

# INTERIM HIGHLIGHTS

JUNE 2022 VOL. 22, No. 2



## IN THIS ISSUE:

**Administrative Rules and General Oversight**  
**Business and Labor**  
**Criminal Code Evaluation Task Force**  
**Digital Wellness, Citizenship, and Safe Technology Commission**  
**Economic Development and Workforce Services**  
**Education**  
**Education and Mental Health Coordinating Council**  
**Government Operations**  
**Health and Human Services**  
**Judiciary**  
**Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice**  
**Legislative Water Development Commission**  
**Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls**  
**Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment**  
**Political Subdivisions**  
**Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology**  
**Retirement and Independent Entities**  
**Revenue and Taxation**  
**Transportation**

## Legislative Interim Meetings

Meetings were held June, 15, 2022, or as noted

### [Administrative Rules and General Oversight Committee](#)

*June 16, 2022*

#### **2022 General Session Legislation**

Received a report on legislation from the 2022 General Session that related to rulemaking, including bills that granted new rulemaking authority, bills that amended or reauthorized existing rulemaking authority, and a bill that renamed and expanded the duties of the committee.

#### **Regulatory Barriers to Innovation and Entrepreneurship**

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Commerce on its recently completed review of agency regulations. The review was conducted as part of the Governor's One Utah Roadmap and focused on gathering industry and stakeholder feedback on potential regulatory barriers to innovation or entrepreneurship.

#### **Review of Board of Oil, Gas and Mining Orders**

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff regarding proceedings and an [order](#) of the Board of Oil, Gas and Mining that are related to a Notice of Intention to Commence a Small Mining Operation filed with the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining in November 2021.

Heard comments from the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, the Board of Oil, Gas and Mining, and the Office of the Attorney General.

**Action:** Voted to open a committee bill file to address requirements related to a Notice of Intention for a Small Mining Operation and to notify the chairs of the interim and standing Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Committees about the bill file.

**Chairs:** Rep. Brady Brammer / Sen. Curtis S. Bramble  
**Staff:** Julie Humberstone (Policy Analyst) / Megan L. Bolin (Deputy Director, Public Policy and Administration) / Victoria Ashby (Attorney) / Tracey Fredman (Administrative Assistant)

## **Business and Labor**

### **Alcohol Package Agency**

Discussed the existing package agency compensation model, which is based on a package agency's inventory orders from the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Services (DABS).

Discussed a potential new compensation model for package agencies that could be based on a package agency's previous month's sales.

Received a presentation and heard comments from DABS, a rural package agent, and the Alcoholic Beverage Services Commission.

### **Board of Credit Union Advisors**

**Action:** Voted to open a committee bill file to extend the sunset date of Utah Code Section [7-9-43](#), Board of Credit Union Advisors.

### **Department of Commerce Fee Study**

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Commerce regarding a chronic over-collection of fees at the Division of Securities and the Division of Corporations and Commercial Code. Effective July 1, 2022, the Department of Commerce plans to provide a fee reduction of \$5.3 million by reducing fees at the Division of Corporations and Commercial Code by \$1.6 million and reducing fees at the Division of Securities by \$3.6 million.

Discussed the impact of the fee reduction, which will provide over 500,000 license holders and business owners a break in fees.

### **Duties and Powers of the Insurance Commissioner**

**Action:** Voted to open a committee bill file to extend the sunset date of Utah Code Section [31A-2-217](#), Coordination with other states, which relates to the duties and powers of the insurance commissioner. The committee conducted a sunset review of the statute in May and determined it should be reauthorized.

### **Electronic Payment Fees**

Discussed allowing the Department of Commerce to retain a portion of the fees it collects to defray the growing costs of electronic payments and thereby eliminating the need for the department to adjust its payment fee appropriation each year.

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Commerce.

**Action:** Approved as a committee bill 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Department of Commerce Electronic Payment Fees](#)." This bill would:

- allow the Department of Commerce to collect a fee to defray the costs of electronic payments;
- create the Commerce Electronic Payment Fee Restricted Account;
- require the department to deposit electronic payment fees into the restricted account; and
- provide that appropriations from the restricted account are nonlapsing.

### **Hearing Instrument Specialist Licensing Act**

**Action:** Voted to open a committee bill file to extend the sunset date of Utah Code, [Title 58, Chapter 46a, Hearing Instrument Specialist Licensing Act](#). The committee conducted a sunset review of the statute in May and determined it should be reauthorized.

### **Interstate Licensing Compacts**

Discussed interstate licensing compacts, including compact models, their pros and cons, the impact of interstate licensing compacts on industry and the state, as well as their increased usage among states. Utah participates in nine interstate licensing compacts and is involved in two additional compacts that have elements of licensing.

Received a [presentation](#) from the Division of Professional Licensing.

Received a [presentation](#) from the Council of State Governments on the national landscape for compacts and compacts under development.

**Chairs:** Rep. Joel Ferry / Sen. Curtis S. Bramble  
**Staff:** Adam J. Sweet (Policy Analyst) / Charley Hart (Policy Analyst) / Ericka A. Evans (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Amy L. West (Attorney) / Royce Gador (Administrative Assistant)



## [Criminal Code Evaluation Task Force](#)

June 16, 2022

### **Criminal Code Recodification**

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on proposed changes to Title 76, Chapter 6, Parts 1 through 4 that would standardize the existing offenses to the new framework of the criminal code.

**Chairs:** Rep. Matthew H. Gwynn / Sen. Karen Mayne  
**Staff:** John Feinauer (Managing Policy Analyst) / Victoria Ashby (Attorney) / Esther D. Chelsea-McCarty (Attorney) / Jackie Rogers (Attorney) / Taylor Calabrese (Administrative Assistant)

---

## [Digital Wellness, Citizenship, and Safe Technology Commission](#)

June 14, 2022

### **Contract Discussion**

*Action:* Voted to extend the commission's contract with the vendor Digital Respons-Ability for one year.

### **Digital Respons-Ability Contract Update**

Received a [presentation](#) from Digital Respons-Ability about its work under contract during the 2021-2022 school year to provide students with training on digital citizenship.

### **Legislative Appropriation**

Discussed possible ways the commission could use a legislative appropriation received from 2022 General Session, H.B. 3, "[Appropriations Adjustments](#)," to further the commission's work.

**Chairs:** Rep. Jon Hawkins / Sen. Derrin R. Owens  
**Staff:** Micah Ann Wixom (Policy Analyst) / Amy Shewan (Attorney) / Tracey Fredman (Administrative Assistant)

---

## [Economic Development and Workforce Services](#)

### **Department of Workforce Services Programs**

Received presentations from the Department of Workforce Services providing:

- an [overview of department services](#);
- an update on the [Afghan resettlement program](#);
- an overview of [Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families](#);
- details on the unwinding of [Federal Stimulus Benefits](#); and
- a report on the use of [Community Service Block Grant funds](#).

### **Sunset Review: Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities**

Received a presentation from the [Utah State Office of Rehabilitation](#) within the Department of Workforce Services about Utah Code Section [35A-13-302](#), Governor's

Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, which will be repealed July 1, 2023, absent further action by the Legislature.

*Action:* Voted to open a committee bill file to reauthorize the statute for five years.

**Chairs:** Rep. Stephen G. Handy / Sen. Ronald M. Winterton  
**Staff:** Chris Stitt (Policy Analyst) / Gus Harb (Attorney) / Tracey Fredman (Administrative Assistant)

---

## [Education](#)

### **Legislative Audit: A Performance Audit of Teacher and Principal Performance Within Utah's Public Education System**

Heard a [report](#) from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General on audit report #2022-03, "[A Performance Audit of Teacher and Principal Performance Within Utah's Public Education System](#)." Also received a [presentation](#) from the State Board of Education, responding to the audit.

*Action:* Voted to open a committee bill file to address some of the issues regarding teacher and principal performance evaluation raised in the audit.

### **Legislative Audit: An In-Depth Review of the Weber School District**

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of the Legislative Auditor General on audit report #2022-02, "[An In-Depth Budget Review of the Weber School District](#)."

Received additional information from the Utah School Boards Association and Utah School Superintendents Association.

### **Public Education: Accountability Redesign Update**

Heard a [presentation](#) from the State Board of Education about the progress of the Utah School Accountability System Working Group, including results from a recent [stakeholder survey](#) and a timeline for when its work is expected to conclude. The working group's task is to improve the state's accountability system by making it easy to compare, simple, and transparent, and to better align the system with personalized and competency-based learning efforts and the state's Portrait of a Graduate.

### **Public Education: Consolidating Prevention Programs**

Received a [presentation](#) from the State Board of Education about how multiple prevention programs, like substance abuse and suicide prevention programs, could be streamlined to reduce reporting requirements for local education agencies (LEAs) and provide LEAs with more flexibility in implementing these programs.

*Action:* Voted to open a committee bill file to consolidate prevention programs and include trauma-informed practices.





## Sunset Review: Pilot Program for Late Enrollment in Dual Language Immersion

Utah Code Section [53F-5-213](#) establishes a pilot program to provide an eligible LEA with a grant to offer an online language course to a student in the LEA to develop proficiency in a partner language so that the student may participate in dual language immersion as a late entrant.

Received a [presentation](#) from the State Board of Education with its recommendation that the Legislature let the program sunset, due to lack of interest from LEAs. Without legislative action, this program will be repealed on July 1, 2023.

## Sunset Review: Utah Professional Practices Advisory Commission

Utah Code Section [53E-6-5](#) establishes the Utah Professional Practices Advisory Commission (UPPAC) to assist and advise the State Board of Education in matters relating to the professional practices of educators. Without legislative action, this part will be repealed on July 1, 2023.

Received a [presentation](#) from the State Board of Education with its recommendation to remove the sunset date for UPPAC.

*Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to extend the sunset date for the Utah Professional Practices Advisory Commission for five years.*

Chairs: Rep. V. Lowry Snow / Sen. John D. Johnson  
Staff: Alex R. Janak (Managing Policy Analyst) / Micah Ann Wixom (Policy Analyst) / Amy Shewan (Attorney) / Michael E. Curtis (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Taylor Calabrese (Administrative Assistant)

## Education and Mental Health Coordinating Council

June 8, 2022

### Health Disparities Needs Assessment

Received a [presentation](#) from the Department of Health and Human Services on a 2021 report titled "[Health Disparities in Utah's Public Mental Health and Substance Use Treatment Systems](#)."



## Office of Student Health Affairs

Discussed 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Office of Student Health Affairs](#)," which would create the Office of Student Health Affairs within the Department of Health and Human Services.

### Shmoop: Heartbeat

Received a [presentation](#) from Shmoop, an educational technology company, about its program, Heartbeat.

## UHA/Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute Roadmap Update

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah Hospital Association and the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute on the status of a project to assess Utah's behavioral health system.

Chairs: / Rep. Raymond P. Ward / Rebecca Dutton  
Staff: Seth Anderson (Policy Analyst) / Ericka A. Evans (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Michelle Clifford (Administrative Assistant)

## Government Operations

### DFCM Renovation Fund

Received a [presentation](#) from the Division of Facilities and Construction Management highlighting the results and recommendations from a qualitative and quantitative study that was conducted in 2018 of selected buildings in Salt Lake County due to an increased concern about the large inventory of aging state buildings.

### Executive Boards and Commissions

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff regarding boards and commissions that have been created since 2020 General Session H.B.10, "[Boards and Commissions Amendments](#)."

Discussed the sunset review process for the various boards and commissions.

### State Commemorative Periods

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff regarding the state commemorative periods that are codified in statute.

Discussed a sunset review process for state commemorations.

### Voter Residency Requirements

Received a [presentation](#) from the Lieutenant Governor's Office regarding how Utah determines residency for voting purposes and providing examples of situations in which an individual has challenged another individual's eligibility to vote based on residency.

Chairs: Rep. A. Cory Maloy / Sen. Daniel W. Thatcher  
Staff: Lisa Sorensen (Policy Analyst) / Alan Houston (Attorney) / Thomas R. Vaughn (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Tracey Fredman (Administrative Assistant)



## Health and Human Services

### Healthcare Reform: Prescription Drugs

[Briefed](#) by a company on Utahns' prescription drug purchasing and opportunities for savings.

### Local Health Department Funding

Discussed the availability, adequacy, and use of revenue options by local health departments.

Received presentations from [committee staff](#), the [Utah Association of Local Health Departments](#), three local health officers, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Utah Association of Counties.

*Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to address local health department minimum performance standards and funding.*

### Sunset Review: Forensic Mental Health Coordinating Council

Received a presentation from committee staff and the superintendent of the state hospital pertaining to [Utah Code, Title 62A, Chapter 15, Section 605, Forensic Mental Health Coordinating Council – Establishment and purpose](#), which will be repealed July 1, 2023, absent further action by the Legislature.

*Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to add the duties of the Forensic Mental Health Coordinating Council to the Utah Substance Use and Mental Health Advisory Council.*

### Sunset Review: Identifying Potential Overuse of Non-Evidence-Based Health Care

Received a presentation from committee staff and the Office of Health Care Statistics pertaining to [Utah Code, Title 26, Chapter 33a, Section 117, Identifying potential overuse of non-evidence-based health care](#), which will be repealed December 31, 2023, absent further action by the Legislature. The committee conducted a sunset review of the statute and took no action.

Chairs: Rep. Merrill F. Nelson / Sen. Michael S. Kennedy  
Staff: Mark D. Andrews (Policy Analyst) / Seth Anderson (Policy Analyst) / Christopher Williams (Attorney) / Daniel M. Cheung (Attorney) / Ericka A. Evans (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Naomi Garrow (Administrative Assistant)

## Judiciary

### Child and Family Services

Received a [presentation](#) from the Division of Child and Family Services on ways to increase family engagement, improve access to services prior to a foster care episode or court involvement, and reduce or eliminate barriers to family reunification, such as helping parents navigate the child welfare system.

*Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to further study the Division of Child and Family Services' recommendations.*

## Justice Court Reform

Received a [presentation](#) from the Task Force on Justice Court Reform on the court's proposal to create a new division of the district courts to handle all misdemeanor and small claims cases.

*Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to explore legislative options for implementing the court's proposal.*

## Preliminary Hearings

Received a brief update from a working group approved by the committee to study preliminary hearing reform. The update addressed the working group's membership, possible reforms discussed at the working group's initial May 26, 2022, meeting, and plans to meet on June 23, 2022, and throughout interim.

*Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to facilitate the working group's efforts regarding preliminary hearing reform.*

Chairs: Rep. Jon Hawkins / Sen. Todd D. Weiler  
Staff: Jonathan Adams (Policy Analyst) / Jacqueline Carlton (Attorney) / Naomi Garrow (Administrative Assistant)

## Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice

### First Responder Mental Health Services

Received presentations from the Department of Public Safety and the State Bureau of Emergency Medical Services on the implementation of grant-funded programs established by 2022 General Session H.B. 23, "[First Responder Mental Health Services Amendments](#)."

*Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to address funding gaps for first responder mental health services.*

### Master Offense List

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah Sentencing Commission on updates to the Master Offense List.

### Reverse Keyword Search and Geolocation Requests

Received presentations from the American Civil Liberties Union, the Libertas Institute, and the Office of the Attorney General on the process for law enforcement to collect location information and internet search information from technology companies while investigating crimes.

*Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to establish clear standards of procedure for law enforcement to request and receive location and digital search information for the purpose of investigations.*

### School Resource Officers

Received a presentation from the Department of Public Safety and State Board of Education on the current use of school resource officers in the state.

### Sentencing Guidelines

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah Sentencing Commission on the relationship between the sentencing guidelines created by the commission and the criminal code.



## State v. Carter

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff on a request made by the courts to clarify provisions related to the definition of habitable structure in the aggravated arson statutory scheme.

**Action:** Voted to open a committee bill file to amend the definition of habitable structure in the aggravated arson statute and to refer the issue to the Criminal Code Evaluation Task Force for further study.

Chairs: Rep. Ryan D. Wilcox / Sen. Keith Grover  
Staff: John Feinauer (Managing Policy Analyst) / Esther D. Chelsea-McCarthy (Attorney) / Jackie Rogers (Attorney) / Taylor Calabrese (Administrative Assistant)

## Legislative Water Development Commission

June 16, 2022

### Water Conservation Efforts

Received a [presentation](#) from commission staff regarding bills and appropriations approved by the Legislature over the past three years that address water conservation.

Received a [presentation](#) from the Division of Water Resources regarding current water conservation efforts and education, rebates and grants, and recommendations.

Received presentations from the [Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District](#) and [Washington County Water Conservancy District](#), which included information on education programs, incentive programs, regulation (including water efficiency standards), potential barriers, and recommendations.

Heard from the League of Cities and Towns regarding water-related recommendations as well as local efforts to encourage water conservation.

### Water Technology

Heard from a legislator regarding automated indoor agriculture methods and a potential site visit.

Chairs: Rep. Joel Ferry / Sen. David P. Hinkins  
Staff: Nathan W. Brady (Policy Analyst) / Patricia Owen (Attorney) / Alan Houston (Attorney) / Finn Andrew Rose (Administrative Assistant)

## Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls Task Force

June 11, 2022

### Listening Session

Held a listening session at the Paiute Restoration Gathering and Pow-Wow in Cedar City, Utah, where members of the community shared their stories and experiences regarding murdered and missing relatives in Utah.

Chairs: Rep. Angela Romero / Sen. David P. Hinkins  
Staff: Kristina King (Policy Analyst) / Amy L. West (Attorney) / Amy Hawkes (Executive Assistant)

## Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment

### Federal Decarbonization Policies

Received presentations from a [legislator](#), the [Texas Public Policy Foundation](#), and the [Utah Rural Electric Cooperative Association](#) regarding federal decarbonization policies and potential impacts.

Heard additional comments from the State Treasurer, Utah Clean Energy, and the Utah Mining Association.

### State Park Fees

Heard from the Division of State Parks regarding the state park system and fees.

Discussed revenue generated, how the division uses revenue, and increasing use of the state parks.

### Sunset Review: Agriculture Advisory Board

**Action:** Approved as a committee bill, 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Agricultural Advisory Board Sunset Extension](#)," which would extend the sunset date for the Agricultural Advisory Board to July 1, 2028.

### Wildfire Risk and Mitigation

Heard from a legislator and the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands regarding current wildfire risks and mitigation efforts.

Chairs: Rep. Keven J. Stratton / Sen. Scott D. Sandall  
Staff: Charley Hart (Policy Analyst) / Nathan W. Brady (Policy Analyst) / Patricia Owen (Attorney) / Alan Houston (Attorney) / Finn Andrew Rose (Administrative Assistant)

## Political Subdivisions

### Continuing Care Retirement Facilities

Received a [presentation](#) from Summit Vista on the financial model for a continuing care retirement facility and a presentation from the Insurance Department on the current regulatory framework. Discussed potential statutory changes.

**Action:** Voted to open a committee bill file to update statute related to continuing care retirement facilities.

### Implementation of Congregate Care Facilities Reforms

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff summarizing the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute research brief titled "[Economic Impact of Utah's Family Choice Behavioral Healthcare Interventions Industry](#)."

Received presentations from representatives of congregate care facilities and a former student at a facility.

### Volunteer Government Workers Amendments

Discussed 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[Volunteer Government Workers Amendments](#)," which would define terms and amend the definition of a volunteer to describe the fees, expenses, and other benefits that may be provided to a volunteer.





*Action: Approved as a committee bill 2023 General Session draft legislation, "Volunteer Government Workers Amendments."*

Chairs: Rep. James A. Dunnigan / Sen. Michael K. McKell  
Staff: Sarah Flanigan (Policy Analyst) / Greg Gunn (Attorney) / Michelle Clifford (Administrative Assistant)

## Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology

### Community Renewal Energy Program Update

Received a [presentation](#) from the Board of the Community Renewable Energy Agency providing the committee with some history on the program, the goals of the program, and an update on its negotiations with Rocky Mountain Power.

### Regional Transmission Organizations:

#### Opportunities and Challenges

Received presentations from the [Office of Energy Development](#), Western Freedom, a Colorado state senator, PacifiCorp, and the [Southwest Power Pool](#).

Discussed the costs and benefits of regional transmission organizations around the United States.

#### Transmission: Addressing Future Needs

Received a [presentation](#) from the Office of Energy Development and Rocky Mountain Power on Utah's future transmission infrastructure needs and the challenges to meeting those needs.

### Utah Rural Energy Diversification and Innovation Application Update

Received testimony from the Office of Energy Development (OED) on an update to the Utah Rural Energy Diversification and Innovation Application, which was submitted in response to a two-phase federal grant competition. OED was 1 of 60 semi-finalists for phase one and it will know if it is a finalist in September.

Chairs: Rep. Carl R. Albrecht / Sen. David P. Hinkins  
Staff: Samantha D. Brucker (Managing Policy Analyst) / Scott Elder (Attorney) / Finn Andrew Rose (Administrative Assistant)

## Retirement and Independent Entities

June 14, 2022

### 2022 Independent Entities Guide

Received an overview of the [2022 Independent Entities Guide](#).

### Independent Entity Review: School and Institutional Trust Funds Office

Received a [presentation](#) from the School and Institutional Trust Funds Office (SITFO) on the entity's mission, activities, coordination with other entities, and status as an independent entity.

### Independent Entity Review: School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration

Received a [presentation](#) from the School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) on the entity's mission, activities, coordination with other entities, and status as an independent entity.

### Total Compensation for State Employees

Received a [presentation](#) from the Division of Human Resource Management on wages, retirement, and other benefits for state employees.

Chairs: Rep. Walt Brooks / Sen. Wayne A. Harper  
Staff: Sarah Flanigan (Policy Analyst) / Alan Houston (Attorney) / Andrea Valenti Arthur (Attorney) / Royce Gador (Administrative Assistant)

## Revenue and Taxation

### Economic Update

Received a joint presentation from economists from the [Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute](#), the [Governor's Office of Planning and Budget](#), the [Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst](#), and the [Department of Workforce Services](#) regarding updated tax collections, revenue projections, and economic and employment indicators for the state.

### Funding for Rural Projects

Received a [presentation](#) from committee staff comparing the Permanent Community Impact Fund and the Rural Opportunity Program.

Heard a [presentation](#) from the Department of Workforce Services on the Permanent Community Impact Fund.

Received a [presentation](#) from the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity on the Rural Opportunity Program.

### Income Tax: Domicile Status

Received a presentation from the State Tax Commission regarding changes to the determination of Utah individual income tax domicile status in response to the Utah Supreme Court decision in *Buck v. Utah State Tax Commission*.

Discussed potential policy solutions.

*Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to address the issue.*

### Sales Tax: Vehicle Lease Buyouts

Received a presentation from the State Tax Commission on whether a sales tax exemption should be allowed in certain vehicle lease buyout situations and discussed policy solutions.

*Action: Voted to open a committee bill file to address the issue.*



## Tax Credit Review Master List

Received a [handout](#) from committee staff overviews Utah's individual and corporate income tax credits, as well as a [summary document](#) for the tax credits scheduled for review by the committee during the 2022 interim.

Chairs: Rep. Casey Snider / Sen. Daniel McCay  
Staff: Julie Humberstone (Policy Analyst) / Kristina King (Policy Analyst) / Andrea Valenti Arthur (Attorney) / Christine R. Gilbert (Managing Associate General Counsel) / Royce Gador (Administrative Assistant)

## Transportation

### Advanced Air Mobility Working Group Preview

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) on the Advanced Air Mobility working group, which is studying current state laws and identifying potential changes to state law that are necessary to facilitate the development of AAM operations.

### Commercial Driver License

Heard commentary from the Driver License Division regarding issues with federal training requirements and allowed exemptions when obtaining a commercial driver license or adding an endorsement to an existing commercial driver license, and potential opportunities for the state to support workforce expansion in trucking.

### Free Fare February Report

Received a [presentation](#) from the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) on the funding sources for and impact on ridership during the transit agency's month of no fare collection on all modes of transit. UTA also presented information from a rider survey, describing how many riders were new to the system, methods of arriving at transit stations, and reasons for riding transit during the month of February.

### Large Infrastructure Projects Update

Received a joint [presentation](#) from UDOT and UTA on capital project planning for the FrontRunner double tracking and future transit at Point of the Mountain. The goals of the FrontRunner project are to increase frequency and reliability while reducing travel time. The Point of the Mountain transit project is in early planning stages and UDOT is currently comparing three alternatives: bus rapid transit, light rail transit, and FrontRunner compatible.

### License Plate Committee Bill File Discussion

Reviewed 2023 General Session draft legislation, "[License Plate Amendments](#)," which would modify the special group plate program and address other license plate-related issues. The bill proposes to:

- amend provisions regarding standard license plates;
- create a two-year moratorium on the personalized license plate program;
- create the sponsored special group license plate program and change the process to establish a new special group license plate;

- allow a county to exempt a motor vehicle from an emissions inspection under certain circumstances;
- create a restricted account to administer existing fees related to license plates and vehicle registration; and
- repeal certain restricted accounts and other provisions related to license plate issuance and administration

## Personal and Commercial Trailers Licensing and Registration

Received a [presentation](#) from the State Tax Commission on the licensing and registration of personal and commercial trailers in the state.

Discussed the Utah Constitution's provision requiring the payment of a uniform statewide fee in lieu of property tax for vehicles that are subject to registration and the International Registration Plan, which provides proportional revenue for all member jurisdictions on the basis of the actual distance traveled in each member jurisdiction.

Heard commentary from the Utah Trucking Association.

Received a [handout](#) from committee staff on permanent trailer registrations available in neighboring states.

### Road User Charge Program Required Report

Received a [presentation](#) from UDOT on the current and future revenue, participation rate, and costs of the road user charge program, as required per Utah Code Section [72-1-213](#). The largest growth in the program has been driven by increased participation from electric vehicles. The presentation also explained how 2022 General Session H.B.186, "[Vehicle Registration Amendments](#)," impacts the program by modifying the per mile rate.

Chairs: Rep. Kay J. Christofferson / Sen. Wayne A. Harper  
Staff: Alma Weber (Policy Analyst) / Kurt P. Gasser (Attorney) / Michelle Clifford (Administrative Assistant)

