

2-9-21

**House Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Committee**

**Bill: HB 236, Waste Tire Recycling Amendments**

Sponsor: Rep. Handy

Floor Sponsor:

**UASD Position: Support**

This Bill: modifies provisions related to waste tire recycling.

Discussion: Rep. Handy said there is a market to recycle tires. 2.7 million tires are recycled in Utah each year. This Bill would allow government owned landfills to be reimbursed for transporting the discarded tires to the tire recycling vendor. The reimbursement would come from the waste recycling fee that is paid anytime a new tire is purchased. This bill creates fairness for government owned landfills. Rep. Chew asked the sponsor how much do the landfills receive for transporting the tires to the recycler. Craig Hall Sr. answered that landfills do not qualify for the reimbursement for transportation costs. This Bill would fix that issue. Rep. Chew expressed concern that the landfills are already receiving a disposal fee. Mr. Hall Sr. said transportation is not included in the disposal fee. Rep. Albrecht asked what is different about this bill compared to past waste tire bills presented in past legislative sessions. The sponsor said this bill is helping pay the cost associated with transporting tires. Mr. Hall Sr. said this bill will have no effect on the tire fund. The recycling company is a for profit company, but this is not a way to increase profit margins. Rep. Lyman asked how many tires are in these landfills. Mr. Hall Sr. responded that about 30,000 tires in Utah County and Salt Lake County are currently going to the shredder. Rep. Handy clarified that this bill includes any municipal land fill in the state. The Chair asked why they don't increase the fee to receive the tire. Mr. Hall Sr. responded by asking why should citizens have to pay more when there is money in the Waste Tire Fund. Rep. Chew motioned to hold the bill because the fiscal note states that the reimbursements would come out of the General Fund, not the Waste Tire Fund. Rep. Chew said the Department of Environment Quality might be dipping into this fund as well. The sponsor said there might be a fundamental misunderstanding of this bill. He continued by saying the government landfills simply want to move tires to the recycler and be reimbursed at the same rate as a non-governmental entity does under current statute. The motion to hold the bill failed. Members of the committee suggested that Rep. Handy work with Rep. Chew to answer questions and address concerns of the Committee members. A motion was made to move to the next agenda item. The motion passed.

Yeas:

Nays:

N/V:

**Outcome: Moved to the next agenda item.**

**Bill: S.J.R. 7 Joint Resolution Approving Energy Solutions Constructing and Operating a Landfill for Nonhazardous Solid Waste**

Sponsor: Sen. Sandall

Floor Sponsor: Rep. Nelson

**UASD Position: Tracking**

This Bill: resolution grants provisional legislative approval for the construction and operation of a Class VI commercial nonhazardous solid waste landfill.

Discussion: Senator Sandall said this Resolution grants provisional legislative approval to open and use a commercial nonhazardous solid waste landfill. Nonhazardous debris that could be put in a Class VI land fill is currently being sent to radioactive waste facilities. Rep. Sagers asked what is the criteria for a Class VI landfill. The co-presenter said the types of waste that are allowed to be put in a Class VI landfill is mostly construction debris. Members of the public voiced their concern for this bill. The Healthy Environment Alliance of Utah and the Utah Sierra Club oppose this bill.

Yeas: 8

Nays: 2

N/V: 4

**Outcome: Passed out of committee with a favorable recommendation**