

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE STAFF REQUIREMENTS**

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Ryan D. Wilcox**

Senate Sponsor: Kirk A. Cullimore

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill addresses staffing of legislative committees.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ provides the circumstances under which an entity that is not a professional legislative staff office may staff a legislative committee; and
- ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**36-12-23**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 429

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

Section 1. Section **36-12-23** is amended to read:

**36-12-23. Legislative committees -- Staffing.**

(1) As used in this section:

[†] (a) "Chair" means a presiding officer or a co-presiding officer of a [legislative]



28 committee.

29 ~~[(2)]~~ (b) "Committee" means a standing committee, interim committee, subcommittee,  
30 special committee, authority, commission, council, task force, panel, or board in which  
31 legislative participation is required by ~~[law]~~ statute or legislative rule.

32 ~~[(3)]~~ (c) "Legislative committee" means a committee:

33 ~~[(a)]~~ (i) formed by the Legislature to study or oversee subjects of legislative concern;  
34 and

35 ~~[(b)]~~ (ii) that is required by ~~[law]~~ statute or legislative rule to have a chair who is a  
36 legislator.

37 ~~[(4)]~~ (d) "Legislator" means a member of either ~~[house]~~ chamber of the Legislature.

38 ~~[(5)]~~ (e) "Professional legislative office" means the Office of Legislative Research and  
39 General Counsel, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, ~~[or]~~ the Office of the Legislative  
40 Auditor General, or similar office of the Legislature.

41 ~~[(6)]~~ (2) (a) Except as provided in ~~[Subsection (7)]~~ Subsections (3) and (4), a  
42 professional legislative office shall provide ~~[staff support to a legislative committee]~~ each  
43 legislative committee's staff support, regardless of whether statute or legislative rule directs  
44 another entity to provide the staff support.

45 ~~[(b) If a law or legislative rule does not designate which particular professional~~  
46 ~~legislative office shall provide staff support to a legislative committee, that office shall be the~~  
47 ~~Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.]~~

48 (b) Unless a legislative committee's enacting statute or legislative rule names a  
49 particular professional legislative office to provide the legislative committee's staff support, the  
50 professional legislative offices shall select, based on subject matter expertise, which  
51 professional legislative office will staff the legislative committee.

52 (3) (a) Subject to Subsection (3)(b), the provisions of this section control over any  
53 conflicting provision of statute or legislative rule.

54 (b) (i) If another provision of statute or legislative rule directs an entity other than a  
55 professional legislative office to provide a legislative committee's staff support,  
56 notwithstanding Subsection (2), a legislator who is a chair of the legislative committee may  
57 elect to have the other entity provide the legislative committee's staff support.

58 (ii) If the legislative committee has more than one chair who is a legislator, the chairs

59 who are legislators shall collectively make the election under Subsection (3)(b)(i).

60 (iii) A chair or chairs who make an election under Subsection (3)(b)(i) may change the  
61 chair's or chairs' election no more than once each calendar year.

62 [~~7~~] (4) This section does not apply to:

63 (a) the Point of the Mountain State Land Authority created in Section 11-59-201;

64 (b) the Utah Broadband Center Advisory Commission created in Section 36-29-109;

65 (c) the Blockchain and Digital Innovation Task Force created in Section 36-29-110;

66 (d) the Criminal Justice Data Management Task Force created in Section 36-29-111;

67 (e) the Constitutional Defense Council created in Section 63C-4a-202;

68 (f) the Women in the Economy Subcommittee created in Section 63N-1b-402;

69 (g) the House Ethics Committee established under Legislative Joint Rule JR6-2-101; or

70 (h) the Senate Ethics Committee established under Legislative Joint Rule JR6-2-101.

71 Section 2. **Effective date.**

72 This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.