

3-2-21

**Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee**

**Bill: SB 248, Skill-based Games Registration Requirements**

Sponsor: Sen. Grover

Floor Sponsor: Rep.

**UASD Position: Oppose**

This Bill: enacts the Skill-based Games Regulation Act.

Discussion: Senator Grover and a lobbyist for the gaming industry, Spencer Stokes, presented the Bill. Mr. Stokes tried to convince the Committee that a “skill-based game” that allows an individual to win money is not gambling according to the Constitution. He went so far as to claim that if he had knowledge of a horse’s breeding and had watched the horse race, placing a bet that the horse will win a race isn’t gambling because his skill set and knowledge of the horse makes his bet “skill-based” and not a “game of chance”. Senator Fillmore asked Mr. Stokes numerous questions that basically made the argument that this Bill would essentially legalize gambling in Utah. Gary Crane, representing Layton City and the League of Cities and Towns, Greg Schulz, representing metro townships, and Heather Anderson, representing the Utah Association of Special Districts, spoke in opposition to the Bill. Their brief testimony was that SB 248 would re-open a loophole to legalize gambling that Senator Mayne’s 2020 SB 214 closed. Due to a shortage of time, and the lack of support from the Committee, public comment was very limited. Senator Bramble suggested Senator Grover work with the key stakeholders over the interim and moved to the next item on the agenda, essentially killing SB 248.

Yeas:

Nays:

N/V:

**Outcome: The agenda was moved. SB 248 will not be heard on the Senate Floor.**

**Bill: 2<sup>nd</sup> substitute HB 243, Privacy Protection Amendments**

Sponsor: Rep. Gibson

Floor Sponsor: Sen. Cullimore

## **UASD Position: Support**

This Bill: creates positions to oversee privacy practices in state government.

Discussion: The 3<sup>rd</sup> substitute HB 243 was adopted by the Committee. Representative Gibson explained that 3<sup>rd</sup> sub. HB 243 is designed to protect individual's privacy. The Bill creates a position appointed by the Governor, government operations privacy officer, who will review the data practices of state agencies. The Bill also creates the Personal Privacy Oversight Commission ("Commission") to establish guidelines and best practices with respect to certain government technology uses related to personal privacy and policies related to data security. The Commission's membership is made up of 6 individuals appointed by the Governor and 6 individuals appointed by the State Auditor. If a government entity deems it necessary to retain individual's private data, the entity must hold a public hearing to explain the risk factors associated with maintaining the private data and why it is necessary for the governmental entity to keep the private data. State Auditor Dougall testified about an audit performed that determined the necessity of creating these privacy protections.

Yeas: 5

Nays: 0

N/V: 4

**Outcome: 3<sup>rd</sup> substitute HB 243 passed out of Committee with a favorable recommendation and was placed on the consent calendar.**

Bill: 4<sup>th</sup> substitute HB 82, **Single-family Housing Modifications**

Sponsor: Rep. Ward

Floor Sponsor: Sen. Anderegg

## **UASD Position: Tracking**

This Bill: modifies provisions related to single-family housing.

Discussion: 5<sup>th</sup> substitute HB 82, with amendment one, was adopted by the Committee. The amendment changed the wording "an owner of an internal accessory dwelling unit" to "an owner of a primary dwelling" throughout the Bill, making it even more clear that the owner must occupy the home and only rent one accessory dwelling unit ("ADU"). The amendment also added the language requested by UASD to add "Subsections (3) and" to line 151 of the 5<sup>th</sup> substitute Bill. This addition gives the land use authority the ability to enforce ADUs comply

with health, fire and building code requirements. The substitute Bill adds language that gives the land use authority the ability to place a lien on a home, after following the due diligence process, if an owner advertises or uses the ADU as a short term rental. Due to time constraints, only 3 individuals were allowed to testify. The Utah League of Cities and Towns testified of their neutrality. Two citizens testified, one in support and one in opposition to the Bill.

Yeas: 5

Nays: 1

N/V: 3

**Outcome: 5<sup>th</sup> substitute HB 82, as amended, passed out of Committee with a favorable recommendation**