

House Public Utilities and Energy Committee

February 28th, 2025

Bill: 2nd substitute SCR 3 – Concurrent Resolution Regarding Utah’s Authority to Determine its Energy Future

Sponsor: Senator Wayne A. Harper

Floor Sponsor: Representative Carl R. Albrecht

UASD Position: Tracking

This resolution asserts the state's right to determine its own energy policies and addresses the balance of state and federal authority in energy regulation.

Discussion: Senator Harper presented the 2nd substitute of the Bill, explaining that it incorporates additional provisions from another Resolution supporting federalism following the repeal of the Chevron doctrine. The Committee adopted the 2nd substitute.

The sponsor explained that this Resolution calls on the federal government to acknowledge the state's constitutional authority and work as a partner in supporting local decision-making. It urges the federal government to limit its role in energy regulation to matters related to interstate commerce and national security. Additionally, the Resolution requests ongoing and meaningful consultation between federal agencies and the state in developing appropriate energy policies.

Representative Albrecht spoke in support of the Bill. Representative Dominguez asked how the Resolution might affect local municipalities. The sponsor clarified that the Resolution strictly addresses the relationship between Utah and the federal government and does not impact how cities or municipalities regulate energy. The Utah Legislative Watch expressed support for the Bill.

Yeas: 9

Nays: 0

N/V: 4

Outcome: 2nd substitute SCR 3 passed out of the Committee with a favorable recommendation.