

**Bill: 1<sup>st</sup> substitute HB 215 – Landscaping Restrictions Amendments**

Sponsor: Representative Peterson

Floor Sponsor: Senator Vickers

**UASD Position: Support**

This Bill restricts a county, municipality, or homeowner association from prohibiting removal of vegetation on property located in a wildland-urban interface area.

Discussion: The sponsor explained that the Bill protects property owners in Wildland Urban Interface (“WUI”) areas from city, county, or homeowners’ association (“HOA”) ordinances that would restrict their ability to clear vegetation and create defensible space around their homes. The purpose of the Bill is to reduce wildfire risk by ensuring that property owners can take reasonable steps to protect their property.

The Utah League of Cities and Towns took a neutral position on the Bill. The Utah Homebuilders Association spoke in support of the Bill.

Yeas: 6

Nays: 0

N/V: 1

**Outcome: 1<sup>st</sup> substitute HB 215 passed out of the Committee with a favorable recommendation.**

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**Bill: HB 309 – Juneteenth Observance Amendments**

Sponsor: Representative Hollins

Floor Sponsor: Senator Cullimore

**UASD Position: Support**

This Bill modifies the day on which Juneteenth National Freedom Day is recognized in Utah.

Discussion: The sponsor explained that in 2022, Juneteenth was established as both a state and federal holiday, which has resulted in inconsistencies in observance dates. The Bill aligns Utah’s state holiday with the federal Juneteenth holiday to ensure uniformity across government agencies and financial institutions.

The Utah Land Title Association spoke in support of the Bill, citing issues created by banks closing on different days than local governments and expressed support for aligning the holidays.

Yeas: 7

Nays: 0

N/V: 0

**Outcome: HB 309 passed out of the Committee with a favorable recommendation.**

UNASSD