staff: Seth Anderson (Policy Analyst) / Christopher Williams (Senior Associate General Counsel) / Alyssa Castor (Administrative Assistant)

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment

State Water Policy Review

Received a presentation and handout from committee staff on the state water policy. The commission is required to review the state water policy annually and recommend priority balancing or any other changes to the Legislature.

Draft Legislation: Precipitation Capture and Storage Amendments

Considered 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Precipitation Capture and Storage Amendments," which would address the capture, storage, and use of precipitation. Received a handout from the sponsor.

Draft Legislation: Resource Development Coordinating Committee Sunset Extension

Action: *Approved as a committee bill 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Resource Development Coordinating Committee Sunset Extension," which would extend the sunset date of the Resource Development Coordinating Committee to July 1, 2037.*

Draft Legislation: Domesticated Elk Advisory Council Sunset Extension

Action: *Approved as a committee bill 2027 draft legislation, "Domesticated Elk Advisory Council Sunset Extension," which would extend the sunset date of the Domesticated Elk advisory council to January 1, 2032.*

Draft Legislation: Land Conservation Board Amendments

Action: *Amended and approved as a committee bill 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Land Conservation Board Amendments," which would change the sunset date extension for provisions related to the Land Conservation Board to July 1, 2032.*

Landscape-Scale Lands Report

Received a presentation from the Utah Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office on the findings of the Landscape-Scale Lands Report, as required by Section 63L-11-502.

Fire Season Report

Received a presentation from the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands on this year's fire season.

Water Year Report

Received a presentation from the Division of Water Resources on the water year that ended September 30, 2026.

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

Public Treasurer's Investment Fund and State Auditor Report

Received a report from the Office of the State Auditor regarding financial reporting of political subdivisions. The office has created an online dashboard tool that tracks financial data for political subdivisions.

Water Rates

Discussed 2026 General Session H.B. 501, "Water Modifications," which would have required water service providers to amend contracts to include water metering and rate changes by 2030 and would have created an infrastructure spending target for each water service provider in order to receive state funding. Heard from the Division of Water Resources, the Utah Rivers Council, West Jordan City, and Murray City.

Draft Legislation: Open and Public Meetings Modifications

Discussed 2027 general session draft legislation "Open and Public Meetings Modifications" which would address filing lawsuits relating to violations of the Open and Public Meetings Act and would provide a period for public entities to correct any alleged violations.

Performance Audit: Salt Lake Public Utilities

Received a presentation from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General on Salt Lake Public Utilities and heard a response from Salt Lake City. The audit recommendations address the funding for future public utilities projects, how the division of public utilities is structured, and current billing practices.

Performance Audit: Utah Impact Fees

Received a presentation from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General on *Utah Impact Fees: A Performance Audit of Current Practices and Policy Considerations*. Legislative recommendations include:

- addressing defined service areas;
- refreshing aging impact fee studies and policy options to address different impact fees between cities; and
- improving transparency on impact fees charged by requiring the state auditor to identify potential solutions.

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: Portable Solar Device Amendments

Considered 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Portable Solar Device Amendments," which would amend provisions relating to portable solar devices.

> ***Action:*** *Approved as a committee bill 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Portable Solar Device Amendments."*

A Performance Audit of Electricity and Natural Gas Cybersecurity

Conducted a review of *A Performance Audit of Electricity and Natural Gas Cybersecurity,* including hearing responses from municipal utilities.

Water System Security Annual Report

Heard a report on security systems at community water systems, including information regarding security incidents, emergency response plans, and any recommendations to improve security at community water systems from the Division of Drinking Water.

Statewide Digital Connectivity Plan Report

Heard a report from the Utah Broadband Center on the statewide digital connectivity plan per Utah Code Section 72-19-203.

Utah Energy Research Board Report

Heard a report from the Utah Energy Research Board on the activities and accomplishments of the board, which oversees and supervises the management of the San Rafael State Energy Lab and the Utah Advanced Nuclear and Energy Institute per Utah Code Section 79-6-1003.

Utah Energy Council Report

Heard an update from the Utah Energy Council on the Intermountain Power Agency's Request for Proposals process regarding the potential sale, transfer, or other disposition of the Intermountain Power Plant coal units.

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

Draft Legislation: Tax Amendments

Received an overview from committee staff on 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Tax Amendments," which would modify various noncontroversial tax issues in the state tax code that the committee has discussed throughout the interim.

Property Tax Relief Programs

Received a presentation from committee staff on the variety of property tax relief programs available to both homeowners and renters.

Property Tax Notice Requirements

Received a handout from committee staff on a property tax valuation notice, a notice of a proposed tax increase, and a tax notice. Received a presentation from the Tooele County Auditor on issues with property tax notices and potential changes to improve the process. Heard comments from the Salt Lake County Treasurer and the Utah Taxpayers Association about the potential changes to property tax notices.

Statewide Tax Administration and Technology Solutions Report

Received a presentation from the Utah Association of Counties on the statutorily required report of the Statewide Tax Administration and Technology Solutions system, the system's web portals, annual performance metrics, and current year revenue and expenditures.

County Appeals Report

Received a presentation (slides 1 through 5) from the State Tax Commission on the report of the number of appeals involving valuation or equalization of real property for which the county board of equalization issued a decision during the preceding calendar year.

Centrally Assessed Value Report

Received a presentation (slides 6 through 10) from the State Tax Commission on the tracking of centrally assessed property value. A report is triggered when there is an entity taxable value drop of 10% or more and when there is an individual taxpayer value drop of 50% or more of centrally assessed property.

Qualifying Increase Report

Heard from the Utah Association of Counties on the statutorily required report of the number of qualifying properties that had a valuation increase of a certain percentage depending on whether the property is residential or commercial.

Municipal Telecommunications License Tax

Received a presentation from committee staff on the municipal telecommunications license tax, which is a local option tax for municipalities on a telecommunications provider's gross receipts from service for that municipality. Heard comments from the Utah League of Cities and Towns and Lumen Technologies on issues with the tax.

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)

Transportation

Utah Transit Authority Governance Update

Received a presentation and handout from the Utah Transit Authority on its new governance structure, a seven-member commission that took effect on July 1, 2026.

Required Reports: UTA Annual Reports

Received a presentation from the Utah Transit Authority on its annual reports required by statute, including a fare contract and transit pass program report, a public-private partnership report, and a financial report.

FrontRunner Update

Received a presentation from the Utah Department of Transportation and the Utah Transit Authority on the FrontRunner 2X project.

Public Transit Innovation Grants

Received a presentation from the Utah Department of Transportation on public transit innovation grants, including funding sources, eligibility requirements, and screening criteria.

Draft Legislation: Commercial Driver Licenses Amendments

> ***Action:*** *Approved as a committee bill 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Commercial Driver Licenses Amendments"" which would end Utah's non-domiciled commercial driver license program.*

Draft Legislation: Motorcycle Amendments

> ***Action:*** *Approved as a committee bill 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Motorcycle Amendments," which would address the lane filtering sunset review.*

CLEAR

Received a presentation on CLEAR and its airport security and identity verification services.

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 2027 General Session, as of October 23, 2026

Total number of committee bill files opened: 41

Bills opened since the September interim meetings are in *italics

Business and Labor

- Health Professions Licensing Amendments
- Property Management Amendments
- *Health Insurance Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 3

Economic Development and Workforce Services

- Large Data Center Amendments

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 1

Education

- *State Board of Education Amendments**
- *System of Higher Education Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 2

Federalism

- Public Lands Planning Amendments

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 1

Government Operations

- Election Deadline Amendments
- Ballot Measure Deadlines Amendments
- Voter Registration Records Amendments
- *Division of Purchasing Modifications**
- *Government Operations Sunset Extension Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 5

Government Oversight

- *Reauthorization of Administrative Rules**
- *General Oversight Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 2

Health and Human Services

- Behavioral Health Amendments
- Skilled Nursing Facility Upper Payment Limit Amendments
- *Health and Human Services Sunset Extensions**
- *Social Media Settlement Fund Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 4

Judiciary

- Amendments to Protective Orders and Stalking Injunctions
- *Concurrent Resolution Regarding Sentencing Guidelines**
- *Judiciary Amendments**
- *Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission Modifications**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 4

Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice

- Speedy Trial Amendments
- Law Enforcement Technology Amendments
- *School Threat Assessment Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 3

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

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment

- Food Recovery Amendments

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 1

Political Subdivisions

- Open and Public Meeting Modifications
- Municipal Annexation Modifications
- *Special District Property Tax Levy Modifications**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 3

Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology

- *Portable Solar Device Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 1

Retirement and Independent Entities

- Utah Retirement Systems Amendments
- Independent Entities Amendments

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 2

Revenue and Taxation

- Tax Amendments
- Tax Revisions
- Municipal Incorporation
- *Telecommunications Tax Amendments**

Total Number of Committee Bill Files Opened: 4