

UTAH LEGAL PERSONHOOD AMENDMENTS

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Walt Brooks

Senate Sponsor: Don L. Ipson

---

---

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill addresses legal personhood.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- defines terms; and
- prohibits a governmental entity from granting or recognizing legal personhood in certain categories of nonhumans.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

**63G-31-101**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

**63G-31-102**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

---

---

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

Section 1. Section **63G-31-101** is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 31. LEGAL PERSONHOOD

**63G-31-101 . Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Body of water" means any natural or man-made accumulation of water, regardless of whether the accumulation of water is static or subject to a force that causes a hydrological current.

- 28 (2) "Governmental entity" means:  
29 (a) a court;  
30 (b) the Legislature;  
31 (c) the legislative body of a political subdivision; or  
32 (d) another entity of the state or a political subdivision, if the entity has adjudicatory or  
33 rulemaking authority.
- 34 (3) "Human being" means a member of the species classified as Homo sapiens;  
35 (4) "Land" means the solid terrestrial surface or subsurface of the earth.
- 36 (5) "Legal personhood" means:  
37 (a) the legal rights and obligations of an individual under the laws of this state; or  
38 (b) the legal rights and obligations of a person other than an individual under the laws of  
39 this state.
- 40 (6) "Political subdivision" means the same as that term is defined in Section 63G-7-102.  
41 (7) "Real property" means any building, fixture, improvement, appurtenance, structure, or  
42 other development that is affixed permanently to land.
- 43 (8) "State" means the same as that term is defined in Section 63G-7-102.
- 44 Section 2. Section **63G-31-102** is enacted to read:  
45 **63G-31-102 . Legal personhood restricted.**  
46 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a governmental entity may not grant  
47 legal personhood to, nor recognize legal personhood in:  
48 (1) artificial intelligence;  
49 (2) an inanimate object;  
50 (3) a body of water;  
51 (4) land;  
52 (5) real property;  
53 (6) atmospheric gases;  
54 (7) an astronomical object;  
55 (8) weather;  
56 (9) a plant;  
57 (10) a nonhuman animal; or  
58 (11) any other member of a taxonomic domain that is not a human being.

59 Section 3. **Effective date.**  
60 This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.