

Date: 2-22-21

**House Floor**

**Bill: HB 22 Medical Examiner Amendments**

Sponsor: Rep. Nelson

Floor Sponsor: Sen. Thatcher

**UASD Position: Tracking**

This Bill: amends the Utah Medical Examiner Act.

Discussion: The House concurred with the Senate amendments.

Yeas: 71

Nays: 0

N/V: 4

**Outcome: HB 22 passed the House and was sent to the Senate.**

**Bill: 2nd Sub. HB 23 Voter Referendum Amendments**

Sponsor: Rep. Nelson

Floor Sponsor: Sen. Sandall

**UASD Position: Tracking**

This Bill: addresses local referenda.

Discussion: The House concurred with the Senate Amendments

Yeas: 68

Nays: 0

N/V: 7

**Outcome: 2nd Sub. HB 23 passed the House and was sent to the Senate.**

**Bill: 3rd Sub. HB 227 Self Defense Amendments**

Sponsor: Rep. Lisonbee

Floor Sponsor: Sen. Hinkins

**UASD Position: Tracking with Concern**

This Bill: addresses the justifiable use or threatened use of force.

Discussion: Rep. Lisonbee explained that Amendment One modifies the language to require that an officer acts lawfully in order to be eligible for a self defense justification hearing. The amendment was adopted. This bill protects individuals who use a firearm in self defense from a lawsuit that would go to trial. Currently, these individuals are subject to prosecution which can be financially devastating. Under this bill, the prosecution will be required to demonstrate that an individual did not act in self defense in a pretrial hearing. Rep. Christianssen asked about lines 28-29 and the parts of code they reference. Rep. Lisonbee explained that those sections of code describe self defenses uses of firearms. Rep. King said the decision of whether to prosecute an individual would already have taken into account whether an individual was justified in using deadly force. He expressed concerns about unintended consequences, such as encouraging a more aggressive use of deadly force than is wise. Rep. Stoddard asked if this is the same standard used in other affirmative defenses in our code. Rep. Lisonbee said the “clear and convincing evidence” is the same, but this is a new section of code that copies from Florida’s statute. Rep. Stoddard asked if the courts have been consulted in this. Rep. Lisonbee said they have. Rep. Stoddard said he is concerned about the creation of an additional court hearing that isn’t used in any other affirmative defenses. He worries that it will burden the courts and affect other affirmative defenses. Rep. Seegmiller spoke in support of the bill. Rep. Lisonbee noted that these cases are rare.

Yeas: 56

Nays: 16

N/V: 3

**Outcome: 3rd Sub. HB 227 passed the House and was sent to the Senate.**

**Bill: HB 308 Covid-19 Vaccine Amendments**

Sponsor: Rep. Spendlove

Floor Sponsor:

**UASD Position: Tracking**

This Bill: prohibits a governmental entity from requiring that an individual receive a vaccine for COVID-19.

Discussion: Rep. Spendlove introduced the bill. Rep. Nelson asked about line 48, which prohibits indirect requirements to get a vaccine. He asked if that could include a government mandate to wear a mask. If the government requires vaccination to get on a flight, would that be considered an indirect requirement? Rep. Spendlove said yes.

Yeas: 66

Nays: 2

N/V: 7

**Outcome: HB 308 passed the House and was sent to the Senate.**

**Bill: 2nd Sub. HB 256 County Land Use and Development Amendments**

Sponsor: Rep. Teuscher

Floor Sponsor: Sen. Fillmore

**UASD Position: Tracking with Concern**

This Bill: amends provisions related to county land use and development.

Discussion: Rep. Teuscher introduced the bill. Rep. Pierucci expressed her support.

Yeas: 70

Nays: 0

N/V: 5

**Outcome: 2nd Sub. HB 256 passed the House and was sent to the Senate.**

**Bill: 1st Sub. HB 355 Workers' Compensation Revisions**

Sponsor: Rep. Hawkes

Floor Sponsor:

**UASD Position: Tracking**

This Bill: amends provisions of the Workers' Compensation Act.

Discussion: Rep. Hawkes introduced the bill. There was no discussion.

Yeas: 71

Nays: 0

N/V: 4

**Outcome: 1st Sub. HB 355 passed the House and was sent to the Senate.**

**Bill: HB 343 School Emergency Drills Amendments**

Sponsor: Rep. Carol Moss

Floor Sponsor:

**UASD Position: Tracking**

This Bill: makes changes to emergency evacuation drill requirements for certain educational facilities during the 2021-2022 school year.

Discussion: Rep. Moss introduced the bill. Rep. Lisonbee asked if COVID restrictions are expected to continue during the 2021-2022 school year. Rep. Moss said she doesn't have any more information than the health department has given. Rep. Lisonbee asked how many emergency drills will be required under this legislation. Rep. Moss explained that the law remains the same. She noted that lines 143-144 explain that schools may conduct drills or provide age-appropriate instruction to students. Rep. Lisonbee said the emergency drill language is in code for a reason. In moments of stress, children can forget the instruction they've received, but remember mechanically what they acted out.

Yeas: 32

Nays: 39

N/V: 4

**Outcome: HB 343 failed to pass the House.**