

**OFFICE OF FAMILIES**

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Dan N. Johnson**

Senate Sponsor: Chris H. Wilson

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill creates the Office of Families within the Department of Health and Human Services.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ creates the Office of Families within the Department of Health and Human Services;
- ▶ establishes the powers and duties of the Office of Families; and
- ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

This bill provides a special effective date.

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**26B-1-204 (Superseded 07/01/24)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 249, 305

**26B-1-204 (Effective 07/01/24)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 249, 305 and 310



28 ENACTS:

29 **26B-1-243**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



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

32 Section 1. Section **26B-1-204 (Superseded 07/01/24)** is amended to read:

33 **26B-1-204 (Superseded 07/01/24). Creation of boards, divisions, and offices --**  
34 **Power to organize department.**

35 (1) The executive director shall make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3,  
36 Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, and not inconsistent with law for:

- 37 (a) the administration and government of the department;
- 38 (b) the conduct of the department's employees; and
- 39 (c) the custody, use, and preservation of the records, papers, books, documents, and  
40 property of the department.

41 (2) The following policymaking boards, councils, and committees are created within  
42 the Department of Health and Human Services:

- 43 (a) Board of Aging and Adult Services;
- 44 (b) Utah State Developmental Center Board;
- 45 (c) Health Facility Committee;
- 46 (d) State Emergency Medical Services Committee;
- 47 (e) Air Ambulance Committee;
- 48 (f) Health Data Committee;
- 49 (g) Utah Health Care Workforce Financial Assistance Program Advisory Committee;
- 50 (h) Child Care Provider Licensing Committee;
- 51 (i) Primary Care Grant Committee;
- 52 (j) Adult Autism Treatment Program Advisory Committee;
- 53 (k) Youth Electronic Cigarette, Marijuana, and Other Drug Prevention Committee; and
- 54 (l) any boards, councils, or committees that are created by statute in this title.

55 (3) The following divisions and offices are created within the Department of Health  
56 and Human Services:

- 57 (a) relating to operations:
- 58 (i) the Division of Finance and Administration;

- 59 (ii) the Division of Licensing and Background Checks;
- 60 (iii) the Division of Customer Experience;
- 61 (iv) the Division of Data, Systems, and Evaluation; and
- 62 (v) the Division of Continuous Quality Improvement;
- 63 (b) relating to healthcare administration:
- 64 (i) the Division of Integrated Healthcare, which shall include responsibility for:
- 65 (A) the state's medical assistance programs; and
- 66 (B) behavioral health programs described in Chapter 5, Health Care - Substance Use
- 67 and Mental Health;
- 68 (ii) the Division of Aging and Adult Services; and
- 69 (iii) the Division of Services for People with Disabilities; and
- 70 (c) relating to community health and well-being:
- 71 (i) the Division of Child and Family Services;
- 72 (ii) the Division of Family Health;
- 73 (iii) the Division of Population Health;
- 74 (iv) the Division of Juvenile Justice and Youth Services; [~~and~~]
- 75 (v) the Office of Families; and
- 76 (vi) the Office of Recovery Services.

77 (4) The executive director may establish offices and bureaus to facilitate management  
 78 of the department as required by, and in accordance with this title.

79 (5) From July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, the executive director may adjust the  
 80 organizational structure relating to the department, including the organization of the  
 81 department's divisions and offices, notwithstanding the organizational structure described in  
 82 this title.

83 Section 2. Section **26B-1-204 (Effective 07/01/24)** is amended to read:

84 **26B-1-204 (Effective 07/01/24). Creation of boards, divisions, and offices -- Power**  
 85 **to organize department.**

86 (1) The executive director shall make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3,  
 87 Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, and not inconsistent with law for:

- 88 (a) the administration and government of the department;
- 89 (b) the conduct of the department's employees; and

90 (c) the custody, use, and preservation of the records, papers, books, documents, and  
91 property of the department.

92 (2) The following policymaking boards, councils, and committees are created within  
93 the Department of Health and Human Services:

- 94 (a) Board of Aging and Adult Services;
- 95 (b) Utah State Developmental Center Board;
- 96 (c) Health Facility Committee;
- 97 (d) Health Data Committee;
- 98 (e) Utah Health Care Workforce Financial Assistance Program Advisory Committee;
- 99 (f) Child Care Provider Licensing Committee;
- 100 (g) Primary Care Grant Committee;
- 101 (h) Adult Autism Treatment Program Advisory Committee;
- 102 (i) Youth Electronic Cigarette, Marijuana, and Other Drug Prevention Committee; and
- 103 (j) any boards, councils, or committees that are created by statute in this title.

104 (3) The following divisions and offices are created within the Department of Health  
105 and Human Services:

- 106 (a) relating to operations:
  - 107 (i) the Division of Finance and Administration;
  - 108 (ii) the Division of Licensing and Background Checks;
  - 109 (iii) the Division of Customer Experience;
  - 110 (iv) the Division of Data, Systems, and Evaluation; and
  - 111 (v) the Division of Continuous Quality Improvement;
- 112 (b) relating to healthcare administration:
  - 113 (i) the Division of Integrated Healthcare, which shall include responsibility for:
    - 114 (A) the state's medical assistance programs; and
    - 115 (B) behavioral health programs described in Chapter 5, Health Care - Substance Use  
116 and Mental Health;
  - 117 (ii) the Division of Aging and Adult Services; and
  - 118 (iii) the Division of Services for People with Disabilities; and
- 119 (c) relating to community health and well-being:
  - 120 (i) the Division of Child and Family Services;

- 121 (ii) the Division of Family Health;
- 122 (iii) the Division of Population Health;
- 123 (iv) the Division of Juvenile Justice and Youth Services; ~~[and]~~
- 124 (v) the Office of Families; and
- 125 (vi) the Office of Recovery Services.

126 (4) The executive director may establish offices and bureaus to facilitate management  
 127 of the department as required by, and in accordance with this title.

128 (5) From July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, the executive director may adjust the  
 129 organizational structure relating to the department, including the organization of the  
 130 department's divisions and offices, notwithstanding the organizational structure described in  
 131 this title.

132 Section 3. Section **26B-1-243** is enacted to read:

133 **26B-1-243. Office of Families -- Definitions -- Creation -- Director -- Purpose and**  
 134 **duties.**

135 (1) As used in this section:

136 (a) "Director" means the director of the office appointed under Subsection (3).

137 (b) "Office" means the Office of Families created in Subsection (2).

138 (2) There is created within the department the Office of Families.

139 (3) (a) The governor shall appoint a director of the office.

140 (b) The director serves at the pleasure of the governor.

141 (c) The governor shall establish the director's salary within the salary range fixed by the  
 142 Legislature in Title 67, Chapter 22, State Officer Compensation.

143 (4) The director is the administrative head of the office and shall serve as an advisor to  
 144 the governor on family issues.

145 (5) The office shall:

146 (a) promote policies and develop initiatives which support the needs of families and  
 147 children;

148 (b) analyze the impact of laws, government policies, boards, commissions, rules and  
 149 regulations, and policy proposals on families, parents, and children;

150 (c) evaluate the impact of tax policies on families and children; and

151 (d) advocate for policies that strengthen the ability to create and form families.

152           (6) As necessary, the director may request staff and administrative support from the  
153 department.

154           (7) The office may coordinate with other governmental entities in fulfilling the office's  
155 duties.

156           Section 4. **Effective date.**

157           (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), this bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.

158           (2) The actions affecting Section [26B-1-204](#) (Effective 07/01/24) take effect on July 1,  
159 2024.