

Utah State Legislature



LEGISLATIVE SPECIAL SESSION PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 2 of the Utah Constitution authorizes the President of the Utah Senate and the Speaker of the Utah House of Representatives to issue a joint proclamation convening the Utah Legislature in a special session when two-thirds of the members of the Senate and House of Representatives favor convening the Legislature into a special session because an emergency in the affairs of the state necessitates convening the Legislature into session; and

WHEREAS, a poll conducted by the President of the Utah Senate and the Speaker of the Utah House of Representatives determined that at least two-thirds of the members of the Utah Senate and at least two-thirds of the members of the Utah House of Representatives are in favor of convening the Legislature into a special session because of the following emergencies in the affairs of the state:

- (1) the Utah Supreme Court's recent decision upending over 100 years of representative democracy in Utah without the voice of the people, leaving the state vulnerable to laws advanced by foreign interests through ballot propositions that citizens cannot amend through elected representatives; and
 - (2) justice court backlogs resulting from an error in recent legislation;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, J. Stuart Adams, President of the Utah Senate, and Mike Schultz, Speaker of the Utah House of Representatives, by the authority vested in us by the Utah Constitution, do by this joint proclamation, call the Sixty-Fifth Legislature of the State of Utah into a Fourth Special Session at the Utah State Capitol in Salt Lake City, Utah, on the 21st day of August, 2024, at 4:45 p.m., to consider legislation to:

- 1. propose a constitutional amendment to Utah voters that restores the traditional effect of citizen initiatives and referenda on Utah laws by ensuring that voters, their elected representatives, and local bodies retain the ability to amend or repeal legislation, and that protects the initiative and referendum process from foreign funding interference;
- 2. increase the allowed number of days for referendum sponsors to gather signatures to place a voter referendum on the ballot, including postponing the effect of legislation that is potentially subject to a voter referendum;
- 3. amend provisions related to the administration of the 2024 regular general election only to the extent necessary to accommodate placing the above proposal to amend the Utah Constitution on the ballot for voter consideration, adding or amending no other provisions related to the 2024 regular general election; and
- 4. amend provisions related to justice court jurisdiction to address an error in 2024 General Session, S.B. 180, Court Jurisdiction Modifications.

President J. Stuart Adams

Litah Senate

Speaker Mike Schultz

Utah House of Representatives