

2-19-21

Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Committee

Bill: SB 144, Billboard Restrictions Amendments

Sponsor: Sen. Hinkins

Floor Sponsor:

UASD Position: Oppose

This Bill: amends provisions relating to governmental entities' regulation of billboards.

Discussion: Senator Hinkins said the billboard industry recently determined that municipalities have employed strategies that they believe are unethical. The billboard industry claims that some municipalities directly contact the property owners of land with billboards on the property in an effort to get billboards removed from the properties by offering tax payer money or priority for building permits. The sponsor said this bill is designed to stop this practice. Dewey Reagan, President of Raegan Outdoor Advertising, gave an example of what he believes to be unethical actions taken by Salt Lake City. Members of the public voiced support and opposition to this bill. The Utah Transit Authority, the League of Cities and Towns, the Utah Association of Counties, the Utah Association of Special Districts, Salt Lake City, county attorneys, Scenic Utah and the Alliance for a Better Utah voiced opposition for this bill. Young Electric Sign Company, Saunders Outdoor Advertising, Reagan Outdoor Advertising and the Utah Tax Payers Association voiced support for this bill.

Yeas: 5

Nays: 2

N/V: 1

Outcome: Passed out of committee with a favorable recommendation