

TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE AMENDMENTS

2023 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Chris H. Wilson

House Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE**General Description:**

This bill designates the ASPIRE Engineering Research Center at Utah State University as the **§→ lead ←§** research center for strategic planning for electrification of transportation infrastructure and requires certain actions.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ designates the ASPIRE Engineering Research Center at Utah State University as the **§→ lead ←§** research center for strategic planning for electrification of transportation infrastructure in this state;
- ▶ creates a steering committee and requires the creation of an industry advisory board to assist in the direction of the research center and initiative;
- ▶ provides duties of the steering committee, industry advisory board, and the research center;
- ▶ requires reports on the proposed action plan and goals of the initiative; and
- ▶ provides for a sunset review of the initiative.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

This bill appropriates in fiscal year 2024:

- ▶ to Utah State University -- Education and General -- Education and General as an ongoing appropriation:
 - from the Income Tax Fund, \$2,100,000.



in Section 79-6-401.

(8) "Project director" means the project director of the research center appointed under Subsection 53B-18-1802(2)(b).

(9) "Research center" means the ASPIRE Engineering Research Center at Utah State University.

(10) "Steering committee" means the Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Steering Committee created in Section 53B-18-1803.

Section 2. Section **53B-18-1802** is enacted to read:

53B-18-1802. Research center -- Designation -- Duties.

(1) The ASPIRE Engineering Research Center at Utah State University is designated as the ~~§~~→ **lead** ←~~§~~ research center to coordinate and lead the initiative described in this part.

(2) The research center shall:

(a) direct and carry out the mission of the initiative;

(b) appoint a project director to oversee the initiative; and

(c) provide administrative and staff support to the steering committee and industry advisory board.

(3) The project director shall:

(a) oversee the operations of the initiative; and

(b) propose to the steering committee the expenditure of funds appropriated by the Legislature to carry out the duties under this part.

Section 3. Section **53B-18-1803** is enacted to read:

53B-18-1803. Steering committee -- Creation -- Duties.

(1) There is created the Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Steering Committee.

(2) The Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Steering Committee consists of the following members:

(a) the executive director of the Department of Transportation, or the executive director's designee;

(b) the executive director of the Department of Environmental Quality, or the executive director's designee;

(c) the director of the Office of Energy Development, or the director's designee;

(d) the executive director of a large public transit district, or the executive director's designee;

(e) the executive director of the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity, or the executive director's designee;

(f) one representative of a major electrical power provider in the state, appointed by the governor; and

(g) the chair of the industry advisory board created in Section 53B-18-180.

(3) The steering committee member representing the Department of Transportation shall serve as the chair of the steering committee.

(4) The steering committee shall:

(a) provide direction to the project director on the nature and priorities of the strategic planning and development initiative;

(b) assist the project director in the development of a strategic action plan and implementation related to the electrification of transportation infrastructure;

(c) approve annual reports on the strategic planning and development initiative as required in Section 53B-18-1806;

(d) consider and approve the budget proposed by the project director for the expenditure of funds for the ~~§→ [operation of the research center and]~~ ~~←§~~ initiative; and

(e) review expenditures authorized by the project director made before October 1, 2023.

(5) The steering committee shall convene no later than October 1, 2023.

Section 4. Section **53B-18-1804** is enacted to read:

53B-18-1804. Industry advisory board -- Duties.

(1) The research center shall create an industry advisory board with members selected from the following relevant sectors:

(a) electrical power providers;

(b) electric bus manufacturers;

(c) electric vehicle manufacturers;

(d) electric passenger or freight rail manufacturers;

(e) electric aircraft manufacturers;

(f) electric freight truck manufacturers;