

1                   **LEGISLATIVE WATER DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

2                                   **AMENDMENTS**

3   2023 GENERAL SESSION

4   STATE OF UTAH

5                                   **Chief Sponsor: David P. Hinkins**

6   House Sponsor: Casey Snider

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8                   **LONG TITLE**

9                   **General Description:**

10                   This bill modifies provisions related to the Legislative Water Development  
11 Commission.

12                   **Highlighted Provisions:**

13                   This bill:

14                   ▶ authorizes the Legislative Water Development Commission to open committee bill  
15 files related to the commission's duties.

16                   **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

17                   None

18                   **Other Special Clauses:**

19                   None

20                   **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

21                   AMENDS:

22                   **73-27-103**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 50

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

25                   Section 1. Section **73-27-103** is amended to read:

26                   **73-27-103. Duties and powers of commission.**

27                   (1) The commission shall consider and make recommendations to the Legislature and  
28 governor on the following issues:

29                   (a) how the water needs of the state's growing agricultural, municipal, and industrial

30 sectors will be met;

31 (b) what the impact of federal regulations and legislation will be on the ability of the  
32 state to manage and develop its compacted water rights;

33 (c) how the state will fund water projects;

34 (d) whether the state should become an owner and operator of water projects;

35 (e) how the state will encourage the implementation of water conservation programs;

36 and

37 (f) other water issues of statewide importance.

38 (2) The commission shall consult with the Division of Water Resources and the Board  
39 of Water Resources regarding:

40 (a) recommendations for rules, criteria, targets, processes, and plans described in  
41 Subsection 73-10g-105(3); and

42 (b) the scope of any request for proposals that may be issued by the Division of Water  
43 Resources and Board of Water Resources to assist in creating the rules, criteria, targets,  
44 processes, and plans described in Subsection 73-10g-105(3) .

45 (3) The commission shall support community efforts to develop a unified, state water  
46 strategy to promote water conservation and efficiency that:

47 (a) is consistent with Section 73-1-21;

48 (b) is created with the aid of stakeholders including water conservancy districts created  
49 under Title 17B, Chapter 2a, Part 10, Water Conservancy District Act;

50 (c) includes model ordinances or policies consistent with the unified, statewide water  
51 strategy that may be adopted by political subdivisions; and

52 (d) respects different needs of different political subdivisions or geographic regions of  
53 the state.

54 (4) The commission may:

55 (a) form one or more working groups from the membership of the commission to  
56 consider and study the issues described in this section; ~~and~~

57 (b) meet up to six times per calendar year without approval from the Legislative

58 Management Committee[-]; and

59 (c) open one or more committee bill files that relate to the commission's duties under  
60 this section.

61 [~~(5) (a) In addition to supporting community efforts to develop a unified, state water~~  
62 ~~strategy to promote water conservation and efficiency under Subsection (3), the commission~~  
63 ~~shall study water conservation in the state on public and private land including:]~~

64 [~~(i) the management of water resources in the state; and]~~

65 [~~(ii) programs and policies to promote water conservation in the state that also protect~~  
66 ~~and support existing water rights.]~~

67 [~~(b) The commission shall report the commission's findings under this Subsection (5),~~  
68 ~~including any proposed legislation, to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment~~  
69 ~~Interim Committee by no later than the 2022 November interim meeting of the Natural~~  
70 ~~Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee.]~~