

TRANSPORTATION PROJECT AMENDMENTS

2015 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: V. Lowry Snow

Senate Sponsor: Todd Weiler

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill modifies the Transportation Code by amending provisions relating to participation in a federal program assuming responsibility for environmental review of highway projects.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ authorizes the Department of Transportation to assume federal responsibilities with respect to one or more highway projects within the state under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 for environmental review, consultation, or other action required under any federal environmental law pertaining to the review or approval of a specific highway project;

- ▶ requires the state to ~~H~~→ [waives] waive ←~~H~~ its immunity under the Eleventh Amendment to the United States Constitution and consent to suit in a federal court for lawsuits arising out of the department's compliance, discharge, or enforcement of the assumed responsibilities;

- ▶ requires the executive director of the Department of Transportation to execute a memorandum of understanding with the United States Department of Transportation accepting the jurisdiction of the federal courts for acts or omissions that relate to compliance, discharge, or enforcement of responsibilities assumed by the department; and

