AIRPORT WEAPON POSSESSION AMENDMENTS

2024 GENERAL SESSION STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Stephanie Gricius

Senate Sponsor: David P. Hinkins

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LONG TITLE

4 General Description:

This bill concerns weapon possession at an airport.

Highlighted Provisions:

- 7 This bill:
- establishes, with a sunset date, law enforcement reporting requirements concerning the
 possession of certain types of dangerous weapons in a secure area of an airport;
- requires the State Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice to receive, compile, and publish data concerning offenses involving:
 - possession of a dangerous weapon in a secure area of an airport;
 - adds criminal negligence as a culpable mental state for the possession of a dangerous weapon in a secure area of an airport;
 - provides limitations on the punishment for certain violations resulting from the possession of a dangerous weapon in a secure area of an airport;
 - provides, under certain circumstances, that an actor in possession of a dangerous weapon in a secure area of the airport may return to a non-secure area of the airport with the dangerous weapon or may temporarily surrender the dangerous weapon into the custody of the law enforcement agency to be retrieved at a later date;
 - requires a law enforcement agency to take certain actions regarding the retrieval of a dangerous weapon;
 - provides limitations on certain local entities regarding criminal prosecution, civil remedies, or other actions resulting from the possession of certain items at an airport;
- provides procedures for the disposal of a firearm or other dangerous weapon by a law enforcement agency; and
 - provides technical and conforming changes.

28	Money Appropriated in this Bill:
29	None
30	Other Special Clauses:
31	This bill provides a special effective date.
32	Utah Code Sections Affected:
33	AMENDS:
34	63I-2-253 (Effective 05/01/24) (Superseded 07/01/24), as last amended by Laws of Utah
35	2023, Chapters 7, 21, 33, 142, 167, 168, 380, 383, and 467
36	631-2-253 (Effective 07/01/24), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 7, 21, 33,
37	142, 167, 168, 310, 380, 383, and 467
38	63I-2-276 (Effective 05/01/24), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 301
39	76-10-529 (Effective 05/01/24), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 422
40	77-11a-402 (Effective 05/01/24), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 397, 422
41	and renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 448
42	77-11d-101 (Effective 05/01/24), as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2023,
43	Chapter 448
44	77-11d-105 (Effective 05/01/24), as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2023,
45	Chapter 448
46	ENACTS:
47	53-25-102 (Effective 05/01/24), Utah Code Annotated 1953
48	De it an act of heads of the state of the st
49	Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
50	Section 1. Section 53-25-102 is enacted to read:
51	53-25-102 (Effective 05/01/24). Airport dangerous weapon possession reporting
52	requirements.
53	(1) As used in this section, "commission" means the State Commission on Criminal and
54	Juvenile Justice created in Section 63M-7-201.
55	(2) Beginning on January 1, 2026, a law enforcement agency having law enforcement
56	jurisdiction over an airport shall annually, on or before April 30, submit a report to the
57 •••	commission detailing:
58	(a) for an offense described in Subsection 76-10-529(2)(a)(i):
59	(i) the number of issued written warnings;
60	(ii) the number of issued citations;
61	(iii) the number of referrals to a detective; and

62 (iv) the number of referrals to a prosecutor; and (b) for an offense described in Subsection 76-10-529(2)(a)(ii): 63 64 (i) the number of issued written warnings; and (ii) if applicable, the number of issued citations, including the number of individuals 65 66 who have received more than one citation for the offense. 67 (3) The commission shall: 68 (a) develop a standardized format for reporting the data described in Subsection (2); 69 (b) compile the data submitted under Subsection (2); and 70 (c) annually on or before August 1, publish a report of the data described in Subsection 71 (2) on the commission's website. 72 Section 2. Section **63I-2-253** is amended to read: 73 63I-2-253 (Effective 05/01/24) (Superseded 07/01/24). Repeal dates: Titles 53 74 through 53G. 75 (1) Section 53-1-118 is repealed on July 1, 2024. 76 (2) Section 53-1-120 is repealed on July 1, 2024. 77 (3) Section 53-7-109 is repealed on July 1, 2024. 78 (4) Section 53-22-104 is repealed December 31, 2023. 79 (5) Section 53-25-102 is repealed on December 31, 2031. 80 [(5)] (6) Section 53B-6-105.7 is repealed July 1, 2024. 81 [(6)] (7) Section 53B-7-707 regarding performance metrics for technical colleges is repealed 82 July 1, 2023. 83 [(7)] (8) Section 53B-8-114 is repealed July 1, 2024. 84 [(8)] (9) The following provisions, regarding the Regents' scholarship program, are repealed 85 on July 1, 2023: (a) in Subsection 53B-8-105(12), the language that states, "or any scholarship 86 87 established under Sections 53B-8-202 through 53B-8-205"; 88 (b) Section 53B-8-202; 89 (c) Section 53B-8-203; 90 (d) Section 53B-8-204; and 91 (e) Section 53B-8-205. 92 [9] (10) Section 53B-10-101 is repealed on July 1, 2027. [(10)] (11) Subsection 53E-1-201(1)(s) regarding the report by the Educational 93

Interpretation and Translation Services Procurement Advisory Council is repealed July

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1, 2024.

- 96 [(11)] (12) Section 53E-1-202.2, regarding a Public Education Appropriations
- 97 Subcommittee evaluation and recommendations, is repealed January 1, 2024.
- 98 [(12)] (13) Section 53F-2-209, regarding local education agency budgetary flexibility, is
- 99 repealed July 1, 2024.
- 100 [(13)] (14) Subsection 53F-2-314(4), relating to a one-time expenditure between the at-risk
- WPU add-on funding and previous at-risk funding, is repealed January 1, 2024.
- 102 [(14)] (15) Section 53F-2-524, regarding teacher bonuses for extra work assignments, is
- 103 repealed July 1, 2024.
- 104 [(15)] (16) Section 53F-5-221, regarding a management of energy and water pilot program,
- is repealed July 1, 2028.
- 106 [(16)] (17) Section 53F-9-401 is repealed on July 1, 2024.
- 107 [(17)] (18) Section 53F-9-403 is repealed on July 1, 2024.
- 108 [(18)] (19) On July 1, 2023, when making changes in this section, the Office of Legislative
- Research and General Counsel shall, in addition to the office's authority under Section
- 36-12-12, make corrections necessary to ensure that sections and subsections identified
- in this section are complete sentences and accurately reflect the office's perception of the
- Legislature's intent.
- 113 Section 3. Section **63I-2-253** is amended to read:
- 63I-2-253 (Effective 07/01/24). Repeal dates: Titles 53 through 53G.
- 115 (1) Subsection 53-1-104(1)(b), regarding the Air Ambulance Committee, is repealed July 1,
- 116 2024.
- 117 (2) Section 53-1-118 is repealed on July 1, 2024.
- 118 (3) Section 53-1-120 is repealed on July 1, 2024.
- (4) Section 53-2d-107, regarding the Air Ambulance Committee, is repealed July 1, 2024.
- 120 (5) In relation to the Air Ambulance Committee, on July 1, 2024, Subsection 53-2d-702(1)(a)
- is amended to read:
- "(a) provide the patient or the patient's representative with the following information
- before contacting an air medical transport provider:
- (i) which health insurers in the state the air medical transport provider contracts with;
- (ii) if sufficient data is available, the average charge for air medical transport services for a
- patient who is uninsured or out of network; and
- 127 (iii) whether the air medical transport provider balance bills a patient for any charge not paid
- by the patient's health insurer; and".
- 129 (6) Section 53-7-109 is repealed on July 1, 2024.

- 130 (7) Section 53-22-104 is repealed December 31, 2023.
- 131 (8) Section 53-25-102 is repealed on December 31, 2031.
- 132 [(8)] (9) Section 53B-6-105.7 is repealed July 1, 2024.
- 133 [(9)] (10) Section 53B-7-707 regarding performance metrics for technical colleges is
- 134 repealed July 1, 2023.
- 135 [(10)] (11) Section 53B-8-114 is repealed July 1, 2024.
- 136 [(11)] (12) The following provisions, regarding the Regents' scholarship program, are
- 137 repealed on July 1, 2023:
- (a) in Subsection 53B-8-105(12), the language that states, "or any scholarship
- established under Sections 53B-8-202 through 53B-8-205";
- 140 (b) Section 53B-8-202;
- 141 (c) Section 53B-8-203;
- 142 (d) Section 53B-8-204; and
- (e) Section 53B-8-205.
- 144 [(12)] (13) Section 53B-10-101 is repealed on July 1, 2027.
- 145 [(13)] (14) Subsection 53E-1-201(1)(s) regarding the report by the Educational
- Interpretation and Translation Services Procurement Advisory Council is repealed July
- 147 1, 2024.
- 148 [(14)] (15) Section 53E-1-202.2, regarding a Public Education Appropriations
- Subcommittee evaluation and recommendations, is repealed January 1, 2024.
- 150 [(15)] (16) Section 53F-2-209, regarding local education agency budgetary flexibility, is
- 151 repealed July 1, 2024.
- 152 [(16)] (17) Subsection 53F-2-314(4), relating to a one-time expenditure between the at-risk
- WPU add-on funding and previous at-risk funding, is repealed January 1, 2024.
- 154 [(17)] (18) Section 53F-2-524, regarding teacher bonuses for extra work assignments, is
- 155 repealed July 1, 2024.
- 156 [(18)] (19) Section 53F-5-221, regarding a management of energy and water pilot program,
- is repealed July 1, 2028.
- 158 $[\frac{(19)}{(20)}]$ Section 53F-9-401 is repealed on July 1, 2024.
- 159 $[\frac{(20)}{(21)}]$ Section 53F-9-403 is repealed on July 1, 2024.
- 160 [(21)] (22) On July 1, 2023, when making changes in this section, the Office of Legislative
- Research and General Counsel shall, in addition to the office's authority under Section
- 36-12-12, make corrections necessary to ensure that sections and subsections identified
- in this section are complete sentences and accurately reflect the office's perception of the

164	Legislature's intent.
165	Section 4. Section 63I-2-276 is amended to read:
166	63I-2-276 (Effective 05/01/24). Repeal dates: Title 76.
167	(1) Subsection 76-5-102.7(2)(b), regarding assault or threat of violence against an owner,
168	employee, or contractor of a health facility, is repealed January 1, 2027.
169	(2) Section 76-7-305.7 is repealed January 1, 2023.
170	(3) Subsection 76-10-529(9), regarding data collection requirements, is repealed on
171	December 31, 2031.
172	Section 5. Section 76-10-529 is amended to read:
173	76-10-529 (Effective 05/01/24). Possession of firearms, other dangerous weapons,
174	or explosives in airport secure areas prohibited Punishment limitations
175	Reporting requirement.
176	(1) (a) As used in this section:
177	(i) "Airport authority" has the same meaning as defined in Section 72-10-102.
178	(ii) "Explosive" is the same as defined for "explosive, chemical, or incendiary
179	device" in Section 76-10-306.
180	(iii) "Law enforcement officer" means the same as that term is defined in Section
181	53-13-103.
182	(b) Terms defined in Sections 76-1-101.5 and 76-10-501 apply to this section.
183	(2) (a) Within a secure area of an airport established pursuant to this section, [a person]
184	an actor, including [a person] an actor licensed to carry a concealed firearm under
185	Title 53, Chapter 5, Part 7, Concealed Firearm Act, is guilty of:
186	(i) a class A misdemeanor if the [person] actor knowingly or intentionally possesses
187	any dangerous weapon or] a firearm or other dangerous weapon;
188	(ii) <u>subject to Subsection (5)</u> , an infraction if the [person] <u>actor</u> recklessly <u>or with</u>
189	<u>criminal negligence</u> possesses [any dangerous weapon or] a firearm or other
190	dangerous weapon; or
191	(iii) a violation of Section 76-10-306 if the [person] actor transports, possesses,
192	distributes, or sells [any] an explosive, chemical, or incendiary device.
193	(b) Subsection (2)(a) does not apply to:
194	(i) [persons] individuals exempted under Section 76-10-523; and
195	(ii) [members] a member of the state or federal military forces while engaged in the
196	performance of [their] the member's official duties.
197	(3) An airport authority, county, [or] municipality, or other entity regulating [the] an airport

198	may:
199	(a) establish [any] a secure area located beyond the main area where the public generally
200	buys tickets, checks and retrieves luggage; and
201	(b) use reasonable means, including mechanical, electronic, x-ray, or [any other] another
202	device, to detect [dangerous weapons,]firearms, other dangerous weapons, or
203	explosives concealed in baggage or upon the person of [any] an individual attempting
204	to enter the secure area.
205	(4) At least one notice shall be prominently displayed at each entrance to a secure area in
206	which a [dangerous weapon,]firearm, other dangerous weapon, or explosive is restricted.
207	[(5) Upon the discovery of any dangerous weapon, firearm, or explosive, the airport
208	authority, county, or municipality, the employees, or other personnel administering the
209	secure area may:]
210	[(a) require the individual to deliver the item to the air freight office or airline ticket
211	counter;]
212	[(b) require the individual to exit the secure area; or]
213	[(e) obtain possession or retain custody of the item until it is transferred to law
214	enforcement officers.]
215	(5) (a) An actor who violates Subsection (2)(a)(ii) on a first offense may receive a
216	written warning for the offense and may not receive a citation or any other form of
217	punishment.
218	(b) An actor who violates Subsection (2)(a)(ii) on a second or subsequent offense may
219	receive a written warning or a citation.
220	(6) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (6)(d), if a law enforcement officer issues a
221	citation to an actor for an infraction as a result of the actor's conduct described in
222	Subsection (2)(a)(ii), or provides an oral or written warning for that conduct, the law
223	enforcement officer shall:
224	(i) if the law enforcement officer is able to confirm that the actor may lawfully
225	possess the firearm or other dangerous weapon, allow the actor, at the actor's
226	option, to:
227	(A) temporarily surrender custody of the firearm or other dangerous weapon into
228	the custody of the law enforcement agency so that the firearm or other
229	dangerous weapon may be retrieved by the actor at a later date; or
230	(B) exit the secure area of the airport with the firearm or other dangerous weapon
231	<u>or</u>

232	(ii) if the law enforcement officer is unable to confirm that the actor may lawfully
233	possess the firearm or other dangerous weapon, or the airport authority under
234	Subsection (6)(d) prohibits the procedure described in Subsection (6)(a)(i), take
235	temporary custody of the firearm or other dangerous weapon so that the firearm o
236	other dangerous weapon may be retrieved by the actor at a later date if legally
237	permitted to do so.
238	(b) If a law enforcement officer takes temporary custody of a firearm or other dangerous
239	weapon under Subsection (6)(a):
240	(i) at the time the firearm or other dangerous weapon is obtained from the actor, the
241	law enforcement officer, or another law enforcement officer, or an employee who
242	works in the secure area of the airport, shall provide the actor with written
243	instructions on how, when, and where the actor may retrieve the actor's firearm or
244	other dangerous weapon; and
245	(ii) within three business days from the time when the law enforcement officer
246	receives the firearm or other dangerous weapon, the law enforcement agency shal
247	determine whether the actor is legally permitted to possess the firearm or other
248	dangerous weapon, and if so, ensure that the firearm or other dangerous weapon is
249	available for the actor to retrieve.
250	(c) An unclaimed firearm or other dangerous weapon that is surrendered into the custody
251	of a law enforcement agency under this Subsection (6) may be disposed of pursuant
252	to Section 77-11d-105, disposition of unclaimed property.
253	(d) An airport authority may implement a policy that prohibits the law enforcement
254	agency with jurisdiction over the airport from utilizing the procedure described in
255	Subsection (6)(a)(i).
256	[(6)] (7) (a) [An individual who is prosecuted for a violation of this section based on the
257	possession of a firearm shall have the individual's firearm returned to the individual]
258	An actor's firearm that is confiscated based on a violation of Subsection (2)(a)(i) shall
259	be returned to the actor in accordance with Subsection 77-11a-402(1)(b) [if the
260	individual may lawfully possess the firearm].
261	(b) In accordance with Subsection 77-11b-102(5), a firearm seized under [this section]
262	Subsection (2)(a)(i) is not subject to forfeiture if the [eharged individual] actor may
263	lawfully possess the firearm.
264	(c) In a prosecution brought under this section, a prosecutor may not condition a plea on
265	the forfeiture of a firearm.

266	(8) An airport authority, county, municipality, or other entity regulating an airport or with
267	local jurisdiction over an airport may not:
268	(a) charge, cite, or prosecute an actor with a different offense under the Utah Code, local
269	ordinance, or another state or local law or regulation for conduct described in
270	Subsection (2)(a)(ii);
271	(b) assess a civil penalty for conduct described in Subsection (2)(a)(i) or (ii); or
272	(c) enact a regulation, ordinance, or law covering conduct described in Subsection (2).
273	(9) A law enforcement agency that issues a written warning, citation, or referral for
274	prosecution under this section shall record and report the information as required under
275	Section 53-25-102.
276	Section 6. Section 77-11a-402 is amended to read:
277	77-11a-402 (Effective 05/01/24). Disposition of seized property and contraband
278	Return of seized property.
279	(1) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), if a prosecuting attorney determines that
280	seized property no longer needs to be retained as evidence under Chapter 11c,
281	Retention of Evidence, the prosecuting attorney may:
282	(i) petition the court to apply the property that is money towards restitution, fines,
283	fees, or monetary judgments owed by the owner of the property;
284	(ii) petition the court for an order transferring ownership of weapons to the agency
285	with custody for the agency's use and disposal in accordance with Section
286	77-11a-403 if the owner:
287	(A) is the individual who committed the offense for which the weapon was seized
288	or
289	(B) may not lawfully possess the weapon; or
290	(iii) notify the agency with custody of the property or contraband that:
291	(A) the property may be returned to the owner in accordance with Section
292	77-11a-301 if the owner may lawfully possess the property; or
293	(B) the contraband may be disposed of or destroyed.
294	(b) If a prosecuting attorney determines that a firearm seized from an individual as a
295	result of an offense committed under [Section 76-10-529] Subsection 76-10-529
296	(2)(a)(i) no longer needs to be retained for court proceedings, the prosecuting
297	attorney shall notify the agency with custody of the firearm that the property shall be
298	returned to the individual if the individual may lawfully possess the firearm.
299	(2) Before returning a firearm to an individual, the agency returning the firearm shall

300	confirm, through the Bureau of Criminal Identification, that the individual is eligible to
301	lawfully possess and receive firearms.
302	(3) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (3)(b), if the agency is unable to locate the
303	owner of the property or the owner is not entitled to lawfully possess the property,
304	the agency may:
305	(i) apply the property to a public interest use;
306	(ii) sell the property at public auction and apply the proceeds of the sale to a public
307	interest use; or
308	(iii) destroy the property if the property is unfit for a public interest use or for sale.
309	(b) If the property described in Subsection (3)(a) is a firearm, the agency shall dispose of
310	the firearm in accordance with Section 77-11a-403.
311	(4) Before applying the property or the proceeds from the sale of the property to a public
312	interest use, the agency shall obtain from the legislative body of the agency's jurisdiction:
313	(a) permission to apply the property or the proceeds to public interest use; and
314	(b) the designation and approval of the public interest use of the property or the proceeds.
315	(5) If a peace officer seizes property that at the time of seizure is held by a pawn or
316	secondhand business in the course of the pawn or secondhand business's business, the
317	provisions of Section 13-32a-116 shall apply to the disposition of the property.
318	Section 7. Section 77-11d-101 is amended to read:
319	77-11d-101 (Effective 05/01/24). Definitions.
320	As used in this chapter:
321	(1) "Interest holder" means the same as that term is defined in Section 77-11a-101.
322	(2) (a) "Lost or mislaid property":
323	[(a)] (i) means any property that comes into the possession of a peace officer or law
324	enforcement agency:
325	[(i)] (A) that is not claimed by anyone who is identified as the owner of the
326	property; or
327	[(ii)] (B) for which no owner or interest holder can be found after a reasonable and
328	diligent search;
329	[(b)] (ii) includes any property received by a peace officer or law enforcement agency
330	from a person claiming to have found the property; and
331	[(e)] (iii) does not include property seized by a peace officer in accordance with
332	Chapter 11a, Seizure of Property and Contraband.
333	(b) "Lost or mislaid property" includes a firearm or other dangerous weapon received by

334	a law enforcement agency at an airport under Subsection 76-10-529(6).
335	(3) "Owner" means the same as that term is defined in Section 77-11a-101.
336	(4) "Public interest use" means:
337	(a) use by a governmental agency as determined by the agency's legislative body; or
338	(b) donation to a nonprofit charity registered with the state.
339	Section 8. Section 77-11d-105 is amended to read:
340	77-11d-105 (Effective 05/01/24). Disposition of unclaimed property.
341	[(1) (a) Hf]
342	(1) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (6), if the owner of any lost or mislaid property
343	cannot be determined or notified, or if the owner of the property is determined and
344	notified, and fails to appear and claim the property after three months of the
345	property's receipt by the local law enforcement agency, the agency shall:
346	(i) publish notice of the intent to dispose of the unclaimed property on Utah's Public
347	Legal Notice Website established in Subsection 45-1-101(2)(b);
348	(ii) post a similar notice on the public website of the political subdivision within
349	which the law enforcement agency is located; and
350	(iii) post a similar notice in a public place designated for notice within the law
351	enforcement agency.
352	(b) The notice shall:
353	(i) give a general description of the item; and
354	(ii) the date of intended disposition.
355	(c) The agency may not dispose of the lost or mislaid property until at least eight days
356	after the date of publication and posting.
357	(2) (a) If no claim is made for the lost or mislaid property within nine days of
358	publication and posting, the agency shall notify the person who turned the property
359	over to the local law enforcement agency, if it was turned over by a person under
360	Section 77-11d-103.
361	(b) Except as provided in Subsection (4), if that person has complied with the provisions
362	of this chapter, the person may take the lost or mislaid property if the person:
363	(i) pays the costs incurred for advertising and storage; and
364	(ii) signs a receipt for the item.
365	(3) If the person who found the lost or mislaid property fails to take the property under the
366	provisions of this chapter, the agency shall:
367	(a) apply the property to a public interest use as provided in Subsection (4);

368	(b) sell the property at public auction and apply the proceeds of the sale to a public
369	interest use; or
370	(c) destroy the property if it is unfit for a public interest use or sale.
371	(4) Before applying the lost or mislaid property to a public interest use, the agency having
372	possession of the property shall obtain from the agency's legislative body:
373	(a) permission to apply the property to a public interest use; and
374	(b) the designation and approval of the public interest use of the property.
375	(5) Any person employed by a law enforcement agency who finds property may not claim
376	or receive property under this section.
377	(6) (a) If the lost or mislaid property is a firearm or other dangerous weapon received by
378	a law enforcement agency under Subsection 76-10-529(6), the law enforcement
379	agency may dispose of the firearm or other dangerous weapon three months after the
380	property's receipt by the law enforcement agency if the owner of the firearm or other
381	dangerous weapon, or the owner's agent:
382	(i) fails to retrieve the firearm or other dangerous weapon; or
383	(ii) is legally prohibited from possessing the firearm or other dangerous weapon.
384	(b) A law enforcement agency may dispose of a firearm under Subsection (6)(a) by
385	following the procedures described in Section 77-11a-403, disposition of firearms no
386	longer needed as evidence.
387	Section 9. Effective date.
388	(1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), this bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.

(2) The actions affecting Section 63I-2-253 (Effective 07/01/24) take effect on July 1, 2024.

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