

Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee

Prepared by the Utah Association of Special Districts

02/26/2026

Bill: 1st substitute HB 212 - County Formation Amendments

Sponsor: Representative Teuscher

Floor Sponsor: Senator McCay

UASD Position: Track

This Bill modifies provisions related to the creation of a new county.

Discussion: The sponsor stated that the Bill creates an alternative process for forming a new county from an existing county with a population of more than one million. Under the Bill, the process may be initiated either by a petition signed by one-third of the county's residents or by resolutions adopted by municipalities representing at least one-third of the county's population. If the threshold is met, the proposal would be placed on the ballot for voter approval. If approved by more than 50% of the votes cast, a comprehensive feasibility study would be conducted to evaluate whether the proposed county is functional, financially viable, and capable of providing required county services.

Senator Brammer asked whether, given that there are 29 senators and 29 counties, it would be the sponsor's intent to maintain 29 senators even if the number of counties were to increase. The sponsor responded that the Bill does not address that issue and stated that it would ultimately depend on what the people want. No member of the public commented.

Yeas: 4

Nays: 0

N/V: 3

Outcome: 1st substitute HB 212 passed out of the Committee with a favorable recommendation.

Bill: 3rd substitute HB 329 - State Employee Maternity and Leave Amendments

Sponsor: Representative Defay

Floor Sponsor: Senator McKell

UASD Position: Track

This Bill modifies policies related to paid leave and maternity.

Discussion:

Yeas:

Nays:

N/V:

Outcome: 3rd substitute HB 329 was not heard in the Committee today.