

Summary of Homelessness Related Bills Passed Legislative Session 2024

H.B. 298 - HOMELESSNESS SERVICES AMENDMENTS - Clancy

- Renames the Utah Homelessness Council to the Utah Homeless Services Board
- Changes the size and membership of the board - 11 members
- Changes the size, membership, and duties of the executive committee of the board
- Exempts the executive committee from the Open and Public Meetings Act
- Expands the board's duties
- Establishes additional data that the Office of Homeless Services shall report to the public and the Legislature
- Requires the state and local homeless councils to establish goals for making progress towards exiting individuals from homelessness
- Establishes the Shelter Cities Advisory Board and provides the advisory board's responsibilities
- Modifies provisions related to the winter response plan for a county of the first or second class
- Changes the limitations in effect during a code blue event

H.B. 299 - COURT-ORDERED TREATMENT MODIFICATIONS - Clancy

- Requires the Utah Substance Use and Mental Health Advisory Council to study issues relating to civil commitment
- Requires a local mental health authority to notify a peace officer or mental health officer when certain individuals are released from temporary involuntary commitment
- Amends the amount of time an individual may be held under a temporary commitment
- Amends the criteria under which a court shall order the involuntary commitment of an individual with a mental illness
- Amends the criteria and procedure for court-ordered assisted outpatient treatment
- Amends the criteria under which a court may order the involuntary commitment of an individual with an intellectual disability
- Describes information that must be provided to an individual when the individual is discharged from involuntary commitment

HB 421 - HOMELESSNESS AND VULNERABLE POPULATIONS AMENDMENTS - Eliason

- Establishes the HOME Court Pilot Program to provide for comprehensive, court-supervised treatment and services to individuals in Salt Lake County with mental illness (in the 3rd District Court). This program will allow for court supervised mental health services and treatments in an effort to reduce pressure on our emergency shelters, street encampments, and the judicial system.
- Provides for the duty of the executive committee of the Utah Homelessness Council to serve in an advisory capacity for the council
- Requires the council to establish standards for prioritizing beds in homeless shelters
- Prohibits a homeless shelter from receiving funds from the Office of Homeless Services (office) upon failing to comply with the council's prioritization standards
- Allows a homeless shelter to receive grants from the council upon providing any amount of matching funds

- Requires the council to consider the amount of matching grants provided by a homeless shelter in awarding grants
- Allows the Department of Public Safety to receive Homeless Shelter Cities Mitigation Restricted Account funds (mitigation funds) under certain circumstances
- Clarifies that mitigation funds are nonlapsing and allows the office to disburse uncommitted mitigation funds to municipalities in the following year
- Prohibits a municipality from receiving mitigation funds unless the municipality enforces certain prohibitions and demonstrates improvement in reducing certain conduct
- Exempts certain counties from winter response plan requirements if a county develops a year-round plan for addressing the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness
- Increases the temperature for a code blue alert to take effect from 15 to 18 degrees
- Allows a municipality to implement emergency measures to assist individuals experiencing homelessness during dangerous weather conditions
- Amends provisions concerning how a health care provider submits a request for an individual who voluntarily requests to be restricted from purchasing or possessing firearms

H.B. 394 HOMELESS SERVICES FUNDING AMENDMENTS - Strong

- Requires the Utah Homeless Network Steering Committee to develop a funding formula for the provision of homeless services
- Describes the criteria the Utah Homeless Network Steering Committee shall use in developing a funding formula for the provision of homeless services
 - A formula for the distribution of funds for the provision of homeless services shall take into consideration:
 - The various needs of regions of the state
 - Metrics and evidence of success
 - The goals outlined in the strategic plan
 - Any other factor the steering committee considers necessary
 - Utilize objective metrics to ensure, as much as possible, an impartial result
- Requires the Utah Homelessness Council to approve any funding formula developed by the Utah Homeless Network Steering Committee by a two-thirds vote
- Requires the state homelessness coordinator to utilize an approved funding formula in disbursing funds for the provision of homeless services

S.B. 223 YOUTH FEE WAIVER AMENDMENTS - Plumb

This bill requires that certain fees be waived for an individual who is under the age of 26 and is a foster child, former foster child, or individual experiencing homelessness.

- Requires the Department of Health and Human Services to waive a fee for a certified copy of a birth certificate in certain circumstances
- Requires the Department of Public Safety to waive a fee for certain licenses, permits, and identification cards in certain circumstances
- Requires the Utah Board of Higher Education to create policies requiring an institution of higher education to waive transcript fees in certain circumstances

2024 Legislative Session - Alleviating Homelessness

Emergency Shelter	Ongoing	One-time	Dept/Agency
Low Barrier Shelter Development	-	25,000,000	DWS/OHS
Statewide Homeless System Support	10,000,000	11,800,000	DWS/OHS
Homeless Shelter Cities Mitigation	2,500,000	-	DWS/OHS
Homelessness and Vulnerable Populations Amendments (HB 421; Local Sales Tax Contribution to Homeless Shelter Cities Mitigation)	1,000,000	-	DWS/OHS
Homelessness Services Amendments (HB 298)	116,700	100,800	DWS/OHS
Round-up for Pamela Atkinson Homeless Account	-	150,000	DABS
TOTAL	13,616,700	37,050,800	50,667,500
Prevention			
HOME Court Pilot (HB 421)	488,800	2,000,000	DHHS
TANF for NewGen: Youth Homelessness Solutions & Prevention	-	1,700,000	DWS/WDD
Housing & Community Development Staff	238,000	-	DWS/HCD
Expanded Medicaid Coverage for the Justice Involved funded through cost savings	-	-	DHHS
TOTAL	726,800	3,700,000	4,426,800
Behavioral Health			
Mental Health "Step-Down" Housing Project	-	8,200,000	DHHS
Behavioral Health Internships and Loan Repayment	-	2,333,300	DHHS
Opioid funds for PROUD: Pathway to Recovery from Opiate Use Disorder	351,200	-	DHHS
Behavioral Health Licensing Amendments (SB 26)	15,000	-	DHHS
Behavioral Health Licensing Amendments (SB 26)	185,000	-	Commerce
TOTAL	551,200	10,533,300	11,084,500
GRAND TOTAL	14,894,700	51,284,100	66,178,800