

2-17-21

House Political Subdivisions Committee

Bill: 1st Substitute HB 58, Metro Township Amendments

Sponsor: Sen. Mayne

Floor Sponsor: Rep. Dunnigan

UASD Position: Support

This Bill: amends provisions relating to metro townships.

Discussion: Sen. Mayne and Nathan Bracken, attorney representing Copperton and Kearns Metro Townships, stated the Metro Townships (MTs) only exist in Salt Lake County. They are not unincorporated townships within Salt Lake County. Therefore, this bill would not impact Salt Lake County. The MTs are incorporated municipalities that are governed under the Municipal Code. The Metro Townships are fully independent of Salt Lake County. The five MTs in Salt Lake County pool their limited resources together to share one set of staff via the Greater Salt Lake Municipal Services District. The townships occasionally contract with Salt Lake County for services. The MTs have limited revenue streams and do not have municipal energy or telecom taxes. This bill allows the MTs to impose municipal energy or telecom taxes. When the metro townships were created, there was an understanding that Salt Lake County would provide a number of services for the MTs causing the MTs to not need the municipal energy taxing ability. The MTs are now completely independent from the County and need the ability to impose certain taxes to provide adequate services to their residents.

Yeas: 10

Nays: 0

N/V: 0

Outcome: 1st substitute HB 58 passed out of committee with a favorable recommendation