

House Public Utilities and Energy Committee
02/25/2026

Bill: HB 591 - Nuisance Amendments

Sponsor: Representative Jack

Floor Sponsor: Senator Brammer

UASD Position: Track

This Bill addresses private and public nuisances.

Discussion: The sponsor explained that the Bill recodifies Utah's nuisance statutes by consolidating scattered provisions related to civil and public nuisances into a unified section of Code. The Bill distinguishes between public nuisance and private nuisance and is intended to clarify definitions, standards, and procedural provisions. The sponsor explained that the purpose of the Bill is not to legislate judicial decisions but to return policymaking authority to the Legislature and provide clearer statutory guidance on nuisance law. The Bill also expressly authorizes municipalities and other governmental entities to utilize the public nuisance provisions in enforcement and abatement actions.

Representative Peck asked whether the Bill would result in more lawsuits. The sponsor responded that it should reduce litigation by providing clearer statutory guidance. When asked how the Bill benefits citizens, the sponsor stated that it makes the law more predictable and transparent. Representative Dominguez asked how the federal government defines public nuisance. The sponsor replied that public nuisance has traditionally been governed at the state level and is defined through state legislation rather than federal law.

Two members of the public spoke in opposition to the Bill. The Utah Association of Counties expressed support.

Yeas: 9

Nays: 1

N/V: 2

Outcome: HB 591 passed out of the Committee with a favorable recommendation.