

**RURAL ONLINE INITIATIVE SUNSET AMENDMENTS**

2021 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Derrin R. Owens**

House Sponsor: Carl R. Albrecht

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill modifies the rural online opportunities program (program) administered by Utah State University.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ modifies the reporting requirements of the program;
- ▶ removes the sunset date of the program; and
- ▶ makes technical changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**53B-18-1501**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 385

**63I-1-253**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapters 154, 174, 214, 234, 242, 269, 335, and 354

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

Section 1. Section **53B-18-1501** is amended to read:

**53B-18-1501. Remote online opportunities program -- Report to Legislature.**

30 (1) As used in this section:

31 (a) "Association of governments" means an association of political subdivisions  
32 established pursuant to an interlocal agreement under Title 11, Chapter 13, Interlocal  
33 Cooperation Act.

34 (b) [~~"Pilot program"~~] "Program" means the [~~pilot~~] program administered by Utah State  
35 University in accordance with this section.

36 (c) "Remote online opportunity" means employment, including freelance employment,  
37 or the operation of an online business for which an individual:

- 38 (i) can complete duties primarily online; and
- 39 (ii) is not required to work from a specific geographic location.

40 (2) (a) Subject to legislative appropriations, Utah State University, through a county  
41 extension office, shall administer a [~~pilot~~] program that helps individuals who live in rural  
42 areas access remote online opportunities.

43 (b) In administering the [~~pilot~~] program, Utah State University shall consider input  
44 from a county located in a geographic area selected for the [~~pilot~~] program under Subsection  
45 (4).

46 (3) Utah State University shall, as part of the [~~pilot~~] program:

- 47 (a) provide training modules to adults and high school students;
- 48 (b) coordinate with rural high schools and postsecondary institutions;
- 49 (c) develop marketing materials;
- 50 (d) develop relationships with information technology companies that offer remote  
51 online opportunities;
- 52 (e) partner with websites that list freelance remote online opportunities;
- 53 (f) provide scholarships for individuals who live in rural areas to access online  
54 skill-based training for remote online opportunities;
- 55 (g) provide one-on-one coaching for an individual who pursues a remote online  
56 opportunity; and
- 57 (h) conduct other activities related to remote online opportunities as determined by

58 Utah State University.

59 (4) (a) Utah State University shall administer the [pilot] program:

60 (i) in at least one geographic area in the state initially; and

61 (ii) in additional geographic areas if resources allow.

62 (b) In determining where to initially administer the [pilot] program, Utah State

63 University shall consider whether counties in a geographic area:

64 (i) are primarily rural or have remote rural areas;

65 (ii) face high unemployment rates;

66 (iii) have access to high speed Internet;

67 (iv) have a large percentage of high school graduates leave the geographic area after  
68 graduating from high school; and

69 (v) are members of an association of governments that supports helping individuals  
70 who live in rural areas access remote online opportunities.

71 (5) On or before November 1, 2020, and on or before November 1 every third year  
72 thereafter, Utah State University shall report to the Economic Development and Workforce  
73 Services Interim Committee on:

74 (a) the number of individuals who receive training through the [pilot] program;

75 (b) the number and percentage of individuals who participate in the [pilot] program and  
76 access a remote online opportunity; and

77 (c) whether there is a reduction in the unemployment rate in a geographic area included  
78 in the [pilot] program.

79 Section 2. Section **63I-1-253** is amended to read:

80 **63I-1-253. Repeal dates, Titles 53 through 53G.**

81 (1) Section **53-2a-105**, which creates the Emergency Management Administration  
82 Council, is repealed July 1, 2021.

83 (2) Sections **53-2a-1103** and **53-2a-1104**, which create the Search and Rescue Advisory  
84 Board, are repealed July 1, 2022.

85 (3) Section **53-5-703**, which creates the Concealed Firearm Review Board, is repealed

86 July 1, 2023.

87 (4) Subsection [53-6-203\(1\)\(b\)\(ii\)](#), regarding being 19 years old at certification, is  
88 repealed July 1, 2027.

89 (5) Subsection [53-13-104\(6\)\(a\)](#), regarding being 19 years old at certification, is  
90 repealed July 1, 2027.

91 (6) Section [53B-6-105.5](#), which creates the Technology Initiative Advisory Board, is  
92 repealed July 1, 2024.

93 (7) Title 53B, Chapter 17, Part 11, USTAR Researchers, is repealed July 1, 2028.

94 (8) Section [53B-17-1203](#), which creates the SafeUT and School Safety Commission, is  
95 repealed January 1, 2025.

96 [~~(9)~~] Section ~~[53B-18-1501](#)~~ is repealed July 1, 2021.]

97 [~~(10)~~] (9) Title 53B, Chapter 18, Part 16, USTAR Researchers, is repealed July 1,  
98 2028.

99 [~~(11)~~] (10) Title 53B, Chapter 24, Part 4, Rural Residency Training Program, is  
100 repealed July 1, 2025.

101 [~~(12)~~] (11) Subsection [53C-3-203\(4\)\(b\)\(vii\)](#), which provides for the distribution of  
102 money from the Land Exchange Distribution Account to the Geological Survey for test wells  
103 and other hydrologic studies in the West Desert, is repealed July 1, 2030.

104 [~~(13)~~] (12) Section [53E-3-515](#) is repealed January 1, 2023.

105 [~~(14)~~] (13) In relation to a standards review committee, on January 1, 2023:

106 (a) in Subsection [53E-4-202\(8\)](#), the language "by a standards review committee and the  
107 recommendations of a standards review committee established under Section [53E-4-203](#)" is  
108 repealed; and

109 (b) Section [53E-4-203](#) is repealed.

110 [~~(15)~~] (14) Subsections [53E-3-503\(5\)](#) and (6), which create coordinating councils for  
111 youth in custody, are repealed July 1, 2027.

112 [~~(16)~~] (15) Section [53E-4-402](#), which creates the State Instructional Materials  
113 Commission, is repealed July 1, 2022.

- 114            [~~(17)~~] (16) Title 53E, Chapter 6, Part 5, Utah Professional Practices Advisory  
115 Commission, is repealed July 1, 2023.
- 116            [~~(18)~~] (17) Subsection 53E-8-204(4), which creates the advisory council for the Utah  
117 Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, is repealed July 1, 2021.
- 118            [~~(19)~~] (18) Section 53F-2-514 is repealed July 1, 2020.
- 119            [~~(20)~~] (19) Section 53F-5-203 is repealed July 1, 2024.
- 120            [~~(21)~~] (20) Section 53F-5-212 is repealed July 1, 2024.
- 121            [~~(22)~~] (21) Section 53F-5-213 is repealed July 1, 2023.
- 122            [~~(23)~~] (22) Section 53F-5-214, in relation to a grant for professional learning, is  
123 repealed July 1, 2025.
- 124            [~~(24)~~] (23) Section 53F-5-215, in relation to an elementary teacher preparation grant, is  
125 repealed July 1, 2025.
- 126            [~~(25)~~] (24) Subsection 53F-9-203(7), which creates the Charter School Revolving  
127 Account Committee, is repealed July 1, 2024.
- 128            [~~(26)~~] (25) Section 53F-9-501 is repealed January 1, 2023.
- 129            [~~(27)~~] (26) Subsections 53G-4-608(2)(b) and (4)(b), related to the Utah Seismic Safety  
130 Commission, are repealed January 1, 2025.
- 131            [~~(28)~~] (27) Subsection 53G-8-211(5), regarding referrals of a minor to court for a class  
132 C misdemeanor, is repealed July 1, 2022.