

Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee

Prepared by the Utah Association of Special Districts

3/4/2026

Bill: 1st substitute HB 365 – Taxation Notification Requirements

Sponsor: Representative T. Peterson

Floor Sponsor: Senator Weiler

UASD Position: Track

This Bill modifies truth-in-taxation notice requirements for a fiscal year taxing entity that anticipates increasing the amount of revenue generated by property tax.

Discussion: The sponsor presented the 1st substitute, explaining that the Bill amends notice requirements related to a city's intent to increase property tax revenue above the certified tax rate. The Bill requires a city that intends to increase property tax revenue to provide advance public notice of the meeting at which the city will present the proposed budget and discuss the proposed tax increase. The Bill also establishes requirements regarding the location of that meeting to ensure the meeting is held in a place accessible to the public. The sponsor stated that the substitute reflects notice provisions requested by the Utah League of Cities and Towns, retains the authority of the city legislative body to make budget decisions, and removes a provision related to Tax Commission certification.

Senator Wilson asked whether the Bill makes changes to existing Code. The sponsor clarified that the revisions included in the substitute were recommended by the Utah League of Cities and Towns. Senator Wilson also asked whether the Bill affects the Truth in Taxation process. The sponsor clarified that the Bill does not modify the Truth in Taxation requirements.

Senator Escamilla asked whether the policy is intended to eventually apply to other taxing entities or remain limited to cities. The sponsor explained that the long-term goal may be to apply similar requirements to other taxing entities.

Karson Eilers, representing the Utah League of Cities and Towns, spoke in support of the Bill but recommended a later implementation date. Billy Hesterman, representing the Utah Taxpayers Association, spoke in support. The Committee adopted the 1st substitute.

Yeas: 4

Nays: 0

N/V: 3

Outcome: 1st substitute HB 365 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: The sponsor, accompanied by Emily Bell McCormick of the Policy Project, explained that current law provides six weeks of paid maternity leave for a state employee who gives birth. The Bill expands the state parental leave benefit by increasing the amount of paid leave available following the birth of a child and by extending eligibility to foster and adoptive parents. The sponsor stated that the Bill allows a qualifying state employee to receive up to nine weeks of paid parental leave following the birth, adoption, or foster placement of a child.

Multiple individuals and organizations spoke in support of the Bill, including Mormon Women for Ethical Government, the Utah Office of Families, and the Utah Public Employees Association. Several members of the public also expressed support for the Bill.

Yeas: 5
Nays: 0
N/V: 2

Outcome: 3rd substitute HB 329 passed out of the Committee with a favorable recommendation.

Bill: 1st substitute HB 575 – Fuel Tax and Supply Amendments

Sponsor: Representative Roberts
Floor Sponsor: Senator Brammer
UASD Position: Track

This Bill reduces the motor fuel tax rate, requires reporting related to refining operations, and enacts provisions related to pipeline permitting.

Discussion: The sponsor explained that supply constraints have contributed to higher gasoline prices and stated that oil producers have committed to increasing production by approximately 12.5% over the next five years. The sponsor stated that the Bill is intended to provide short-term relief to Utah residents by reducing the state motor fuel tax, describing the reduction as approximately six cents per gallon beginning in July 2026.

The Bill amends provisions governing the state motor fuel tax by modifying how the statewide average rack price is used in calculating the tax rate and by freezing the special fuel tax adjustment for a specified period beginning in July 2026. The Bill also requires refineries to report certain fuel production information to the Office of Energy Development and enacts provisions related to permitting and right-of-way coordination for certain oil and gas infrastructure projects. The Bill additionally amends provisions related to the High-Cost Infrastructure Development Tax Credit.

Yeas: 6
Nays: 0
N/V: 1

Outcome: 1st substitute HB 575 passed out of the Committee with a favorable recommendation.

UASD