

Date: 2-23-21

Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Committee

Bill: 2nd Sub. SB 40 Petroleum Storage Tanks Amendments

Sponsor: Sen. Hinkins

Floor Sponsor: Rep. Stratton

UASD Position: Track and Amend

This Bill: addresses regulation of aboveground petroleum storage tanks.

Discussion: Sen. Hinkins introduced the bill. The bill was replaced with the second substitute. A representative of Trans-Jordan Landfill said a double wall line should qualify as not in contact with the soil, referencing line 266 of the original bill. The second substitute covers that. The Utah Petroleum Marketers and Retailers Association and the Division of Environmental Response and Remediation support the bill.

Yeas: 6

Nays: 0

N/V: 2

Outcome: 2nd Sub. SB 40 passed out of committee with a favorable recommendation.

Bill: 1st Sub. SB 199 Water Amendments

Sponsor: Sen. McKell

Floor Sponsor:

UASD Position: Oppose

This Bill: addresses issues related to water.

Discussion: The first substitute was adopted. Sen. McKell asked for the word “planning” to be replaced with “development” on line 182. The bill was amended. Sen. McKell said the key to water conservation in Utah is metering. This is not a mandate. Line 58 describes who the bill applies to. Line 66 notes that if costs go up by more than 10%, it is acceptable as long as it can be justified. The bill provides a grant program to small, secondary water payers. It is a 50/50 match. Sen. McKell said he feels most of the concerns have been addressed, but he will continue working with stakeholders. Sen. Sandall said he supports metering. Sen. Iwamoto asked how the bill deals with the statewide water strategy. Sen. McKell said line 76 requires a plan or an update to the plan for organizations involved. The bill does not deal with the broad, statewide plan. Sen. Iwamoto asked if this is focused on urban or rural areas. Sen. McKell said most of the problems with metering are in urban areas. Rick Smith spoke on behalf of the Davis-Weber Counties Canal Company in opposition to the bill because it was not vetted with stakeholders or the Utah Water Task Force. Public entities and smaller providers should not receive preferential treatment. The Utah Division of Water Resources supports metering. Sen. Davis said it’s important to go through the process on water issues. Sen. McKell said this bill came out of a working group. It doesn’t set policy, it provides a grant. The bill is designed to help small water users, not to be a major shift. Sen. Davis is concerned about not having the support of the greater water community. Sen. Iwamoto asked about the restriction on how much a given water provider can charge in a certain year. Sen. McKell said they originally capped it at 10% to stop the rising costs, but after meeting with stakeholders they changed it. Sen. Davis said he likes the concept of the bill, but fast-tracking the bill is moving too quickly. The greater water community should have input.

Yeas: 6

Nays: 0

N/V: 2

Outcome: 1st Sub. SB 199 passed out of committee with a favorable recommendation.

Bill: HB 236 Waste Tire Recycling Amendments

Sponsor: Rep. Handy

Floor Sponsor: Sen. Weiler

UASD Position: Support

This Bill: modifies provisions related to waste tire recycling.

Discussion: Rep. Handy introduced the bill. It allows municipally-owned landfills to request a reimbursement from the fund for the transportation of tires to recyclers. For facilities in the first or second class, there is a stop-loss not to exceed \$80,000 per year. Sen. Sandall asked if they are currently able to be reimbursed up to 60%. He noted that for every new tire purchased, \$1 goes into the fund.

Yeas: 5

Nays: 0

N/V: 3

Outcome: HB 236 passed out of committee with a favorable recommendation.

Bill: 1st Sub. HB 151 State Infrastructure Bank Amendments

Sponsor: Rep. Brammer

Floor Sponsor: Sen. Cullimore

UASD Position: Support and Amend

This Bill: amends provisions of the Transportation Code pertaining to the use of State Infrastructure Bank revenue for transportation or publicly owned infrastructure projects.

Discussion: Rep. Brammer requested an amendment on line 46 to delete everything after “owned by a” and replace it with “public entity.” There was no discussion on the bill.

Yeas: 5

Nays: 0

N/V: 3

Outcome: 1st Sub. HB 151 passed out of committee with a favorable recommendation.