

COUNTY EMPLOYEES RUNNING FOR COUNTY OFFICE

1998 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Sponsor: Gary F. Cox

AN ACT RELATING TO COUNTIES; AND ALLOWING COUNTY EMPLOYEES RUNNING FOR COUNTY OFFICE TO TAKE AN UNPAID LEAVE DURING CAMPAIGN PERIOD.

This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:

ENACTS:

17-15-26, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **17-15-26** is enacted to read:

17-15-26. Leave of absence for county employee seeking election to county office.

(1) A county employee who has filed a declaration of candidacy under Section 20A-9-202 for a county office may, at the employee's discretion, take an unpaid leave of absence, subject to applicable employee policies on giving notice before taking leave, for some or all of the period from the filing of the declaration of candidacy until the earliest of:

- (a) the employee's defeat at a primary election;
- (b) the employee's withdrawal as a candidate for the county office; or
- (c) the day after the regular general election for which the employee is a candidate.

(2) Neither the filing of a declaration of candidacy under Section 20A-9-202 nor a leave of absence under Subsection (1) may be used as the basis for any adverse employment action against the employee, including discipline or termination.