

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.



28 As used in this chapter:

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

32 (2) "Governmental entity" means:

33 (a) a court;

34 (b) the Legislature;

35 (c) the legislative body of a political subdivision; or

36 (d) another entity of the state or a political subdivision, if the entity has adjudicatory or
37 rulemaking authority.

38 (3) "Human being" means a member of the species classified as Homo sapiens;

39 (4) "Land" means the solid terrestrial surface or subsurface of the earth.

40 (5) "Legal personhood" means:

41 (a) the legal rights and obligations of an individual under the laws of this state; or

42 (b) the legal rights and obligations of a person other than an individual under the laws
43 of this state.

44 (6) "Political subdivision" means the same as that term is defined in Section
45 [63G-7-102](#).

46 (7) "Real property" means any building, fixture, improvement, appurtenance, structure,
47 or other development that is affixed permanently to land.

48 (8) "State" means same as that term is defined in Section [63G-7-102](#).

49 Section 2. Section **63G-31-102** is enacted to read:

50 **63G-31-102. Legal personhood restricted.**

51 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a governmental entity may not grant legal
52 personhood to, nor recognize legal personhood in:

53 (1) artificial intelligence;

54 (2) an inanimate object;

55 (3) a body of water;

56 (4) land;

57 (5) real property;

58 (6) atmospheric gases;

- 59 (7) an astronomical object;
- 60 (8) weather;
- 61 (9) a plant;
- 62 (10) a nonhuman animal; or
- 63 (11) any other member of a taxonomic domain that is not a human being.
- 64 Section 3. **Effective date.**
- 65 This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.