

**Senator Jerry W. Stevenson** proposes the following substitute bill:

**LOCAL AND SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICTS**

**AMENDMENTS**

2013 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Jerry W. Stevenson**

House Sponsor: Stephen G. Handy

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill amends provisions related to a local district and a special service district.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ amends procurement provisions governing a political subdivision;
- ▶ authorizes a local district to operate and maintain a correctional or rehabilitative facility;
- ▶ enacts provisions prohibiting the creation of a local district in certain circumstances;
- ▶ enacts provisions that require the dissolution of a local district in certain circumstances,
- ▶ amends provisions that govern the terms of office of a local district board of trustees;
- ▶ permits a member of the board of trustees to continue to serve until a successor is elected or appointed;
- ▶ amends provisions related to the election of a local district board member;
- ▶ amends provisions related to compensation paid to a member of the board of trustees;



- 26           ▶ prohibits a board of trustees from adopting certain bylaws or rules in certain
- 27 circumstances;
- 28           ▶ amends provisions governing employment of a member of the board of trustees by a
- 29 local district;
- 30           ▶ amends provisions related to a local district audit;
- 31           ▶ authorizes a special service district to provide cemetery services;
- 32           ▶ amends provisions related to filling a midterm vacancy on a local district board;
- 33           ▶ exempts a public transit district from certain licensure requirements; and
- 34           ▶ makes technical and conforming amendments.

35 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

36           None

37 **Other Special Clauses:**

38           None

39 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

40 AMENDS:

- 41           **11-39-107 (Effective 05/01/13)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2012, Chapter 347
- 42           **17B-1-202**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2012, Chapter 97
- 43           **17B-1-217**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2007, Chapter 329
- 44           **17B-1-303**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2012, Chapter 97
- 45           **17B-1-304**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2012, Chapter 97
- 46           **17B-1-306**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2012, Chapter 97
- 47           **17B-1-307**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2010, Chapter 286
- 48           **17B-1-310**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2011, Chapter 107
- 49           **17B-1-311**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2007, Chapter 329
- 50           **17B-1-639**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2009, Chapter 323
- 51           **17B-1-640**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2007, Chapter 329
- 52           **17B-2a-813**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 360
- 53           **17D-1-201**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2011, Chapter 106
- 54           **20A-1-512**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2011, Chapter 40
- 55           **62A-2-110**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2005, Chapter 188

56 ENACTS:

57 17B-1-218, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

60 Section 1. Section **11-39-107 (Effective 05/01/13)** is amended to read:

61 **11-39-107 (Effective 05/01/13). Procurement code.**

62 (1) This chapter may not be construed to:

63 (a) prohibit a county or municipal legislative body from adopting the procedures of the  
64 procurement code; or

65 (b) limit the application of the procurement code to a local district or special service  
66 district.

67 (2) A local entity may adopt procedures for the following construction contracting  
68 methods:

69 (a) construction manager/general contractor, as defined in Section 63G-6a-103; or

70 (b) a method that requires that the local entity draft a plan, specifications, and an  
71 estimate for the building improvement or public works project.

72 (3) For a public works project only and that costs [~~\$10,000,000~~] \$1,000,000 or more,  
73 the following may enter into a contract for design-build, as defined in Section 63G-6a-103, and  
74 adopt the procedures and follow the provisions of the procurement code for the procurement of  
75 and as the procedures and provisions relate to a design-build:

76 (a) a city of the first class;

77 (b) a local district; or

78 (c) a special service district.

79 (4) (a) In seeking bids and awarding a contract for a building improvement or public  
80 works project, a county or a municipal legislative body may elect to follow the provisions of  
81 the procurement code, as the county or municipal legislative body considers appropriate under  
82 the circumstances, for specification preparation, source selection, or contract formation.

83 (b) A county or municipal legislative body's election to adopt the procedures of the  
84 procurement code may not excuse the county or municipality, respectively, from complying  
85 with the requirements to award a contract for work in excess of the bid limit and to publish  
86 notice of the intent to award.

87 (c) An election under Subsection (4)(a) may be made on a case-by-case basis, unless

88 the county or municipality has previously adopted the provisions of Title 63G, Chapter 6a,  
89 Utah Procurement Code.

90 (d) The county or municipal legislative body shall:

91 (i) make each election under Subsection (4)(a) in an open meeting; and

92 (ii) specify in its action the portions of the procurement code to be followed.

93 (5) If the estimated cost of the building improvement or public works project proposed  
94 by a local district or special service district exceeds the bid limit, the governing body of the  
95 local district or special service district may, if it determines to proceed with the building  
96 improvement or public works project, use the competitive procurement procedures of the  
97 procurement code in place of the comparable provisions of this chapter.

98 Section 2. Section **17B-1-202** is amended to read:

99 **17B-1-202. Local district may be created -- Services that may be provided --**

100 **Limitations.**

101 (1) (a) A local district may be created as provided in this part to provide within its  
102 boundaries service consisting of:

103 (i) the operation of an airport;

104 (ii) the operation of a cemetery;

105 (iii) fire protection, paramedic, and emergency services, including consolidated 911  
106 and emergency dispatch services;

107 (iv) garbage collection and disposal;

108 (v) health care, including health department or hospital service;

109 (vi) the operation of a library;

110 (vii) abatement or control of mosquitos and other insects;

111 (viii) the operation of parks or recreation facilities or services;

112 (ix) the operation of a sewage system;

113 (x) the construction and maintenance of a right-of-way, including:

114 (A) a curb;

115 (B) a gutter;

116 (C) a sidewalk;

117 (D) a street;

118 (E) a road;

- 119 (F) a water line;
- 120 (G) a sewage line;
- 121 (H) a storm drain;
- 122 (I) an electricity line;
- 123 (J) a communications line;
- 124 (K) a natural gas line; or
- 125 (L) street lighting;
- 126 (xi) transportation, including public transit and providing streets and roads;
- 127 (xii) the operation of a system, or one or more components of a system, for the
- 128 collection, storage, retention, control, conservation, treatment, supplying, distribution, or
- 129 reclamation of water, including storm, flood, sewage, irrigation, and culinary water, whether
- 130 the system is operated on a wholesale or retail level or both;
- 131 (xiii) in accordance with Subsection (1)(c), the acquisition or assessment of a
- 132 groundwater right for the development and execution of a groundwater management plan in
- 133 cooperation with and approved by the state engineer in accordance with Section 73-5-15;
- 134 (xiv) law enforcement service;
- 135 (xv) the operation and maintenance of a correctional or rehabilitative facility or
- 136 program for municipal, state, or other detainees and prisoners;
- 137 [~~xv~~] (xvi) subject to Subsection (1)(b), the underground installation of an electric
- 138 utility line or the conversion to underground of an existing electric utility line;
- 139 [~~xvi~~] (xvii) the control or abatement of earth movement or a landslide; or
- 140 [~~xvii~~] (xviii) the operation of animal control services and facilities.
- 141 (b) Each local district that provides the service of the underground installation of an
- 142 electric utility line or the conversion to underground of an existing electric utility line shall, in
- 143 installing or converting the line, provide advance notice to and coordinate with the utility that
- 144 owns the line.
- 145 (c) A groundwater management plan described in Subsection (1)(a)(xiii) may include
- 146 the banking of groundwater rights by a local district in a critical management area as defined in
- 147 Section 73-5-15 following the adoption of a groundwater management plan by the state
- 148 engineer under Section 73-5-15.
- 149 (i) A local district may manage the groundwater rights it acquires under Subsection

150 17B-1-103(2)(a) or (b) consistent with the provisions of a groundwater management plan  
151 described in this Subsection (1)(c).

152 (ii) A groundwater right held by a local district to satisfy the provisions of a  
153 groundwater management plan is not subject to the forfeiture provisions of Section 73-1-4.

154 (iii) (A) A local district may divest itself of a groundwater right subject to a  
155 determination that the groundwater right is not required to facilitate the groundwater  
156 management plan described in this Subsection (1)(c).

157 (B) The groundwater right described in Subsection (1)(c)(iii)(A) is subject to Section  
158 73-1-4 beginning on the date of divestiture.

159 (iv) Upon a determination by the state engineer that an area is no longer a critical  
160 management area as defined in Section 73-5-15, a groundwater right held by the local district is  
161 subject to Section 73-1-4.

162 (v) A local district created in accordance with Subsection (1)(a)(xiii) to develop and  
163 execute a groundwater management plan may hold or acquire a right to surface waters that are  
164 naturally tributary to the groundwater basin subject to the groundwater management plan if the  
165 surface waters are appropriated in accordance with Title 73, Water and Irrigation, and used in  
166 accordance with Title 73, Chapter 3b, Groundwater Recharge and Recovery Act.

167 (2) For purposes of this section:

168 (a) "Operation" means all activities involved in providing the indicated service  
169 including acquisition and ownership of property reasonably necessary to provide the indicated  
170 service and acquisition, construction, and maintenance of facilities and equipment reasonably  
171 necessary to provide the indicated service.

172 (b) "System" means the aggregate of interrelated components that combine together to  
173 provide the indicated service including, for a sewage system, collection and treatment.

174 (3) (a) A local district may not be created to provide and may not after its creation  
175 provide more than four of the services listed in Subsection (1).

176 (b) Subsection (3)(a) may not be construed to prohibit a local district from providing  
177 more than four services if, before April 30, 2007, the local district was authorized to provide  
178 those services.

179 (4) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (4)(b), a local district may not be created to  
180 provide and may not after its creation provide to an area the same service already being

181 provided to that area by another political subdivision, unless the other political subdivision  
182 gives its written consent.

183 (b) For purposes of Subsection (4)(a), a local district does not provide the same service  
184 as another political subdivision if it operates a component of a system that is different from a  
185 component operated by another political subdivision but within the same:

- 186 (i) sewage system; or
- 187 (ii) water system.

188 (5) (a) Except for a local district in the creation of which an election is not required  
189 under Subsection 17B-1-214(3)(d), the area of a local district may include all or part of the  
190 unincorporated area of one or more counties and all or part of one or more municipalities.

191 (b) The area of a local district need not be contiguous.

192 (6) For a local district created before May 5, 2008, the authority to provide fire  
193 protection service also includes the authority to provide:

- 194 (a) paramedic service; and
- 195 (b) emergency service, including hazardous materials response service.

196 (7) A local district created before May 11, 2010, authorized to provide the construction  
197 and maintenance of curb, gutter, or sidewalk may provide a service described in Subsection  
198 (1)(a)(x) on or after May 11, 2010.

199 (8) A local district created before May 10, 2011, authorized to provide culinary,  
200 irrigation, sewage, or storm water services may provide a service described in Subsection  
201 (1)(a)(xii) on or after May 10, 2011.

202 (9) A local district may not be created under this chapter for two years after the date on  
203 which a local district is dissolved as provided in Section 17B-1-217 if the local district  
204 proposed for creation:

205 (a) provides the same or a substantially similar service as the dissolved local district;  
206 and

207 (b) is located in substantially the same area as the dissolved local district.

208 Section 3. Section **17B-1-217** is amended to read:

209 **17B-1-217. Activity required -- Dissolution -- Conclusive presumption regarding**  
210 **creation and existence.**

211 (1) A local district that is not engaged in one or more of the following activities,

212 services, or duties is subject to dissolution in accordance with Subsections (5) and (6):

213 (a) levying and collecting a tax;

214 (b) providing a commodity or service;

215 (c) collecting a fee or charging an assessment for a commodity, service, facility, or

216 improvement provided by the local district;

217 (d) undertaking planning necessary for the provision of a commodity, service, facility,

218 or improvement as reflected in a written study or report;

219 (e) acquiring or maintaining property or an easement necessary for a service, facility, or

220 improvement to be provided by the local district in accordance with a general or master plan

221 adopted by the district;

222 (f) constructing, installing, maintaining, owning, or operating infrastructure for the

223 provision of a commodity, service, facility, or improvement; or

224 (g) legally incurring debt, contracting, or otherwise being obligated to provide a

225 commodity, service, facility, or improvement within a reasonable period of time.

226 (2) For a local district created after May 14, 2013, the local district shall file with the

227 state auditor a written certification:

228 (a) declaring that the district is engaged in an activity, service, or duty described in

229 Subsection (1);

230 (b) identifying the activity in which the local district is engaged; and

231 (c) no later than five years after the date on which a local district is created as reflected

232 in the certificate of incorporation issued by the lieutenant governor under Section 67-1a-6.5.

233 (3) (a) The state auditor shall send a deficiency notice in accordance with Subsection

234 (3)(c) if:

235 (i) a local district fails to deliver a certification in accordance with Subsection (2); or

236 (ii) the state auditor determines that, subject to Subsection (3)(b), a local district

237 created after January 1, 2005, and before May 15, 2013, is not engaged in an activity, service,

238 or duty required under Subsection (1) within five years after the date on which the local district

239 is created as reflected in the certificate of incorporation issued by the lieutenant governor under

240 Section 67-1a-6.5 or thereafter.

241 (b) The state auditor shall make a determination described in Subsection (3)(a)(ii)

242 based on:



243 (i) the local district's failure to file a required annual financial report with the state  
244 auditor in accordance with Section 17B-1-639; or  
245 (ii) subject to Subsection (7), other credible information related to Subsection (1).  
246 (c) (i) The state auditor shall send the deficiency notice to the local district and the  
247 Utah Association of Special Districts.  
248 (ii) The deficiency notice shall state that the local district is required to file with the  
249 state auditor a written certification:  
250 (A) declaring that the district was and continues to be engaged in an activity, service,  
251 or duty described in Subsection (1) prior to the date of the deficiency notice; and  
252 (B) identifying the activity, service, or duty in which the local district is engaged.  
253 (4) If within four months of receiving a deficiency notice, a local district fails to file a  
254 written certification with the state auditor in accordance with Subsection (2) or (3)(c)(ii), the  
255 state auditor shall, in writing:  
256 (a) notify the lieutenant governor that the local district has failed to meet the  
257 requirements of this section and specify the reason for the district's failure; and  
258 (b) request that the lieutenant governor dissolve the local district in accordance with  
259 Subsections (5) and (6).  
260 (5) If the lieutenant governor receives a request to dissolve a local district from the  
261 state auditor in accordance with Subsection (4), the lieutenant governor shall:  
262 (a) issue a certification of dissolution under Section 67-1a-6.5; and  
263 (b) send a copy of the certification of dissolution to:  
264 (i) the state auditor;  
265 (ii) the State Tax Commission;  
266 (iii) the recorder of the county in which the local district is located, or, if the local  
267 district is located in more than one county, the recorder of each county in which the local  
268 district is located;  
269 (iv) the last known address of the local district; and  
270 (v) the Utah Association of Special Districts.  
271 (6) A local district identified in a certification of dissolution is dissolved:  
272 (a) upon recordation of the certification by the county recorder; or  
273 (b) if the local district is located within more than one county, upon recordation of the

274 certification by the county recorder of the last county to record.

275 (7) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a local district shall be conclusively  
276 presumed to have been lawfully created [~~and~~], existing, and active if for two years following  
277 the district's creation under Subsection 17B-1-215(4):

278 [~~(+)~~] (a) the district has:

279 [~~(a)~~] (i) levied and collected a tax; or

280 [~~(b)~~] (ii) collected a fee, charge, or assessment for a commodity, service, facility, or  
281 improvement provided by the district; and

282 [~~(2)~~] (b) no challenge has been filed in court to the existence or creation of the district.

283 Section 4. Section **17B-1-218** is enacted to read:

284 **17B-1-218. Municipal authority to provide temporary jail facilities.**

285 Notwithstanding the creation of a local district to provide correctional services as  
286 provided in Subsection 17B-1-202(1)(a)(xv), a municipality may provide, operate, and  
287 maintain a facility for temporary confinement in accordance with Section 10-8-58.

288 Section 5. Section **17B-1-303** is amended to read:

289 **17B-1-303. Term of board of trustees members -- Oath of office -- Bond.**

290 (1) (a) Except as provided in [~~Subsection~~] Subsections (1)(b) and (c), the term of each  
291 member of a board of trustees shall begin at noon on the January 1 following the member's  
292 election or appointment.

293 (b) The term of each member of the initial board of trustees of a newly created local  
294 district shall begin:

295 (i) upon appointment, for an appointed member; and

296 (ii) upon the member taking the oath of office after the canvass of the election at which  
297 the member is elected, for an elected member.

298 (c) The term of each water conservancy district board member appointed by the  
299 governor as provided in Subsection 17B-2a-1005(2)(c) shall begin on the date on which the  
300 senate consents to the appointment.

301 (2) (a) (i) Subject to Subsection (2)(a)(ii), the term of each member of a board of  
302 trustees shall be four years, except that approximately half the members of the initial board of  
303 trustees, chosen by lot, shall serve a two-year term so that the term of approximately half the  
304 board members expires every two years.

305 (ii) (A) If the terms of members of the initial board of trustees of a newly created local  
306 district do not begin on January 1 because of application of Subsection (1)(b), the terms of  
307 those members shall be adjusted as necessary, subject to Subsection (2)(a)(ii)(B), to result in  
308 the terms of their successors complying with:

309 (I) the requirement under Subsection (1)(a) for a term to begin on January 1 following  
310 a member's election or appointment; and

311 (II) the requirement under Subsection (2)(a)(i) that terms be four years.

312 (B) An adjustment under Subsection (2)(a)(ii)(A) may not add more than a year to or  
313 subtract more than a year from a member's term.

314 (b) Each board of trustees member shall serve until a successor is duly elected or  
315 appointed and qualified, unless the member earlier is removed from office or resigns or  
316 otherwise leaves office.

317 (c) If a member of a board of trustees no longer meets the qualifications of Subsection  
318 17B-1-302(1), or if the member's term expires without a duly elected or appointed successor:

319 (i) the member's position is considered vacant, subject to Subsection (2)(c)(ii); and

320 (ii) the member may continue to serve until a successor is duly elected or appointed  
321 and qualified.

322 (3) (a) (i) Before entering upon the duties of office, each member of a board of trustees  
323 shall take the oath of office specified in Utah Constitution Article IV, Section 10.

324 (ii) An oath of office may be administered by a judge, county clerk, notary public, or  
325 the local district clerk.

326 (b) Each oath of office shall be filed with the clerk of the local district.

327 (c) The failure of a board of trustees member to take the oath required by Subsection  
328 (3)(a) does not invalidate any official act of that member.

329 (4) A board of trustees member is not limited in the number of terms the member may  
330 serve.

331 (5) Except as provided in Subsection (6), each midterm vacancy in a board of trustees  
332 position shall be filled as provided in Section 20A-1-512.

333 (6) (a) For purposes of this Subsection (6):

334 (i) "Appointed official" means a person who:

335 (A) is appointed as a member of a local district board of trustees by a county or

336 municipality entitled to appoint a member to the board; and

337 (B) holds an elected position with the appointing county or municipality.

338 (ii) "Appointing entity" means the county or municipality that appointed the appointed  
339 official to the board of trustees.

340 (b) The board of trustees shall declare a midterm vacancy for the board position held  
341 by an appointed official if:

342 (i) during the appointed official's term on the board of trustees, the appointed official  
343 ceases to hold the elected position with the appointing entity; and

344 (ii) the appointing entity submits a written request to the board to declare the vacancy.

345 (c) Upon the board's declaring a midterm vacancy under Subsection (6)(b), the  
346 appointing entity shall appoint another person to fill the remaining unexpired term on the board  
347 of trustees.

348 (7) (a) Each member of a board of trustees shall give a bond for the faithful  
349 performance of the member's duties, in the amount and with the sureties prescribed by the  
350 board of trustees.

351 (b) The local district shall pay the cost of each bond required under Subsection (7)(a).

352 Section 6. Section **17B-1-304** is amended to read:

353 **17B-1-304. Appointment procedures for appointed members.**

354 (1) The appointing authority may, by resolution, appoint persons to serve as members  
355 of a local district board by following the procedures established by this section.

356 (2) (a) In any calendar year when appointment of a new local district board member is  
357 required, the appointing authority shall prepare a notice of vacancy that contains:

358 (i) the positions that are vacant that shall be filled by appointment;

359 (ii) the qualifications required to be appointed to those positions;

360 (iii) the procedures for appointment that the governing body will follow in making  
361 those appointments; and

362 (iv) the person to be contacted and any deadlines that a person shall meet who wishes  
363 to be considered for appointment to those positions.

364 (b) The appointing authority shall:

365 (i) post the notice of vacancy in four public places within the local district at least one  
366 month before the deadline for accepting nominees for appointment; and

367 (ii) (A) publish the notice of vacancy:

368 (I) in a daily newspaper of general circulation within the local district for five  
369 consecutive days before the deadline for accepting nominees for appointment; or

370 (II) in a local weekly newspaper circulated within the local district in the week before  
371 the deadline for accepting nominees for appointment; and

372 (B) in accordance with Section 45-1-101 for five days before the deadline for accepting  
373 nominees for appointment.

374 (c) The appointing authority may bill the local district for the cost of preparing,  
375 printing, and publishing the notice.

376 (3) (a) Not sooner than two months after the appointing authority is notified of the  
377 vacancy, the appointing authority shall select a person to fill the vacancy from the applicants  
378 who meet the qualifications established by law.

379 (b) The appointing authority shall:

380 (i) comply with Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act, in making the  
381 appointment;

382 (ii) allow any interested persons to be heard; and

383 (iii) adopt a resolution appointing a person to the local district board.

384 (c) If no candidate for appointment to fill the vacancy receives a majority vote of the  
385 appointing authority, the appointing authority shall select the appointee from the two top  
386 candidates by lot.

387 (4) Persons appointed to serve as members of the local district board serve four-year  
388 terms, but may be removed for cause at any time after a hearing by two-thirds vote of the  
389 appointing body.

390 (5) (a) At the end of each board member's term, the position is considered vacant and  
391 the appointing authority may either reappoint the old board member or appoint a new member  
392 after following the appointment procedures established in this section.

393 (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (5)(a), a board member may continue to serve until a  
394 successor is duly elected or appointed and qualified in accordance with Subsection  
395 17B-1-303(2)(b).

396 (6) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, if the appointing authority  
397 appoints one of its own members, it need not comply with Subsection (2) or (3).

398 Section 7. Section **17B-1-306** is amended to read:

399 **17B-1-306. Local district board -- Election procedures.**

400 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (11), each elected board member shall be selected  
401 as provided in this section.

402 (2) (a) Each election of a local district board member shall be held:

403 (i) at the same time as the municipal general election; and

404 (ii) at polling places designated by the county clerk in consultation with the local  
405 district for each county in which the local district is located, which polling places shall coincide  
406 with municipal general election polling places whenever feasible.

407 (b) The county clerk may consolidate two or more polling places to enable voters from  
408 more than one district to vote at one consolidated polling place.

409 [~~(b)~~] (c) (i) Subject to Subsections (4)(f) and (g), the number of polling places under  
410 Subsection (2)(a)(ii) in an election of board members of an irrigation district shall be one  
411 polling place per division of the district, designated by the district board.

412 (ii) Each polling place designated by an irrigation district board under Subsection  
413 (2)[~~(b)~~](c)(i) shall coincide with a polling place designated by the county clerk under  
414 Subsection (2)(a)(ii).

415 (3) (a) The clerk of each local district with a board member position to be filled at the  
416 next municipal general election shall provide notice of:

417 (i) each elective position of the local district to be filled at the next municipal general  
418 election;

419 (ii) the constitutional and statutory qualifications for each position; and

420 (iii) the dates and times for filing a declaration of candidacy.

421 (b) The notice required under Subsection (3)(a) shall be:

422 (i) posted in at least five public places within the local district at least 10 days before  
423 the first day for filing a declaration of candidacy; or

424 (ii) (A) published in a newspaper of general circulation within the local district at least  
425 three but no more than 10 days before the first day for filing a declaration of candidacy; and

426 (B) published, in accordance with Section 45-1-101, for 10 days before the first day for  
427 filing a declaration of candidacy.

428 (4) (a) To become a candidate for an elective local district board position, the

429 prospective candidate shall file a declaration of candidacy in person with the local district,  
430 during office hours and not later than the close of normal office hours between June 1 and June  
431 15 of any odd-numbered year.

432 (b) When June 15 is a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, the filing time shall be extended  
433 until the close of normal office hours on the following regular business day.

434 (c) (i) Before the filing officer may accept any declaration of candidacy, the filing  
435 officer shall:

436 (A) read to the prospective candidate the constitutional and statutory qualification  
437 requirements for the office that the candidate is seeking; and

438 (B) require the candidate to state whether or not the candidate meets those  
439 requirements.

440 (ii) If the prospective candidate does not meet the qualification requirements for the  
441 office, the filing officer may not accept the declaration of candidacy.

442 (iii) If it appears that the prospective candidate meets the requirements of candidacy,  
443 the filing officer shall accept the declaration of candidacy.

444 (d) The declaration of candidacy shall substantially comply with the following form:

445 "I, (print name) \_\_\_\_\_, being first duly sworn, say that I reside at (Street)  
446 \_\_\_\_\_, City of \_\_\_\_\_, County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of Utah,  
447 (Zip Code) \_\_\_\_\_, (Telephone Number, if any) \_\_\_\_\_; that I meet the qualifications  
448 for the office of board of trustees member for \_\_\_\_\_ (state the name of  
449 the local district); that I am a candidate for that office to be voted upon at the next election, and  
450 I hereby request that my name be printed upon the official ballot for that election.

451 (Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

452 Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me by \_\_\_\_\_ on this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
453 of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

454 (Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

455 (Clerk or Notary Public)"

456 (e) Each person wishing to become a valid write-in candidate for an elective local  
457 district board position is governed by Section 20A-9-601.

458 (f) If at least one person does not file a declaration of candidacy as required by this  
459 section, a person shall be appointed to fill that board position by following the procedures and

460 requirements for appointment established in Section 20A-1-512.

461 (g) If only one candidate files a declaration of candidacy and there is no write-in  
462 candidate who complies with Section 20A-9-601, the board, in accordance with Section  
463 20A-1-206, may:

- 464 (i) consider the candidate to be elected to the position; and
- 465 (ii) cancel the election.

466 (5) (a) A primary election may be held if:

- 467 (i) the election is authorized by the local district board; and
- 468 (ii) the number of candidates for a particular local board position or office exceeds  
469 twice the number of persons needed to fill that position or office.

470 (b) The primary election shall be conducted:

471 (i) on the same date as the municipal primary election, as provided for in Section  
472 20A-1-201.5; and

473 (ii) according to the procedures for municipal primary elections provided under Title  
474 20A, Election Code.

475 (6) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (6)(c), the local district clerk shall certify the  
476 candidate names to the clerk of each county in which the local district is located no later than  
477 July 20 of the municipal election year.

478 (b) (i) Except as provided in Subsection (6)(c) and in accordance with Section  
479 20A-6-305, the clerk of each county in which the local district is located shall coordinate the  
480 placement of the name of each candidate for local district office in the nonpartisan section of  
481 the municipal general election ballot with the municipal election clerk.

482 (ii) If consolidation of the local district election ballot with the municipal general  
483 election ballot is not feasible, the county clerk shall provide for a separate local district election  
484 ballot to be administered by poll workers at polling locations designated under Subsection (2).

485 (c) (i) Subsections (6)(a) and (b) do not apply to an election of a member of the board  
486 of an irrigation district established under Chapter 2a, Part 5, Irrigation District Act.

487 (ii) (A) Subject to Subsection (6)(c)(ii)(B), the board of each irrigation district shall  
488 prescribe the form of the ballot for each board member election.

489 (B) Each ballot for an election of an irrigation district board member shall be in a  
490 nonpartisan format.



491 (C) The name of each candidate shall be placed on the ballot in the order specified  
492 under Section 20A-6-305.

493 (7) (a) Each voter at an election for a board of trustees member of a local district shall:

494 (i) be a registered voter within the district, except for an election of:

495 (A) an irrigation district board of trustees member; or

496 (B) a basic local district board of trustees member who is elected by property owners;

497 and

498 (ii) meet the requirements to vote established by the district.

499 (b) Each voter may vote for as many candidates as there are offices to be filled.

500 (c) The candidates who receive the highest number of votes are elected.

501 (8) Except as otherwise provided by this section, the election of local district board  
502 members is governed by Title 20A, Election Code.

503 (9) (a) A person elected to serve on a local district board shall serve a four-year term,  
504 beginning at noon on the January 1 after the person's election.

505 (b) A person elected shall be sworn in as soon as practical after January 1.

506 (10) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (10)(b), each local district shall reimburse  
507 the county or municipality holding an election under this section for the costs of the election  
508 attributable to that local district.

509 (b) Each irrigation district shall bear its own costs of each election it holds under this  
510 section.

511 (11) This section does not apply to an improvement district that provides electric or gas  
512 service.

513 (12) Except as provided in Subsection 20A-3-605(1)(b), the provisions of Title 20A,  
514 Chapter 3, Part 6, Early Voting, do not apply to an election under this section.

515 Section 8. Section **17B-1-307** is amended to read:

516 **17B-1-307. Annual compensation -- Per diem compensation -- Participation in**  
517 **group insurance plan -- Reimbursement of expenses.**

518 (1) (a) Except as provided in Subsection 17B-1-308(1)(e), a member of a board of  
519 trustees may receive compensation for service on the board, as determined by the board of  
520 trustees.

521 (b) The amount of compensation under this Subsection (1) may not exceed \$5,000 per

522 year.

523 (c) (i) As determined by the board of trustees, a member of the board of trustees may  
524 participate in a group insurance plan provided to employees of the local district on the same  
525 basis as employees of the local district.

526 (ii) The amount that the local district pays to provide a member with coverage under a  
527 group insurance plan shall be included as part of the member's compensation for purposes of  
528 Subsection (1)(b).

529 (d) The amount that a local district pays employer-matching employment taxes, if a  
530 member of the board of trustees is treated as an employee for federal tax purposes, does not  
531 constitute compensation under Subsection (1).

532 (2) In addition to the compensation provided under Subsection (1), the board of  
533 trustees may elect to allow a member to receive per diem and travel expenses for up to 12  
534 meetings or activities per year in accordance with:

535 (a) Section 63A-3-106;

536 (b) Section 63A-3-107; and

537 (c) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and  
538 63A-3-107.

539 Section 9. Section **17B-1-310** is amended to read:

540 **17B-1-310. Quorum of board of trustees -- Meetings of the board.**

541 (1) (a) (i) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), a majority of the board of trustees  
542 constitutes a quorum for the transaction of board business, and action by a majority of a  
543 quorum constitutes action of the board.

544 (ii) Except as otherwise required by law, an otherwise valid action of the board is not  
545 made invalid because of the method chosen by the board to take or memorialize the action.

546 (b) (i) Subject to Subsection (1)(b)(ii), a board may adopt bylaws or other rules that  
547 require more than a majority to constitute a quorum or that require action by more than a  
548 majority of a quorum to constitute action by the board.

549 (ii) [~~Except for board action to dispose of real property owned by the local district,~~  
550 ~~board]~~ A board with five or more members may not adopt bylaws or rules [may not] that  
551 require a vote of more than two-thirds [vote] of the board to constitute board action except for  
552 a board action to dispose of real property owned by the local district.

553 (2) The board of trustees shall hold such regular and special meetings as the board  
554 determines at a location that the board determines.

555 (3) (a) Each meeting of the board of trustees shall comply with Title 52, Chapter 4,  
556 Open and Public Meetings Act.

557 (b) Subject to Subsection (3)(c), a board of trustees shall:

558 (i) adopt rules of order and procedure to govern a public meeting of the board of  
559 trustees;

560 (ii) conduct a public meeting in accordance with the rules of order and procedure  
561 described in Subsection (3)(b)(i); and

562 (iii) make the rules of order and procedure described in Subsection (3)(b)(i) available  
563 to the public:

564 (A) at each meeting of the board of trustees; and

565 (B) on the local district's public website, if available.

566 (c) Subsection (3)(b) does not affect the board of trustees' duty to comply with Title 52,  
567 Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.

568 Section 10. Section **17B-1-311** is amended to read:

569 **17B-1-311. Board member prohibited from district employment -- Exception.**

570 (1) No elected or appointed member of the board of trustees of a local district may,  
571 while serving on the board, be employed by the district, whether as an employee or under a  
572 contract.

573 (2) No person employed by a local district, whether as an employee or under a contract,  
574 may serve on the board of that local district.

575 (3) A local district is not in violation of a prohibition described in Subsection (1) or (2)  
576 if the local district:

577 (a) treats a member of a board of trustees as an employee for income tax purposes; and

578 (b) complies with the compensation limits of Section 17B-1-307 for purposes of that  
579 member.

580 [~~3~~] (4) This section does not apply to a local district if:

581 (a) fewer than 3,000 people live within 40 miles of the primary place of employment,  
582 measured over all weather public roads; and

583 (b) with respect to the employment of a board of trustees member under Subsection

584 (1):

- 585 (i) the job opening has had reasonable public notice; and
- 586 (ii) the person employed is the best qualified candidate for the position.

587 Section 11. Section **17B-1-639** is amended to read:

588 **17B-1-639. Annual financial reports -- Audit reports.**

589 (1) Within 180 days after the close of each fiscal year, the district shall prepare an  
590 annual financial report in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles as  
591 prescribed in the Uniform Accounting Manual for Local Districts.

592 (2) The requirement under Subsection (1) to prepare an annual financial report may be  
593 satisfied by presentation of the audit report furnished by the ~~[independent]~~ auditor.

594 (3) Copies of the annual financial report or the audit report furnished by the  
595 ~~[independent]~~ auditor shall be filed with the state auditor and shall be filed as a public  
596 document in the district office.

597 Section 12. Section **17B-1-640** is amended to read:

598 **17B-1-640. Audits required.**

599 (1) ~~[Independent audits of all local districts are]~~ An audit of each local district is  
600 required to be performed in conformity with Title 51, Chapter 2a, Accounting Reports from  
601 Political Subdivisions, Interlocal Organizations, and Other Local Entities Act.

602 (2) The board of trustees shall appoint an ~~[independent]~~ auditor for the purpose of  
603 complying with the requirements of this section and with Title 51, Chapter 2a, Accounting  
604 Reports from Political Subdivisions, Interlocal Organizations, and Other Local Entities Act.

605 Section 13. Section **17B-2a-813** is amended to read:

606 **17B-2a-813. Rights, benefits, and protective conditions for employees of a public**  
607 **transit district -- Strike prohibited -- Employees of an acquired transit system.**

608 (1) The rights, benefits, and other employee protective conditions and remedies of  
609 Section 13(c) of the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, 49 U.S.C. Sec. 5333(b), as  
610 determined by the Secretary of Labor, apply to a public transit district's establishment and  
611 operation of a public transit service or system.

612 (2) (a) Employees of a public transit system established and operated by a public transit  
613 district have the right to:

- 614 (i) self-organization;

- 615 (ii) form, join, or assist labor organizations; and
- 616 (iii) bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing.
- 617 (b) Employees of a public transit district and labor organizations may not join in a
- 618 strike against the public transit system operated by the public transit district.
- 619 (c) Each public transit district shall:
- 620 (i) recognize and bargain exclusively with any labor organization representing a
- 621 majority of the district's employees in an appropriate unit with respect to wages, salaries, hours,
- 622 working conditions, and welfare, pension, and retirement provisions; and
- 623 (ii) upon reaching agreement with the labor organization, enter into and execute a
- 624 written contract incorporating the agreement.
- 625 (3) If a public transit district acquires an existing public transit system:
- 626 (a) all employees of the acquired system who are necessary for the operation of the
- 627 acquired system, except executive and administrative officers and employees, shall be:
- 628 (i) transferred to and appointed employees of the acquiring public transit district; and
- 629 (ii) given sick leave, seniority, vacation, and pension or retirement credits in
- 630 accordance with the acquired system's records;
- 631 (b) members and beneficiaries of a pension or retirement plan or other program of
- 632 benefits that the acquired system has established shall continue to have rights, privileges,
- 633 benefits, obligations, and status with respect to that established plan or program; and
- 634 (c) the public transit district may establish, amend, or modify, by agreement with
- 635 employees or their authorized representatives, the terms, conditions, and provisions of a
- 636 pension or retirement plan or of an amendment or modification of a pension or retirement plan.
- 637 (4) A pension administrator for a retirement plan sponsored by a public transit district
- 638 or a person designated by the administrator shall maintain retirement records in accordance
- 639 with Subsection 49-11-618(2).

640 Section 14. Section **17D-1-201** is amended to read:

641 **17D-1-201. Services that a special service district may be created to provide.**

642 As provided in this part, a county or municipality may create a special service district to

643 provide any combination of the following services:

- 644 (1) water;
- 645 (2) sewerage;

- 646 (3) drainage;
- 647 (4) flood control;
- 648 (5) garbage collection and disposal;
- 649 (6) health care;
- 650 (7) transportation, including the receipt of federal secure rural school funds under
- 651 Section 51-9-603 for the purposes of constructing, improving, repairing, or maintaining public
- 652 roads;
- 653 (8) recreation;
- 654 (9) fire protection, including:
- 655 (a) emergency medical services, ambulance services, and search and rescue services, if
- 656 fire protection service is also provided;
- 657 (b) Firewise Communities programs and the development of community wildfire
- 658 protection plans; and
- 659 (c) the receipt of federal secure rural school funds as provided under Section 51-9-603
- 660 for the purposes of carrying out Firewise Communities programs, developing community
- 661 wildfire protection plans, and performing emergency services, including firefighting on federal
- 662 land and other services authorized under this Subsection (9);
- 663 (10) providing, operating, and maintaining correctional and rehabilitative facilities and
- 664 programs for municipal, state, and other detainees and prisoners;
- 665 (11) street lighting;
- 666 (12) consolidated 911 and emergency dispatch;
- 667 (13) animal shelter and control;
- 668 (14) receiving federal mineral lease funds under Title 59, Chapter 21, Mineral Lease
- 669 Funds, and expending those funds to provide construction and maintenance of public facilities,
- 670 traditional governmental services, and planning, as a means for mitigating impacts from
- 671 extractive mineral industries;
- 672 (15) in a county of the first class, extended police protection; [~~or~~]
- 673 (16) control or abatement of earth movement or a landslide[-]; or
- 674 (17) cemetery.

675 Section 15. Section **20A-1-512** is amended to read:

676 **20A-1-512. Midterm vacancies on local district boards.**

677 (1) (a) Whenever a vacancy occurs on any local district board for any reason, a  
678 replacement to serve out the unexpired term shall be appointed as provided in this section by:

- 679 (i) the local district board, if the person vacating the position was elected; or  
680 (ii) the appointing authority, as defined in Section 17B-1-102, if the person vacating  
681 the position was appointed.

682 (b) [~~Before~~] Except as provided in Subsection (1)(c), before acting to fill the vacancy,  
683 the local district board or appointing authority shall:

684 (i) give public notice of the vacancy at least two weeks before the local district board  
685 or appointing authority meets to fill the vacancy; and

686 (ii) identify, in the notice:

687 (A) the date, time, and place of the meeting where the vacancy will be filled; and

688 (B) the person to whom a person interested in being appointed to fill the vacancy may  
689 submit his name for consideration and any deadline for submitting it.

690 (c) An appointing authority is not subject to Subsection (1)(b) if the appointing  
691 authority appoints one of its own members.

692 (2) If the local district board fails to appoint a person to complete an elected board  
693 member's term within 90 days, the legislative body of the county or municipality that created  
694 the local district shall fill the vacancy following the procedure set forth for a local district in  
695 Subsection (1)(b).

696 Section 16. Section **62A-2-110** is amended to read:

697 **62A-2-110. Exclusions from chapter.**

698 The provisions of this chapter do not apply to:

699 (1) a facility or program owned or operated by an agency of the United States  
700 government;

701 (2) a facility or program operated by or under an exclusive contract with the  
702 Department of Corrections;

703 (3) unless required otherwise by a contract with the department, individual or group  
704 counseling by a mental health professional licensed under Title 58, Chapter 60, Mental Health  
705 Professional Practice Act;

706 (4) a general acute hospital, small health care facility, specialty hospital, nursing care  
707 facility, or other health care facility licensed by the Department of Health under Title 26,

708 Chapter 21, Health Care Facility Licensing and Inspection Act; [or]  
709 (5) a boarding school[-]; or  
710 (6) a facility or program operated by or under an exclusive contract with a public  
711 transit district described in Title 17B, Chapter 2a, Part 8, Public Transit District Act.