

Date: 02/20/2026
Senate Floor Time

Bill: 1st substitute HCR 6 - Concurrent Resolution Regarding the Utah Housing Strategic Plan

Sponsor: Representative Whyte
Floor Sponsor: Senator Fillmore
UASD Position: Support

This Resolution supports the implementation of the Utah Housing Strategic Plan

Discussion: The sponsor presented the Resolution. No further discussion ensued.

Yeas: 22
Nays: 3
N/V: 4

Outcome: 1st substitute HCR 6 passed out of the Senate.

Bill: 3rd substitute HB 38 - County Government Amendments

Sponsor: Representative Dunnigan
Floor Sponsor: Senator McKell
UASD Position: Support

This Bill deals with provisions related to counties and special districts.

Discussion: The sponsor presented the Bill. No further discussion ensued.

Yeas: 19
Nays: 4
N/V: 6

Outcome: 3rd substitute HB 38 passed out of the Senate.

Bill: HB 296 - Water Commitment Amendments

Sponsor: Representative Nguyen
Floor Sponsor: Senator Sandall
UASD Position: Support

This Bill addresses commitments of water by water provisions.

Discussion: The sponsor presented the Bill. No further discussion ensued.

Yeas: 25
Nays: 2
N/V: 2

Outcome: HB 296 passed out of the Senate.

Bill: 2nd substitute HB 330 - Liability Limitations Amendments

Sponsor: Representative Jack

Floor Sponsor: Senator Winterton

UASD Position: Track

This Bill creates an affirmative defense.

Discussion: The sponsor presented the Bill. Senator Weiler asked whether the legislation would affect nursing homes and youth treatment centers, and how families could verify whether regulatory violations were sufficient in cases involving neglect. The sponsor responded that the 2nd substitute addresses those concerns. The sponsor referenced language found on line 522, explaining that the affirmative defense would not apply if the plaintiff proved that the governmental entity issuing the authorization or requirement determined that the person materially failed to comply with that authorization. Senator Cullimore expressed similar concerns, particularly regarding language on lines 37–46, stating that the provision allowing reliance on an affirmative defense appeared overly broad.

The sponsor moved to circle the Bill to allow time to consider revised language that would address members' concerns while still protecting the industries the legislation is intended to cover.

Yeas:

Nays:

N/V:

Outcome: 2nd substitute HB 330 was circled.

Bill: 1st substitute HB 215 - Landscaping Restrictions Amendment

Sponsor: Representative T. 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 presented the Bill. No further discussion ensued.

Yeas: 24

Nays: 1

N/V: 4

Outcome: 1st substitute HB 215 passed out of the Senate.

Bill: 1st substitute HB 60 - Water Rights Amendments

Sponsor: Representative Shallenberger

Floor Sponsor: Senator Stratton

UASD Position: Support

This Bill addresses water rights and the state engineer's actions related to water rights.

Discussion: The sponsor presented the Bill. No further discussion ensued.

Yeas: 18

Nays: 7

N/V: 4

Outcome: 1st substitute HB 60 passed out of the Senate.

Bill: 1st substitute HB 87 - Animal Crime Victim Amendments

Sponsor: Representative Mauga

Floor Sponsor: Senator Plumb

UASD Position: Support

This Bill modifies provisions related to the release and forfeiture of an animal that is being held because of abuse or involvement in a crime.

Discussion: Senator Escamilla moved to reconsider the Bill. Senator Brammer, who had spoken in opposition to the Bill the previous day, spoke in support of the motion to reconsider.

Yeas:

Nays:

N/V:

Outcome: 1st substitute HB 87 was brought back for reconsideration and placed on the Senate Second Reading Calendar.

Bill: 1st substitute SB 201 - Shelter Animal Euthanasia Amendments

Sponsor: Senator Grover

Floor Sponsor:

UASD Position: Track

This Bill deals with the treatment of dogs and cats in an animal shelter

Discussion: The sponsor presented the Bill. No further discussion ensued.

Yeas: 23

Nays: 2

N/V: 4

Outcome: 1st substitute SB 201 passed the second reading and will be read in the Senate for a third time.

Bill: SB 197 - Transportation Funding and Governance Amendments

Sponsor: Senator Harper

Floor Sponsor: Representative Christofferson

UASD Position: Track

This Bill amends provisions related to the governance of a large public transit district and financial reporting of public transit districts.

Discussion: The sponsor presented the Bill and Senate Amendment 1, which he explains is intended to provide greater clarification regarding the duties of each transit commissioner, how they interact with local entities, and the reports required under the Bill. The amendment was adopted by the Senate.

Senator Fillmore expressed concern that the Bill makes substantive policy and governance changes and questioned why the Utah Transit Authority or the Utah Department of Transportation had not weighed in. The sponsor responded that he has wondered the same thing and has been told that both entities appear comfortable with the Bill. Senator Balderree stated that she finds it unusual that there has been no opposition, noting that some of her constituents are concerned the Bill could diminish the role of local governments at both the county and city levels. No further discussion ensued.

Yeas: 23

Nays: 2

N/V: 4

Outcome: SB 197, as amended, passed the second reading and will be read in the Senate for a third time.

Bill: 1st substitute SB 206 - Multicounty Appraisal Trust Amendments

Sponsor: Senator Harper

Floor Sponsor: Representative Walter

UASD Position: Track and Amend

This Bill modifies provisions relating to the Multicounty Appraisal Trust (MCAT).

Discussion: The sponsor stated that a substitute is being drafted and asked to circle the Bill.

Yeas:

Nays:

N/V:

Outcome: 1st substitute SB 206 was circled

Bill: 2nd substitute SB 139 - Notary Amendments

Sponsor: Senator Musselman

Floor Sponsor: Representative Sawyer

UASD Position: Track

This Bill amends provisions of the Notaries Public Reform Act.

Discussion: The sponsor presented the 2nd substitute, which clarifies that vendors may rely on signatures on file or in journals rather than obtaining new physical signatures for each notarization, aligning the Bill with existing remote online notary practices. The substitute also includes several technical clarifications. The 2nd substitute was adopted by the Senate.

The sponsor then presented the Bill. No further discussion ensued.

Yeas: 22

Nays: 0

N/V: 7

Outcome: 2nd substitute SB 139 passed the second reading and will be read in the Senate for a third time.

Bill: SCR 5 - Concurrent Resolution Directing PEHP Regarding Pain Medication

Sponsor: Senator Weiler

Floor Sponsor:

UASD Position: Support

This resolution relates to non-opioid pain medication and state employee health coverage.

Discussion: The sponsor presented the Resolution along with Senate Amendment 2, which was adopted by the Senate. The amendment adds language to appropriate \$150,000 to implement the Resolution and authorizes the ability to request an additional appropriation if the cost of complying with the Resolution exceeds that amount. No further discussion ensued.

Yeas: 23

Nays: 0

N/V: 6

Outcome: SCR 5, as amended, passed the second reading and will be read in the Senate for a third time.

Bill: SB 238 - Property Tax Adjustments

Sponsor: Senator Wilson

Floor Sponsor: Representative Eliason

UASD Position: Track

This Bill modifies property tax provisions.

Discussion: The sponsor presented the Bill. No further discussion.

Yeas: 26

Nays: 0

N/V: 3

Outcome: SB 238 passed the second reading and will be read in the Senate for a third time.

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