

Part 2 Bill Format

JR4-1-201 General bill format requirements.

- (1) Each bill shall be typewritten or printed on paper 8-1/2 by 11 inches.
- (2)
 - (a) When a bill proposes to enact new law, all of the language proposed to be enacted by the bill shall be underlined.
 - (b) When a bill proposes to enact a statutory section of new law, all of the language in the entire section must be underlined.
 - (c) When a bill proposes to repeal an existing statutory section and reenact that statutory section using new language, the new language of the entire section shall be underlined.
- (3) When a bill proposes to amend a statutory section without repealing the entire statutory section:
 - (a) all of the language to be repealed must appear between brackets with the letters struck through; and
 - (b) all of the new language proposed to be enacted by the bill must be underlined.
- (4) When a bill proposes to repeal a statutory section, the statutory sections to be repealed shall be listed in the long title as required by these rules and listed by statutory section number and bold face at the end of the bill before any special clauses.

Enacted by H.J.R. 11, 2007 General Session

JR4-1-201 General bill format requirements.

- (1) Each bill shall be typewritten or printed on paper 8-1/2 by 11 inches.
- (2)
 - (a) When a bill proposes to enact new law, all of the language proposed to be enacted by the bill shall be underlined.
 - (b) When a bill proposes to enact a statutory section of new law, all of the language in the entire section must be underlined.
 - (c) When a bill proposes to repeal an existing statutory section and reenact that statutory section using new language, the new language of the entire section shall be underlined.
- (3) When a bill proposes to amend a statutory section without repealing the entire statutory section:
 - (a) all of the language to be repealed must appear with the letters struck through; and
 - (b) all of the new language proposed to be enacted by the bill must be underlined.
- (4) When a bill proposes to repeal a statutory section, the statutory sections to be repealed shall be listed in the long title as required by these rules and listed by statutory section number and bold face at the end of the bill before any special clauses.

Amended by H.J.R. 4, 2025 General Session

JR4-1-202 Specific bill format requirements.

- (1) Each bill shall contain:
 - (a) a designation containing the information required by Subsection (2);
 - (b) a short title, which provides a short common description of the bill;
 - (c) the year and type of legislative session in which the bill is to be introduced;
 - (d) the phrase "State of Utah";
 - (e) the sponsor's name, after the heading "Chief Sponsor:";

- (f) if the bill is a House bill that has passed third reading in the House, the Senate sponsor's name after the heading "Senate Sponsor:";
 - (g) if the bill is a Senate bill that has passed third reading in the Senate, the House sponsor's name after the heading "House Sponsor:";
 - (h) a long title, which includes:
 - (i) a brief general description of the subject matter in the bill;
 - (ii) a list of each section of the Utah Code affected by the bill, which cites by statute number those statutes that the bill proposes be amended, enacted, repealed and reenacted, renumbered and amended, and repealed; and
 - (iii) for bills that contain an appropriation, the sum proposed to be appropriated by the bill unless the bill is an appropriation bill or supplemental appropriation bill whose single subject is the appropriation of money;
 - (i) an enacting clause in the following form: "Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:"; and
 - (j) the subject matter, given in one or more sections.
- (2) The designation shall be a heading that identifies the bill by its chamber of introduction and by unique number assigned to it by the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel and shall be in the following form: "S.B." or "H.B." followed by the number assigned to the bill.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

JR4-1-202 Specific bill format requirements.

- (1) Each bill shall contain:
- (a) a designation containing the information required by Subsection (2);
 - (b) a short title, which provides a short description of the bill;
 - (c) the year and type of legislative session in which the bill is to be introduced;
 - (d) the phrase "State of Utah";
 - (e) the sponsor's name, after the heading "Chief Sponsor:";
 - (f) if the bill is a House bill that has passed third reading in the House, the Senate sponsor's name after the heading "Senate Sponsor:";
 - (g) if the bill is a Senate bill that has passed third reading in the Senate, the House sponsor's name after the heading "House Sponsor:";
 - (h) a long title, which includes:
 - (i) a brief general description of the subject matter in the bill;
 - (ii) a list of the bill's key provisions;
 - (iii) a list of each section of the Utah Code affected by the bill, which cites by statute number those statutes that the bill proposes be amended, enacted, repealed and reenacted, renumbered and amended, and repealed; and
 - (iv) for bills that contain an appropriation, the sum proposed to be appropriated by the bill unless the bill is an appropriation bill or supplemental appropriation bill whose single subject is the appropriation of money;
 - (i) an enacting clause in the following form: "Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:"; and
 - (j) the subject matter, given in one or more sections.
- (2) The designation shall be a heading that identifies the bill by the bill's chamber of introduction and by unique number assigned to the bill by the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel and shall be in the following form: "S.B." or "H.B." followed by the number assigned to the bill.

- (3) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall draft a bill's short title and long title described in Subsection (1) using language that:
- (a) accurately and objectively describes the bill's contents; and
 - (b) does not explicitly or implicitly advocate for one or more of the bill's policy objectives.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

JR4-1-203 Effective date of bills.

- (1)
- (a) Unless otherwise directed by the Legislature and subject to Subsections (2) and (3), a bill becomes effective 60 days after the adjournment of the session at which it passed.
 - (b) The 60 days begins to run the day after the Legislature adjourns sine die.
- (2)
- (a) The effective date of a bill may not be a date later than January 1 of the second calendar year immediately following the calendar year of the session at which the bill is passed.
 - (b) A bill with a contingent effective date is not subject to Subsection (2)(a).
- (3)
- (a) If the effective date of a bill is contingent, before the bill may be introduced:
 - (i) the bill sponsor shall inform the legislative general counsel of the contingent effective date; and
 - (ii) the legislative general counsel shall, on behalf of the bill sponsor, request approval of the contingent effective date from the president and speaker.
 - (b) A bill that has a contingent effective date that is not approved by the president and the speaker may not be introduced.
 - (c) Subsections (3)(a) and (b) do not apply to a bill that has a contingent effective date that is contingent on voter approval of an amendment to the Utah Constitution.
- (4) A rules committee, a standing committee, the Senate, or the House of Representatives is prohibited from suspending the provisions of Subsection (2) or (3).