

This is a combination of information from the Statewide voter information pamphlet, candidate profiles available on the State website and the voter information pamphlet for Proposition #12.

Not all candidates submitted profiles, so there isn't information on everybody.

PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT

Visit [VOTE.UTAH.GOV](https://vote.utah.gov) for more information on these candidates.

CANDIDATE	PARTY
JAY J BOWMAN (President) DE D. BOWMAN (Vice President)	Write-In
CORNEL RONALD WEST (President) MELINA ABDULLAH (Vice President)	Unaffiliated
BUDDIE ARDEN WILKERSON (President)	Write-In
LUCIFER "JUSTIN CASE" EVERYLOVE (President)	Unaffiliated
STEVE M. JOHNSON (President)	Write-In
ANDRE RAMON MC NEIL (President)	Write-In
JOEL SKOUSEN (President) RIK COMBS (Vice President)	Constitution
JILL STEIN (President) RUDOLPH WARE (Vice President)	Green
PETER SONSKI (President) LAUREN MICHELLE ONAK (Vice President)	Write-In
DONALD J. TRUMP (President) JD VANCE (Vice President)	Republican
FUTURE MADAM POTUS (President)	Write-In
CHASE OLIVER (President) MIKE TER MAAT (Vice President)	Libertarian
KAMALA D. HARRIS (President) TIM WALZ (Vice President)	Democratic
SHONDRA YEVETTE IRVING (President)	Write-In

U.S. SENATE

Visit VOTE.UTAH.GOV for more information on these candidates.

Carlton E. Bowen

CONTACT EMAIL Info@Carlton4USSenate.com

WEBSITE Carlton4USSenate.com

CITY OF RESIDENCE American Fork

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 17

AGE 55

OCCUPATION Executive Project Manager



A lifelong Republican, I ran Independent American to ensure there would be a Pro-TRUMP candidate on the November ballot. My GOP opponent has refused to endorse Trump and called for Trump's censure. I, Carlton E. Bowen, am the only pro-TRUMP candidate for U.S. Senate!

I'm running on a platform of Traditional Values, Traditional Money, and our Tradition of Freedom! There are only 2 genders: male and female. We need to remain a free-market capitalist economy. We need to re-embrace U.S. minted gold and silver coin to solve many of our economic problems. I'll only vote for spending that's part of a yearly balanced budget. I won't vote to increase the debt ceiling. America was founded by people seeking religious freedom and economic opportunity. God is the author of our Liberty and has protected America. We must remember and serve Him still if we're to remain a free and prosperous nation! I'm born and raised in Utah. I served honorably in the U.S. Air Force and have lived in Utah, Texas, Virginia, and South Korea. I'm married to my wife of 37 years, have 6 children and 14 grandchildren. I'm for the U.S. Constitution and value everyone's freedom!

U.S. SENATE

Visit VOTE.UTAH.GOV for more information on these candidates.

John Curtis

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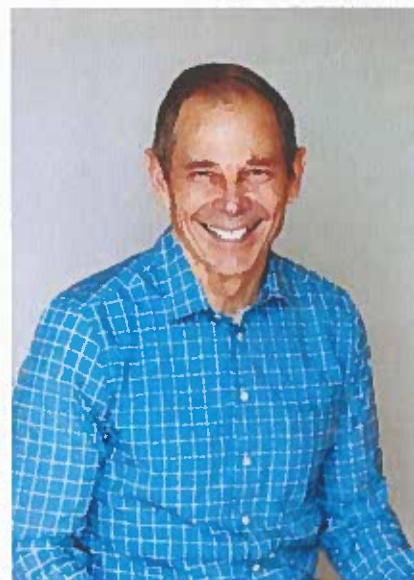
WEBSITE johncurtis.org

CITY OF RESIDENCE Provo, Utah

YEARS OF RESIDENCE

AGE

OCCUPATION



Ranked as the 9th most effective Republican in Congress, John has delivered for Utah. Focusing on energy independence, fighting reckless spending in both parties, standing up to communist China's aggression, protecting farmers and ranchers from over-regulation, and defending Utah's land from federal overreach—he's been busy. Before Congress, John led a company that designed and built shooting ranges. This real world experience taught him what it's like to successfully build something from the ground up. As Provo mayor, he cut the city's budget by over 8% and earned a 94% approval rating from residents. He understands that running a leaner government is important, and he uses that as an example of how the federal budget should also operate. John's 6 years of seniority in the U.S. House will follow him to the Senate where seniority really matters. Utah won't have to start over. John now wants to take his unique experience and proven track record of getting things done for Utahns to the U.S. Senate. He believes that Utah families deserve to be heard and will continue to work hard every day to make Utah an even better place. As our Senator, he'll keep getting things done for Utah.

U.S. SENATE

Visit VOTE.UTAH.GOV for more information on these candidates.

Caroline Gleich

CONTACT EMAIL info@carolineforutah.com

WEBSITE <https://www.carolineforutah.com/>

CITY OF RESIDENCE Park City

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 15

AGE 38

OCCUPATION Professional Athlete



Hello Utahns, my name is Caroline Gleich. I am an activist, professional ski mountaineer, and your candidate for U.S. Senate. I have three priorities—protecting your families, freedom, and future. We desperately need change in our country—prices are too high, home-ownership and quality child care are out of reach, our veterans are underserved, our teachers are underpaid, we have the government in our doctor's offices, and the Great Salt Lake is in serious danger of disappearing, leaving toxic dust that threatens the health of all Utahns.

I have always used my platform for change, and I will continue to do so in the U.S. Senate. As your senator, I will advocate for a fully funding the VA, fighting corporate greed, incentivizing affordable child care programs, codifying Roe v. Wade, and accelerating the transition to a clean, renewable energy economy while continuing to invest in American manufacturing and jobs—along with so much more.

Utah is ready for a new generation of leaders and I'm here to take on that challenge—to represent the people of the state with truth, optimism, and decency. I will work for you, rather than dark money and corporations. I hope I can count on your vote.

U.S. SENATE

Visit [VOTE.UTAH.GOV](https://vote.utah.gov) for more information on these candidates.

(Write-In Candidate)

Laird Fetzer Hamblin

no profile submitted

U.S. HOUSE District 3

Visit VOTE.UTAH.GOV for more information on these candidates.

Glenn J Wright

CONTACT EMAIL wright.glenn@gmail.com

WEBSITE <https://wrightforutahcongressionaldistrict3.com/>

CITY OF RESIDENCE PARK CITY

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 18

AGE 76

OCCUPATION retired



I was fortunate enough to be raised in a time when society allowed an average working person to comfortably buy a house, feed a family of four, purchase a car, and still have money left to save. The Greatest Generation built the foundation for the Boomer Generation to Prosper.

Our children and grandchildren are not promised the same prosperous future that I was. We are all witnessing the impact of the increasing income distribution gap.

Through my service as a Summit County Councilman and working on the Utah Association of Counties board, I have witnessed firsthand the everyday struggles of Utahns. I have seen how Utahns can benefit from their representatives working with diverse political backgrounds and opinions. We can work to solve the following:

1. Protecting our democracy
2. Focusing on economic security, including affordable housing challenges
3. Reaffirming personal agency and freedom

The path to prosperity and freedom is possible. The opportunity is in our hands. Wealth for the few has led to attacks on the Constitution and your freedom. I will preserve, protect, and defend this path forward with your support.

U.S. HOUSE District 3

Visit VOTE.UTAH.GOV for more information on these candidates.

Mike Kennedy

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WEBSITE MikeKennedyforUtah.com

CITY OF RESIDENCE Alpine

YEARS OF RESIDENCE Nearly 30 Years

AGE 55

OCCUPATION Family Physician



Mike Kennedy is the Republican nominee for Utah's Third Congressional District. As a family physician, attorney, small business owner, dedicated husband to his wife, Katrina, father of eight, and grandfather of nine, Mike Kennedy has seen firsthand how Washington D.C.'s failures to control inflation, secure our borders, or pass a budget make life harder for everyday Americans. As a State Senator in Utah's part-time legislature, he has been a conservative advocate for fiscal responsibility, limited government, supporting small businesses, and the safeguarding of individual liberties. His legislative achievements include collaborating with others to cut taxes and balance the budget, as well as leading multiple efforts to make government more efficient and protect the most vulnerable in society. For more information, to donate, or join the team, please go to MikeKennedyforUtah.com

GOVERNOR & LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Visit VOTE.UTAH.GOV for more information on these candidates.

Spencer Cox

CONTACT EMAIL spencer@votecox.com

WEBSITE WWW.VOTECOX.COM

CITY OF RESIDENCE Fairview

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 46

AGE 49

OCCUPATION Attorney



Gov. Spencer J. Cox is a husband, father, farmer, recovering attorney, and Utah's 18th governor.

During his first term in office, Gov. Cox cut more than \$1.2 billion in taxes, implemented landmark changes in water law, water conservation and infrastructure planning, locked in record funding for education and teachers, enacted universal school choice, and secured funds for affordable housing.

A long-time advocate for suicide prevention and mental health resources, he's become a national voice on protecting youth from the harms of social media. He also signed early education and workforce program funding and launched the One Utah Health Collaborative.

Gov. Cox has a long track record of public service, serving as a city councilmember, mayor, county commissioner and state legislator before being appointed as Utah's lieutenant governor in 2013.

A sixth-generation Utahn, Gov. Cox was born and raised in Fairview, a town of 1,200 people. He married his high school sweetheart Abby Palmer Cox. He has attended Snow College, USU, and the Washington and Lee University School of Law, then clerked for U.S. District Judge Ted Stewart and worked at a Salt Lake City law firm.

(See next page for running mate.)

GOVERNOR & LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Visit [VOTE.UTAH.GOV](https://vote.utah.gov) for more information on these candidates.

Deidre Henderson

CONTACT EMAIL dmh@votecox.com

WEBSITE www.votecox.com

CITY OF RESIDENCE Spanish Fork

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 26

AGE 49

OCCUPATION Homemaker



Deidre Henderson is Utah's ninth lieutenant governor, serving as the Beehive State's second-highest elected official, chief election officer, and secretary of state.

While in office, Lt. Gov. Henderson created Return Utah, a first-in-the-nation state program for Utahns who have been out of the workforce for an extended period. The program helps Utahns gain relevant experience as they re-enter the workforce.

Before her time as Lt. Governor, Henderson served in the Utah Senate. She built a reputation as a strong conservative and champion of women and families. In politics, Lt. Gov. Henderson stands by the wisdom of the U.S. Constitution, free markets, fiscal conservatism, federalism, and the blessings of freedom and liberty.

As the mother of five children, Lt. Gov. Henderson spent her 20s wiping her children's noses and bottoms, and helping put her husband, Gabe, through school. She dropped out of college during her first year at BYU to raise a family, and in 2021, she graduated from BYU as a history major and walked alongside her son Jimmy.

Lt. Governor Deidre M. Henderson lives in Spanish Fork, where she and her husband Gabe raised their children. They have four daughters, one son, and two adorable grandsons.

GOVERNOR & LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Visit VOTE.UTAH.GOV for more information on these candidates.

Tommy Williams

Archie A. Williams III

no profile submitted

GOVERNOR & LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Visit VOTE.UTAH.GOV for more information on these candidates.

Brian Smith King

CONTACT EMAIL info@kingforutah.com

WEBSITE kingforutah.com

CITY OF RESIDENCE Salt Lake City

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 63

AGE 65

OCCUPATION Attorney



Brian King is a husband, father, grandfather, and attorney running to serve as your next Governor. In his legal career, Brian sues some of the biggest insurance companies in the world on behalf of people who have had claims wrongfully denied. He is proud to have spent decades representing the interests of everyday people against powerful corporations. Brian's work representing District 23 in the Utah House of Representatives for the last 16 years has had a similar focus: representing the people and fighting for their interests against entrenched politicians, influential special interest groups, and giant corporations. He's no stranger to a David vs. Goliath battle, and, as Governor, he will advocate for Utahns who are being left behind.

Brian believes that Utahns deserve better, and he's running to put results over rhetoric and public service over personal interests. Brian is building a coalition of pragmatists, made up of Utahns from all political affiliations and backgrounds. If you're tired of the division, the extremism, and the chaos, and if you're looking for a leader who will always stand up for what's right, then join us — for the better.

(See next page for running mate.)

GOVERNOR & LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Visit [VOTE.UTAH.GOV](https://vote.utah.gov) for more information on these candidates.

Rebekah Cummings

CONTACT EMAIL info@kingforutah.com

WEBSITE kingforutah.com

CITY OF RESIDENCE Salt Lake City

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 11

AGE 44

OCCUPATION Librarian



Rebekah Cummings is running alongside Brian King to be your next Lieutenant Governor. Growing up amidst diverse and politically divided surroundings, she learned early the importance of bridging divides. In her blue-collar, conservative upbringing in a liberal city, Rebekah found solace in books. Her involvement in politics began as an librarian and advocate, going to the capitol to oppose book bans and censorship. Now, as a mom of three, Rebekah is the Director of Digital Matters at the University of Utah, Co-Chair of the Utah Library Association Advocacy Committee, and founding member of the Let Utah Read Coalition. Balancing family, education, work, and service, she has championed intellectual freedom and community engagement.

With a vision for pragmatic governance and a dedication to empowering families, Rebekah is ready to lead Utah toward a future where every voice is heard and every individual thrives — for the better.

GOVERNOR & LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Visit VOTE.UTAH.GOV for more information on these candidates.

J. Robert Latham

CONTACT EMAIL freeutahns@stoptherepublicansofgilead.vote

WEBSITE <https://lathamforutahns.us>

CITY OF RESIDENCE St. George

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 13

AGE 55

OCCUPATION Protecting the liberties and constitutional rights of Utahns against derogation and invasion by state actors. Attorney.

*Successfully and tenaciously championed fellow Utahns' constitutional rights for more than three decades.

*Represented prevailing petitioner in *Holland vs. Spencer Cox*, U.S. District Court of Utah, 4:18-cv-00074.

*Parental Defense Alliance, 2019 Appellate Attorney of the Year (In re B.T.B.).

*Protects families against state-facilitated child trafficking.

*Didn't manipulate housing market, enriching cronies.

*Didn't ask Utah Supreme Court to diminish our existing state constitutional initiative rights to alter or reform government.

*Family business (CentraCom) didn't receive \$32 million from Utah taxpayers while holding elected office.

Supports:

*Election integrity through: 1) increasing transparency using end-to-end auditable voting and hand-counts paired with machine-counts, and 2) advocating use of the proportional ranked choice voting electoral method to populate policy-making boards with more ideologically-diverse assemblies of responsive community members

*Piloting democratic lotteries ("sortition") in local governments to curb excess influence wielded by entrenched aggressors with dark triad personality traits (see Brian Klaas's "Corruptible")

*Disrupting censorship ecosystems and "underthrowing" domineering regimes through subversive innovation, entrepreneurship, intentional communities, mutual aid societies, and FOCJs

*Ending family policing's "benevolent terror" by dismantling the Division of Child and Family Separation

*Libertarian Party platform

As oft-outnumbered tyrants coerce, use jury nullification to acquit those effectuating pre-emptive self-defense.

Help grow the liberty vote!



(See next page for running mate.)

GOVERNOR & LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Visit VOTE.UTAH.GOV for more information on these candidates.

Barry Short

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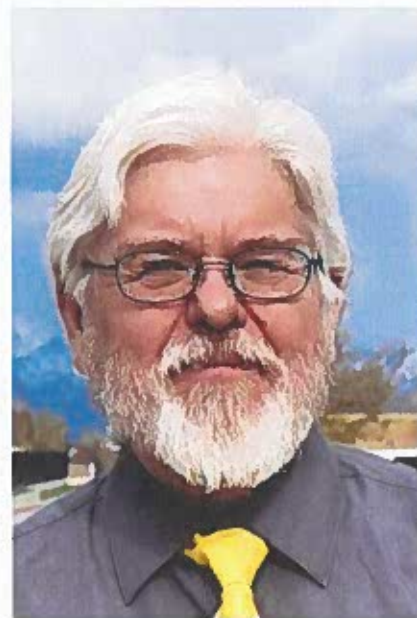
WEBSITE <https://www.lathamforutahns.us/>

CITY OF RESIDENCE Cedar City

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 19

AGE 69

OCCUPATION Business owner



Utah's Lieutenant Governor is the head administrator of all elections in Utah. It is a hugely important job, one Utahns should give serious attention.

A recent KUTV poll indicates that more than HALF of Utahns are not confident that our elections are counted properly.

Our elections must be fair, accurate, and open to all qualified voters. I will work to achieve these goals:

1. Restore in-person voting and make voting by mail opt-in, not automatic;
2. A recount procedure that counts and verifies EVERY ballot;
3. Reduction or abolition of excessive candidate filing fees;
4. Absolute transparency at every step in the vote counting process.

For the future, I support a constitutional amendment to abolish the position of Lieutenant Governor and restore that of Secretary of State, so our elections are led by an elected official responsible to voters, not a political appointee of the Governor.

As Chair of my party, I have worked extensively with the Elections Office. I have the experience to know what needs to be done to make our elections fair and accurate, and restore voter confidence.

Elect a Lieutenant Governor who knows what the job requires, and who intends to do it right.

GOVERNOR & LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Visit VOTE.UTAH.GOV for more information on these candidates.

Tom Tomeny

CONTACT EMAIL ttomeny@gmail.com

WEBSITE VotetheJesusWay.org

CITY OF RESIDENCE Orem

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 6

AGE 64

OCCUPATION Entrepreneur



Tom Tomeny is a follower of Jesus. He gave up his business career to follow Jesus daily by sharing the Gospel with all. He is running for Governor to show all that the Way of Jesus is the answer to our divisive politics, whether you are religious or not.

The Way of Jesus is to love all, all the time. This is reflected in our core Utah values of Faith, Family, and Freedom, which is where Tom prayerfully stands on all issues.

Tom is qualified to be Governor as his temporal gifts align well, having led numerous enterprises, both non-profits and for profits.

This campaign involves no money and no party. We urge you to ignore all political advertising and research every candidate on their website.

Tom Tomeny is the alternative to voting for any professional politician. His life story is being written on a website, My Life of Light. Tom lives a life of signs, wonders, and miracles along with his share of trials and tribulations. He moved to Utah after joining the Church of Jesus Christ, of Latter-day Saints 7 years ago.

Please consider voting the Jesus Way no matter how you vote.

(See next page for running mate.)

GOVERNOR & LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Visit **VOTE.UTAH.GOV** for more information on these candidates.

William Lansing Taylor

CONTACT EMAIL lans@happinesstech.biz

WEBSITE CITY OF <https://www.williamlansingtaylor.com/>

RESIDENCE YEARS OF Salt Lake City, Utah

RESIDENCE 10

AGE 54

OCCUPATION Structural Geologist (retired)



You probably believe in the existence of criminals, but there are no such people in our jails. Accused of crimes I did not commit, I was incarcerated for 79 days in Salt Lake Metro Jail. I talked to more than 300 prisoners. Every person says the same thing, "I am innocent. State prosecutors fabricated this story."

The opening line of my charging document was, "Mr. Taylor recently moved to Utah and apparently brings significant wealth." Sean Reyes convicted me a felon for saying, "Please tell the truth." Heather Brereton let me be charged, tried, convicted and punished without ever allowing me speak, not even once. I was arrested, tortured, incarcerated, and extorted all while innocent, receiving permanent punishment that destroyed my savings, career, health, hurting my children for generations to come.

The criminal justice system of the state of Utah is a racket. As Lieutenant Governor, I will do everything in my power to 1) limit prosecutor power, 2) decriminalize mental health, drug addiction, and homelessness, 3) reduce the size and expenditure of criminal justice by removing prosecutors and judges from state salary and, 4) establishing perpetual court monitoring to bring charges against prosecutors and judges who violate our citizens.

GOVERNOR & LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Visit [VOTE.UTAH.GOV](https://vote.utah.gov) for more information on these candidates.
(Write-In Candidate)

Richard Kennedy Lyman

Carol Ann Lyman

no profile submitted

GOVERNOR & LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Visit VOTE.UTAH.GOV for more information on these candidates.
(Write-In Candidate)

Phil Lyman

CONTACT EMAIL phil@lymanforutah.com

WEBSITE lymanforutah.com

CITY OF RESIDENCE Blanding

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 1964 - present

AGE 60

OCCUPATION CPA



Phil Lyman, a 5th generation Utahn, is known for his bold conservative leadership in San Juan County and beyond. As county commissioner, he led a protest against federal road closures and was named "Commissioner of the Year" for his commitment to defending citizens' rights. His career as an accountant began after earning degrees from BYU and the University of Utah. He returned to his hometown of Blanding to run his father's CPA firm and now owns Recapture Investment Group. Lyman also worked to preserve roads and access to public lands and reduce federal control over Utah's lands. He served as chair of the Seven-County Infrastructure Coalition, promoting vital infrastructure development while preserving local autonomy. As a state legislator, Lyman sponsored or co-sponsored 65 bills, focusing on property and water rights, rural healthcare, and natural resources management. Phil is a strong advocate for state sovereignty, fighting relentlessly against federal and special interest groups' meddling in Utah's land, water, and energy resources. Phil and Jody Lyman have five children and seventeen grandchildren. Phil is driven by his role as a father and grandfather and has a deep commitment to protecting Utah's fundamental liberties and resources for the next generation.

(See next page for running mate.)

GOVERNOR & LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Visit VOTE.UTAH.GOV for more information on these candidates.
(Write-In Candidate)

Natalie Clawson

CONTACT EMAIL Natalie@LymanforUtah.com

WEBSITE www.lymanforutah.com

CITY OF RESIDENCE Highland

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 7

AGE 47

OCCUPATION Homemaker



Natalie Clawson, an Orem native, graduated from BYU with a B.S. in Political Science and a Juris Doctorate degree. Natalie completed Utah's POST, worked in law enforcement as an SFO, and was admitted to the Utah State Bar in 2003.

With a deep love of America and civil rights, Natalie has been involved with public affairs in various capacities. As a sponsor of the Secure Vote Utah initiative, Natalie will bring more transparency to our election systems in the lieutenant governor's office.

Natalie worked for BYU's International Center for Law and Religion Studies. Through this work she researched and published on issues relating to law and religious freedom and became a strong defender of the First Amendment.

Serving her school community as a PTA and School and District Community Council member, Natalie has advised on educational policies and actively championed providing more opportunities for all children.

Natalie and her husband Craig have five children. They reside in Utah County.

GOVERNOR & LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Visit VOTE.UTAH.GOV for more information on these candidates.
(Write-In Candidate)

Charlie Tautuaa

Sylvia Miera Fisk

no profile submitted

UTAH ATTORNEY GENERAL

Visit VOTE.UTAH.GOV for more information on these candidates.

Derek Brown

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WEBSITE derekforutah.com

CITY OF RESIDENCE Cottonwood Heights

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 19

AGE 54

OCCUPATION Attorney



Derek Brown is a prominent Utah attorney and former Chairman of the Utah Republican Party with a strong commitment to conservative principles, and a fervent desire to safeguard the integrity of the Constitution. He has practiced law with two of the largest law firms in the country and served as a law clerk with the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

While serving as a member of the Utah House of Representatives, Brown served on the House Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Committee, and the House Judiciary Committee. As a member of the House, he was a stalwart advocate for conservative values, including:

- Cutting taxes
- Supporting law enforcement
- Reducing burdensome government regulations
- Resisting encroachment by the federal government

When called upon by Senator Mike Lee, Derek voluntarily left the legislature to become Senator Lee's Deputy Chief of Staff and Utah State Director. There he joined Senator Lee in his daily fight to restore constitutionally-limited government to our nation and protect Utah's 10th Amendment rights.

UTAH ATTORNEY GENERAL

Visit **VOTE.UTAH.GOV** for more information on these candidates.

Rudy Joseph Bautista

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WEBSITE www.bautistacampbell.com

CITY OF RESIDENCE Park City

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 7

AGE 55

OCCUPATION Attorney



We have all had enough of politicians and the system as it is now. I am an independent running under the Democrat Party ticket. As such, I agree with both conservative and progressive positions depending on the issue. I have dedicated my entire career protecting the freedoms we all have and will continue to do so.

However, as Attorney General, I will not let my personal views dictate the management of the office unless to fight oppression. I will follow the will of the people and not be a puppet of the legislature, governor, or any special interest group. I will only do what the will of the people dictate. We have all had enough of politics as usual. As an independent, I will bring an end to that practice.

Any law that diminishes the protections of our Constitutional Rights will not only not be defended by my office; they will be fought against. I am also the only candidate running for Attorney General who has refused to accept any financial contributions for my campaign. The State's top prosecutor should not accept any financial contributions. This is the only way to ensure what the office deserves, integrity!

UTAH ATTORNEY GENERAL

Visit VOTE.UTAH.GOV for more information on these candidates.

W. Andrew McCullough

CONTACT EMAIL wandrew48@ymail.com

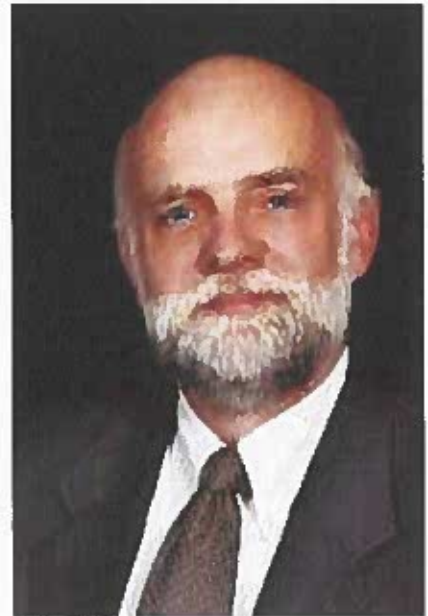
WEBSITE andrewmccullough.org

CITY OF RESIDENCE Lehi

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 30

AGE 76

OCCUPATION Attorney



I have practiced law in Utah for 50 years. I am a former Chair of the Utah Libertarian Party and a former member of the Board of the ACLU of Utah. I served as Chair of the Board of the Utah County substance abuse clinic. I was an intern in the U.S. Senate.

I am licensed to practice in Utah and New York and in several Federal Courts. I have appeared before the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals and the highest courts of Utah, New York and Iowa. My law practice involves civil and criminal litigation and administrative proceedings in many state agencies.

I have always worked to increase individual freedom and to oppose the expansion of State power. I have had many cases with the Attorney General's Office; and I am well qualified to had that office. With me as AG, individual citizens will be treated fairly, and their diversity and rights will be respected.

UTAH ATTORNEY GENERAL

Visit VOTE.UTAH.GOV for more information on these candidates.

Austin Hepworth

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WEBSITE <https://www.austinepworth.com/>

CITY OF RESIDENCE Murray

YEARS OF RESIDENCE

AGE 41

OCCUPATION Attorney/Business Owner



I am Austin Hepworth, and I am unaffiliated with the parties as the Attorney General should serve as a check and balance. The AG should simply enforce the law, without politics or direction from the governing party as conflicts naturally arise. We can help strengthen America's foundation by promoting the rule of law—without favoritism, politics, or conflicts—by electing an independent AG.

The AG is tasked with enforcing the law in the courts. The rule of law forms the basis for what makes our country successful, instead of the whims of the current elected official. As laws must pass through a system of checks and balances, the law should be the governing force in America instead of the monarchy that the Founders were under.

I am a Utah native, with strong Utah values. I love our country and our Constitution, and I believe that our best days are still ahead. We can make a difference, and by voting differently this election, we can break out of the degrading cycle we are currently experiencing in politics. Accountability, transparency, and independence in the AG's office will help spread good that permeates the rest of Utah's government, for the better.

UTAH ATTORNEY GENERAL

Visit [VOTE.UTAH.GOV](https://vote.utah.gov) for more information on these candidates.

Michelle Quist

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WEBSITE <https://www.michelleforutah.com>

CITY OF RESIDENCE Salt Lake City

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 15

AGE 48

OCCUPATION Attorney



Michelle Quist is an accomplished litigator and appellate lawyer with a goal of getting party politics out of Utah's Attorney General's Office. She believes that politics have no place in law enforcement. With over two decades of legal experience, Michelle began her career at a prominent Wall Street law firm in 2000, clerked for a federal appellate court judge, and has held appointments by the Governor and the Utah Supreme Court on various court-related committees. She has also served two terms as a Utah Bar Commissioner and is now an attorney practicing in Utah courts.

Michelle's priorities include attracting and retaining top legal talent, modernizing outdated technology, and ensuring transparency in operations. Her policy goals focus on protecting women and children, supporting law enforcement, and tackling government corruption. She is especially concerned about the Legislature's recent proposal to limit Utahns' ability to use the initiative process for government reform. Michelle firmly opposes this power grab and stands with voters' rights.

If you are ready for change in an office plagued by years of scandal, consider voting for an independent third-party candidate—Michelle Quist for Attorney General—committed to serving the people of Utah and not national political agendas. <https://www.michelleforutah.com/>

STATE AUDITOR

Visit VOTE.UTAH.GOV for more information on these candidates.

Tina Cannon

CONTACT EMAIL tina@tinacannon.com

WEBSITE tinacannon.com

CITY OF RESIDENCE Mountain Green

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 24

AGE 56

OCCUPATION Deputy State Auditor



Tina Cannon is the Deputy State Auditor in the Office of the Utah State Auditor, and is a successful accountant, entrepreneur and small business owner.

When elected she will continue the important work of the State Auditor to be a watchdog for Utah Taxpayers by providing an independent assessment of financial operations, statutory compliance, and performance management of state and local governments.

In the private sector for over 28 years, Tina used her management accounting background (CMA) and specialization (EA) in Federal, State, Local and Employment taxation to represent countless individuals and small businesses owners across Utah. Tina has used this expertise to bring greater accountability and oversight to Utah's taxation processes.

Visit her website at TinaCannon.com learn about her endorsements, including State Auditor John Dougall, Deputy State Auditor Hollie Andrus, Prior Utah Taxpayers Association President Howard Stevenson, and more.

Tina has served two terms as a Morgan County Councilmember; as an IEP Coach and Parent Advocate for the Utah Parent Center; as a full-time missionary for her church; and in leadership positions on multiple community boards and advocacy groups.

This life-long service to her family and community contributed to her being named Utah Mother of the Year in 2018.

STATE AUDITOR

Visit [VOTE.UTAH.GOV](https://vote.utah.gov) for more information on these candidates.

Jeffrey L. Ostler

no profile submitted

STATE AUDITOR

Visit **VOTE.UTAH.GOV** for more information on these candidates.

Catherine Voutaz

CONTACT EMAIL voutazcatherine@gmail.com

WEBSITE <https://www.votevoutaz.com/>

CITY OF RESIDENCE Herriman

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 22

AGE 58

OCCUPATION Accounting



I'm a results-oriented accounting professional with 25+ years' experience in audit, accounting, compliance, risk assessment, data analysis, internal controls, team leadership and financial oversight. I have a proven track record in financial reporting, regulatory compliance, and driving financial transparency. My education includes a Bachelor of Science in Accounting and I continued my graduate education in the Masters of Accountancy Tax program.

Promoting transparency, financial accountability, and efficient use of resources are my top priorities. I am committed to clear and effective communication. I also know that good leadership matters. Government should operate with the highest standards of integrity and accountability. With a solid foundation in tax audit, tax management, corporate accounting, compliance, and financial audit, I bring professional financial expertise, aiming to prioritize fiscal responsibility, transparency, and ethical governance.

I plan to improve audit quality by conducting reviews to determine how long it takes to conduct audits, how office staff hours are allocated, how the Auditor's office ensures the quality of audits, and how well the office communicates with governmental groups, organizations and the public. I would also implement advanced workflow tools to increase collaboration with other agencies and turn the audit process into a real-time continuous process improvement.

STATE TREASURER

Visit [VOTE.UTAH.GOV](https://vote.utah.gov) for more information on these candidates.

Miles Pomeroy

CONTACT EMAIL miles@moderatemiles.com

WEBSITE <https://moderatemiles.com>

CITY OF RESIDENCE Herriman

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 14

AGE 42

OCCUPATION Software Engineer



I'm running to introduce voters to the Utah Forward Party, the newest party in the state. Forward is a national effort to amplify voters' voices, foster collaborative solutions, and promote candidates who lead with dignity and respect. Our approach is grassroots—built from the ground up. Utah is one of the first states where Forward Party candidates are running for positions such as school board, county council, and state legislature. We are also endorsing candidates from other parties who share our vision.

Our key focus is on common-sense election reforms. We aim to implement more representative voting systems like Ranked Choice Voting and Approval Voting. We advocate for fairer voting districts by supporting the use of maps from the Independent Redistricting Commission. Additionally, we seek to increase political engagement by democratizing the primary process and ensuring our elected officials truly represent the people.

To learn more about the party's values, principles, and priorities, visit:

<https://www.forwardparty.com>

<https://www.utahforwardparty.org>

STATE TREASURER

Visit [VOTE.UTAH.GOV](https://vote.utah.gov) for more information on these candidates.

Marlo M Oaks

CONTACT EMAIL oaksfortreasurer@gmail.com

WEBSITE marlooaks.com

CITY OF RESIDENCE Bountiful

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 20

AGE 54

OCCUPATION State Treasurer of Utah



Treasurer Marlo Oaks brings over two decades of experience in investment management and banking to the office. Before becoming Utah's 26th state treasurer in 2021, he managed multi-billion-dollar portfolios at a large insurance and healthcare company. Marlo's expertise includes asset allocation, risk management, and performance analysis.

The Public Treasurers' Investment Fund (PTIF) provides daily liquidity to state agencies and local governments. Beginning in 2022, Treasurer Oaks positioned the PTIF to better navigate potential economic uncertainties by significantly reducing corporate bond exposure. Despite this lower risk profile, in fiscal year 2024 the fund generated a record \$1.8 billion in income for its investors. He has also strengthened the management of the state's long-horizon investment portfolios and government escrow accounts.

Since taking office, Treasurer Oaks has returned more than \$95 million in lost money to Utahns and launched the MyCash Now program, which automates the return of unclaimed property to verified owners.

Treasurer Oaks is a nationally recognized champion for economic freedom. His efforts to protect Utahns from federal overreach and the politicization of the financial markets have gained national traction. His writing has appeared in the Wall Street Journal, Deseret News, Real Clear Policy, and other publications.

STATE TREASURER

Visit [VOTE.UTAH.GOV](https://vote.utah.gov) for more information on these candidates.

Neil A. Hansen

no profile submitted

State School Board #12

Jason Allen

CONTACT EMAIL info@allen4schoolboard.com

WEBSITE www.allen4schoolboard.com

CITY OF RESIDENCE Orem

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 35

AGE 49

OCCUPATION Park Ranger



I am running to be a reasonable and responsive voice on our Utah State Board of Education (USBE). I want our USBE to be a place where conversations can happen and where we can listen respectfully and attentively to all voices. Our schools should be models for our community: civility, learning, and mutual understanding.

As a lifelong Utah resident, I care deeply about our community, our schools, and our kids. I've worked for the last 19 years as a Park Ranger for the Utah Division of State Parks. My wife has been an elementary school teacher for 22 years with Alpine School District. We have four children who attend our public schools.

My approach is straightforward:

1. Actively engage with communities, listening to students, parents, and educators
2. Promote transparency in curriculum decisions
3. Support teachers with resources and professional development
4. Ensure fiscal responsibility in education spending
5. Develop practical policies addressing root issues in education.

With your support, we can create an education system that prepares our children for tomorrow's challenges while honoring Utah values. Vote for Jason Allen – a candidate with the experience and dedication to bring meaningful change to public education.

State School Board #12

Cole J Kelley

CONTACT EMAIL MrColeKelley@gmail.com

WEBSITE MrColeKelley.com

CITY OF RESIDENCE Vineyard

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 3

AGE 51

OCCUPATION Teacher



I am excited about the opportunity to represent the students and parents of District 12. I have 27 years of classroom teaching experience and am passionate about ensuring that each student makes progress in the public education system. My frustration with education is the measurements that we are using to grade our success in Utah. Graduation is an important step in the education process, but we have to put students above the system and ensure that each student is learning as they move through the system rather than pushing them through the system with little regard for what they have learned when we award a diploma. Education has been complaining about teacher salary and classroom size for over 50 years and if we keep doing the same thing over and over again, we will get the same result. We need outside the box ideas to resolve these issues and I believe that I have the understanding and political courage to make necessary changes in education that will move education in a positive direction. Vote Cole Kelley- Utah State Board of Education District 12.

Uintah County Commissioner Troy Slaugh

CONTACT EMAIL bignjas@gmail.com

WEBSITE www.UintahStrong.com

CITY OF RESIDENCE Vernal

YEARS OF RESIDENCE Life

AGE 50

OCCUPATION Funeral Professional



I am a lifelong resident of the Uintah Basin and a retired member of the Uintah County Sheriff's Office. For the last six years I have served people in their times of sorrow alongside the professionals at Phillip's Ashley Valley Funeral Home. I am a conservative thinker who because of the divisions and frustrations between parties, now chooses to not affiliate with any political party and instead focus on making solid, conservative, positive decisions that will best serve the citizens of Uintah County.

I oppose the approved tax increases, and I signed the repeal petition. I believe that in times like these, reduction of costs is a much better approach than raising taxes. A career in law enforcement has allowed me to gain a wide understanding of how government does and should work, and the importance of limited government and protecting the rights of each citizen. I know how to get things done and I have leadership experience in difficult times. I am FEMA Incident Command System certified through the 400 Advanced ICS for Command and General Staff level. I value the importance of empathy, kindness, and transparency in our actions and the decisions we make.

Uintah County Commissioner Willis LeFevre

CONTACT EMAIL votewillis4ucc@gmail.com

WEBSITE None

CITY OF RESIDENCE Vernal

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 43

AGE 64

OCCUPATION Self Employed



Life experiences: A Utah native living in Uintah county my entire adulthood. Oil and Gas for 43 years, 15 years field experience, 20 years as procurement, materials and logistics manager. I am still an owner operator in the trucking industry. I have been a private business owner for 35 years. I have worked for, owned and supported the AG industry for 55 year. A few thoughts:

I support the caucus system but signature gathering needs to be abolished.

I support the Republican platform statement: We demand Honesty, Integrity, Morality, and Accountability of our public officials. We will work to expose and stop corruption.

I support limited taxation in order to preform and administer those services which meet ESSENTIAL public needs. I believe the proper role of government is to protect equal rights not equal things.

I believe in the First amendment, first determined at home, city, county then state but never at a federal level. It does not include vulgarity, lewdness, pornography or nudity in any setting or public place. I feel the second amendment is not only a right but a responsibility. Protect Yourself first, Family, Property, State and Nation.

Uintah County Recorder Brenda McDonald

CONTACT EMAIL Brendam36@gmail.com

WEBSITE

CITY OF RESIDENCE Vernal

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 62

AGE 62

OCCUPATION Recorders



I am Brenda McDonald running for Uintah County Recorder. I have worked in the recorder's office close to 30 years. The last ten years as the Recorder. I will continue to work hard for the people of Uintah County and do my best to keep the records in order and help watch property from fraud. I appreciate your votes of confidence. Thank you for this opportunity to work for you.

Uintah County School Board District #4

Tawnya McKee

CONTACT EMAIL tawnya.mckee@uintah.net

WEBSITE

CITY OF RESIDENCE Tridell, UT

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 20 years

AGE 47

OCCUPATION Mother of Six Children



I am currently seeking re-election to the Uintah School Board of Education. As the Vice President of the Board, I have genuinely enjoyed serving with every member of the Board and District Administration. Working Together, we have provided \$4.7 million in Annual Tax Relief to Uintah County Taxpayers since 2020. As an active Republican, I am grateful to serve on a fiscally conservative board. While reducing tax burdens, we have improved the quality of Education in our schools with the vision of Excellence we continue to set. As a school board, we have worked to create a more transparent culture that is welcoming and supportive of parents' concerns. This has been and will continue to be a focus. Fighting for Safety measures will always be a top priority for me. I am so grateful for the opportunity to serve on the USBA, to serve our community, and to advocate for the values and needs of our community on a district and state level. I would appreciate the chance to serve one more term for this community that I love!

Uintah County School Board District #5 Todd Massey

CONTACT EMAIL todd.massey@uintah.net

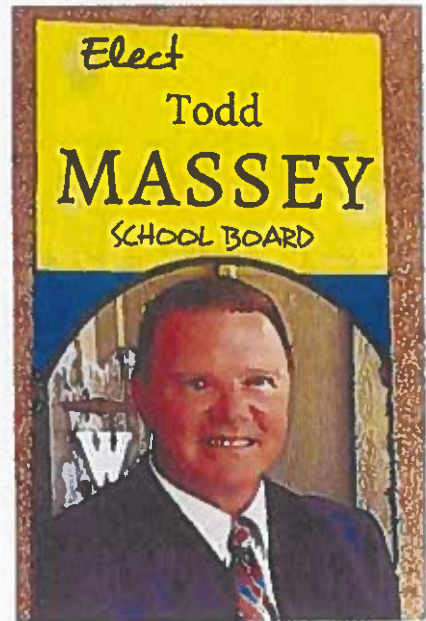
WEBSITE

CITY OF RESIDENCE Vernal

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 60

AGE 64

OCCUPATION Manager at Strata Networks



I look forward to another 4 years serving you as a School Board Member. We have made a lot of progress but still have some work to do! Thanks for the opportunity to serve!

I value education and socialization in our children's lives. I appreciate the opportunities that are found in our classrooms, clubs' programs, and sporting activities. I understand why you as a parent are passionate in these areas. I will listen and serve you! Thanks!

Uintah County School Board District #5

Lance Taylor

CONTACT EMAIL lancewtaylor@gmail.com

WEBSITE

CITY OF RESIDENCE Vernal

YEARS OF RESIDENCE 6

AGE 44

OCCUPATION CEO-Ute Enterprises



Lance looks forward to the possibility of serving his community as a school board member.

Lance's qualifications include a Bachelor of Integrated Studies in English, Communication, and Sales, along with a Master of Education with Emphasis in Education Administration.

Lance's education experience includes working as a paraprofessional in a special education classroom. Lance also has worked as a special education teacher and an English teacher. Additionally, Lance has 6 years of experience as an assistant principal - 3 of those years in the Uintah School District. Currently Lance works as the CEO of Ute Enterprises in Ft Duchesne.

Utah Supreme Court

Visit JUDGES.UTAH.GOV for more information about this judge

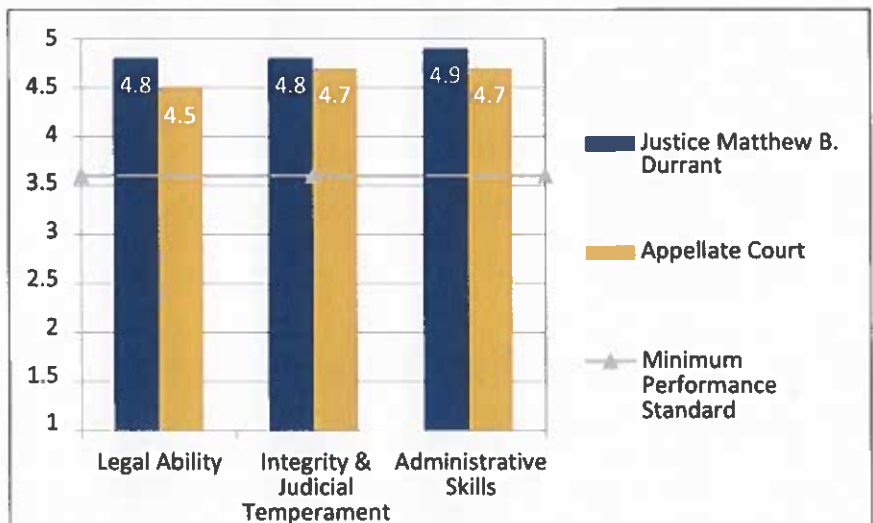


Honorable Matthew B. Durrant

- Serving The State of Utah Commission Determination:
- Meets or Exceeds Minimum Performance Standards
- Commission Vote Count: 11 - 0
- Performance Standards: Passed 8 of 8

Appointed in 2000, Justice Durrant's scores are statistically well above the average of his appellate court peers on legal ability, integrity and judicial temperament, and procedural fairness, and consistent with his peers on administrative skills. Ninety-seven percent of survey respondents recommend Justice Durrant for retention. Respondents describe this judge as dedicated, diligent, and courteous. One says that he possesses an "excellent judicial temperament," while another finds that "even if you lose, you feel like you were treated with respect." Survey ratings of judicial attributes characterize Justice Durrant as particularly capable, knowledgeable, and ethical. The judge meets discipline standards set by statute and has been certified by the Judicial Council as meeting all time standards, education requirements, and mental and physical competence standards.

Chief Justice Matthew B. Durrant was appointed to the Utah Supreme Court in January 2000 by Governor Michael O. Leavitt. At the time, he was serving as a trial judge in the Third Judicial District. Justice Durrant has served as the Supreme Court representative on the Utah Judicial Council and as Associate Chief Justice. He was the founding chair of the Supreme Court's Professionalism Committee and has chaired the Judicial Council's Technology Committee. In addition, Justice Durrant chaired the Supreme Court Committee charged with the revision of the Code of Judicial Conduct. Justice Durrant received his law degree from Harvard Law School in 1984. After a clerkship with Judge Monroe G. McKay of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, Justice Durrant joined the Salt Lake law firm now known as Parr, Waddoups, Brown, Gee, & Loveless, where he was a shareholder at the time of his appointment to the district bench. Justice Durrant also has taught as an adjunct professor at Brigham Young University's J. Reuben Clark Law School.



Note: By statute, judges' scores are compared to the average of their

Utah Court of Appeals

Visit [JUDGES.UTAH.GOV](https://judges.utah.gov) for more information about this judge

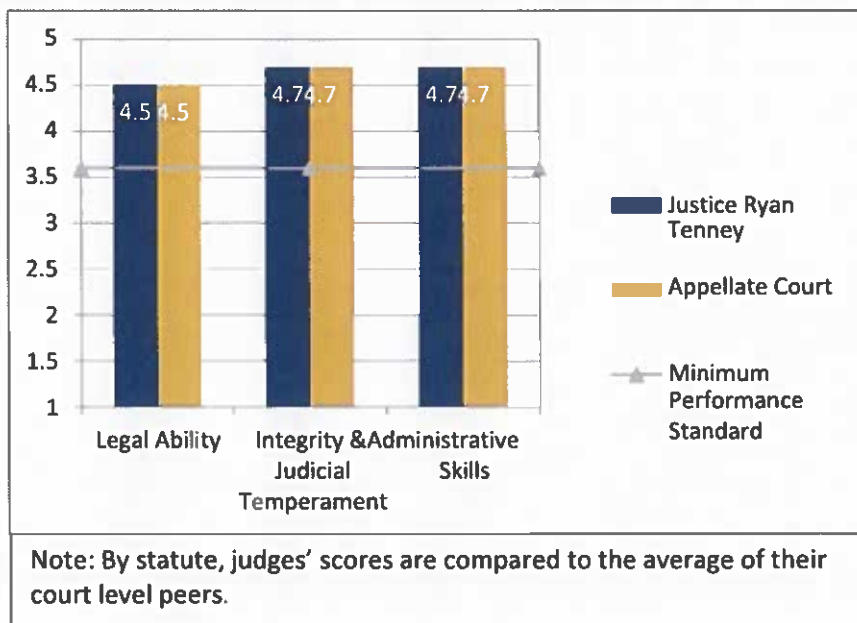


Honorable Ryan Tenney

- Serving The State of Utah Commission Determination:
- Meets or Exceeds Minimum Performance Standards
- Commission Vote Count: 13 - 0
- Performance Standards: Passed 8 of 8

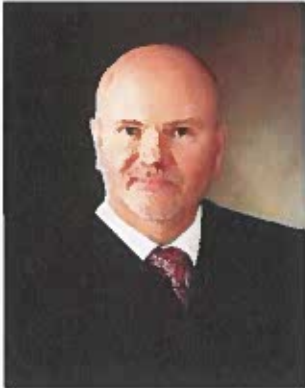
Appointed in 2021, Judge Tenney's scores are statistically consistent with his appellate court peers on legal ability, integrity and judicial temperament, procedural fairness, and administrative skills. Ninety-two percent of respondents recommend Judge Tenney for retention. Respondents describe the judge as bright, thoughtful, and diligent. They laud his array of judicial skills, including his writing proficiency, thorough opinions, and competency in oral arguments. This judge meets discipline standards set by statute and has been certified by the Judicial Council as meeting all time standards, education requirements, and mental and physical competence standards.

Judge Ryan D. Tenney was appointed to the Utah Court of Appeals in June 2021 by Governor Spencer J. Cox. Judge Tenney graduated from the University of Utah in 2000 and BYU Law School in 2003, both with honors. After graduating from law school, Judge Tenney clerked for Judge Norman Jackson of the Utah Court of Appeals. He then spent several years practicing with a civil litigation firm in Provo, after which he spent almost a decade as an attorney in the criminal appeals division of the Utah Attorney General's Office. At the time of his appointment to the bench, Judge Tenney was an appellate attorney with the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Utah, where he represented the United States in criminal appeals before the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Tenney was an adjunct professor at BYU Law School from 2008 through 2021. At BYU, Judge Tenney taught an upper division appellate brief writing seminar and a course in the international LLM Program, and he also helped coach the national moot court team. Judge Tenney has served on the ethics advisory committees for both the Utah judiciary and the Utah state bar, as well as in leadership roles for the Utah state bar's constitutional law and appellate law sections. Judge Tenney is currently a member of the Utah Sentencing Commission.



8th Judicial District Court

Visit JUDGES.UTAH.GOV for more information about this judge

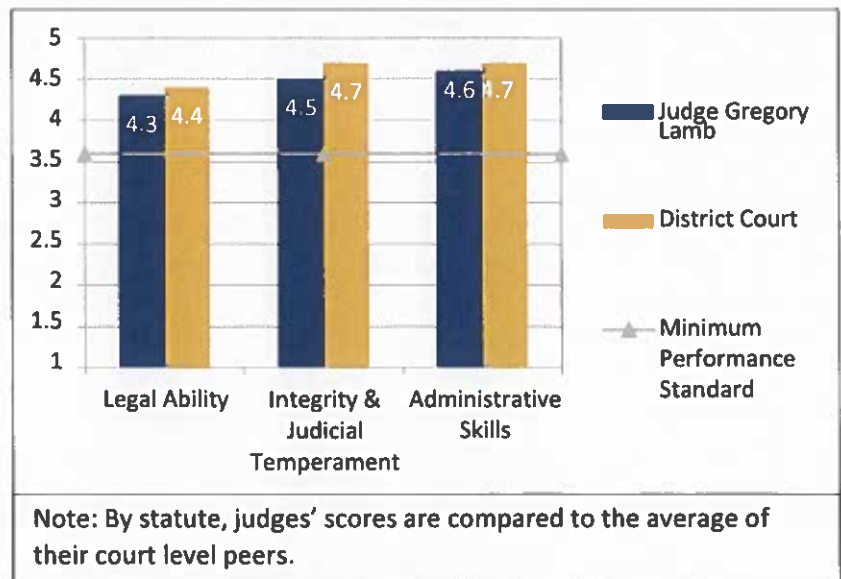


Honorable Gregory Lamb

- Serving Daggett, Duchesne & Uintah counties
- Commission Determination: Meets or Exceeds Minimum Performance Standards
- Commission Vote Count: 13 - 0
- Performance Standards: Passed 8 of 8

Appointed in 2020, Judge Lamb's scores are statistically consistent with his district court peers on legal ability, integrity and judicial temperament, administrative skills, and procedural fairness. Eighty-six percent of respondents recommend Judge Lamb for retention. Respondents say the judge is fair and issues "well-considered" legal decisions. They, along with courtroom observers, praise his dignified, kind judicial demeanor, and observers appreciate his embodiment of neutrality and consistency. A few respondents express varied criticism of his management of the courtroom. All observers report confidence that they would be treated fairly if they were to appear in Judge Lamb's court. This judge meets discipline standards set by statute and has been certified by the Judicial Council as meeting all time standards, education requirements, and mental and physical competence standards.

Judge Greg Lamb was appointed to the Eighth District Court by Governor Gary R. Herbert in December 2020. He serves Daggett, Duchesne and Uintah counties. Judge Lamb is a lifetime resident of the Uinta Basin and graduated from Altamont High School in Duchesne County. He holds an M.A. in Public Policy as well as B.A. and B.S. degrees from Brigham Young University. Judge Lamb received his Juris Doctor from the University of Utah College of Law in 2001. From 2001 to 2002 Judge Lamb served in the Office for Civil Rights with the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. He then served as Guardian ad Litem Attorney from 2002 to 2005. Judge Lamb joined the Uintah County Attorney's Office in 2005 where he served as Deputy County Attorney and Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney before forming the law firm Stringham & Lamb with his good friend in 2012. Judge Lamb was in private practice until 2018 when he was elected as Uintah County Attorney. He served in that capacity until his appointment to the bench.



8th Judicial District Court

Visit [JUDGES.UTAH.GOV](https://judges.utah.gov) for more information about this judge

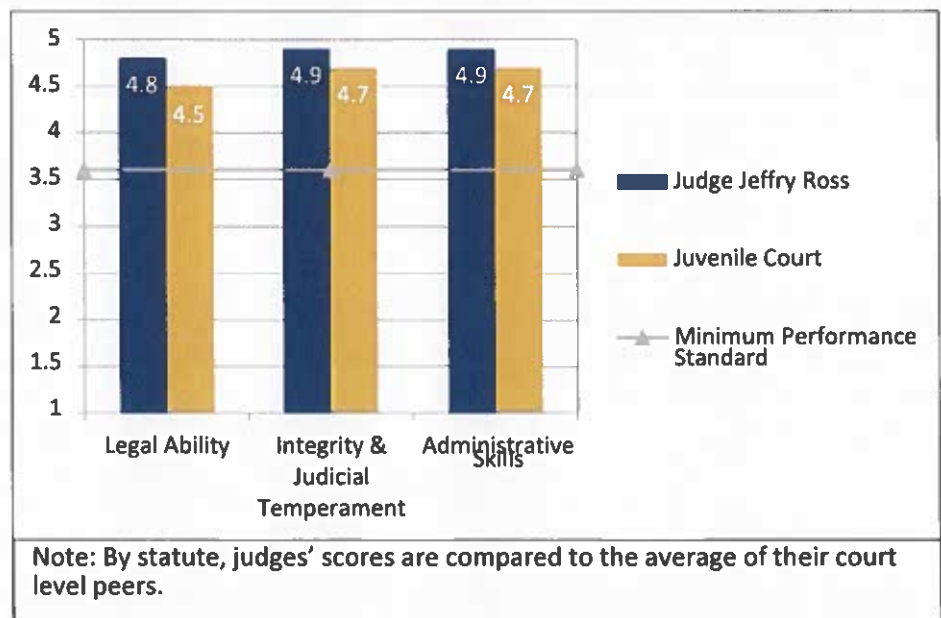


Honorable Jeffry Ross

- Serving Daggett, Duchesne & Uintah counties
- Commission Determination: Meets or Exceeds Minimum Performance Standards
- Commission Vote Count: 11 - 0
- Performance Standards: Passed 8 of 8

Appointed in 2021, Judge Ross' scores are statistically above the average of his juvenile court peers on legal ability, integrity and judicial temperament, procedural fairness, and administrative skills. All eighty-four respondents (100%) recommend that Judge Ross be retained. Survey ratings of judicial attributes characterize Judge Ross as particularly impartial and knowledgeable, as well as notably decisive. Respondents appreciate the judge's legal skills. They, along with courtroom observers, value his kind and courteous demeanor and his sensitivity to the needs and perspectives of participants. Both additionally admire the judge's careful, unhurried manner and ability to communicate. One respondent described the judge as a "top quality jurist." All observers report confidence that they would be treated fairly if they were to appear in Judge Ross' court. This judge meets discipline standards set by statute and has been certified by the Judicial Council as meeting all time standards, education requirements, and mental and physical competence standards.

Judge Jeffry K. Ross was appointed to the Eighth District Juvenile Court by Governor Spencer J. Cox in May 2021. He serves Duchesne, Uintah and Daggett counties. Judge Ross received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Law and Constitutional Studies from Utah State University in 2006, graduating magna cum laude. He received his Juris Doctor from the University of Utah, S.J. Quinney College of Law in 2011, graduating with high honors. During law school, Judge Ross served as the Executive Symposium Editor of the Utah Law Review. Prior to his appointment, Judge Ross was the managing attorney for the Vernal, Utah branch of Stowell, Crayk & Bown, PLLC, practicing in the areas of child welfare, juvenile delinquency, divorce, custody, criminal defense and immigration law.



Constitutional Amendment A

Ballot Title

Shall the Utah Constitution be amended to allow income tax money to be used for all state needs and prioritize public education funding for changes in enrollment and inflation? If this amendment is approved, state statute will eliminate the state sales tax on food.

Legislative Votes

Utah Senate:

22 Yes 6 No 1 Not Present

Utah House:

57 Yes 17 No 1 Not Present

VOID
votes will not be counted

Ballot Title & Session

2023 Legislative General Session

Senate Joint Resolution (S.J.R.) 10

Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution - Income Tax

Impartial Analysis

Current Provisions of the Utah Constitution

The Utah Constitution requires the state to spend money from taxes on income or intangible property to support public education, higher education, children, and people with disabilities. Currently, the state taxes income but does not tax intangible property (such as stocks, bonds, patents, or copyrights).

Effect of Constitutional Amendment A

Constitutional Amendment A would modify the allowable uses of income tax money in two ways. First, the amendment establishes how the Legislature maintains public education funding by (a) requiring the Legislature to use a portion of growth in money the state receives from taxes to pay for increased costs to public education caused by inflation and changes in student enrollment and (b) ensuring the Legislature maintains a public education budgetary stabilization account. Second, Constitutional Amendment A expands the allowable uses of income tax money to support other state needs after meeting the public education requirements. Constitutional Amendment A would not prohibit, or otherwise alter, the use of income tax money to support higher education, children, or people with disabilities or to otherwise provide for public education.

The Legislature has already implemented a budgetary stabilization account in statute to ensure the state has funding for public education when there is an economic downturn. Currently, the budgetary stabilization account receives at least 15% of new income tax money. The Legislature also may direct other money into the stabilization account. Deposits into the budgetary stabilization account are capped at 11% of the amount of income tax money the state spends on public education.

The Legislature may spend money in the stabilization account for public education only. If there is not enough money from sources other than the stabilization account to provide at least the same level of funding as the previous year plus funding for growth in student enrollment and the costs of inflation, the Legislature must use the money in the stabilization account as needed to fund public education. In the meantime, the Legislature may use the money only for one-time public education costs.

Implementing Legislation

If the voters approve Constitutional Amendment A, two other bills that the Legislature passed during the 2023 legislative session would take effect. Those bills are [H.B. 54](#), Tax Revisions, and [H.B. 394](#), Hold Harmless for Public Education Enrollment Decline.

H.B. 54 removes the state sales tax on purchases of food and food ingredients, like groceries, but not food that is already prepared and ready to eat. Removal of the state sales tax on food and food ingredients eliminates a tax of 1.75% on these purchases.

H.B. 394 provides that between July 1, 2025, and June 30, 2030, the Legislature will provide additional income tax money to public schools if total student enrollment in public schools declines. The amount of additional money equals the amount the schools would have received had there not been a decline in enrollment. H.B. 394 requires the Legislature to review whether to continue providing the additional money after June 30, 2030.

Effective Date

If approved by voters, Constitutional Amendment A will take effect on January 1, 2025. H.B. 54 and H.B. 394 also take effect on January 1, 2025, if the voters approve Constitutional Amendment A.

Fiscal Impact

The Legislative Fiscal Analyst has determined that approval of Constitutional Amendment A will prioritize income tax revenue to support a public education funding framework. Once the obligation to public education is satisfied, the constitutional amendment will allow the Legislature to appropriate income tax revenue for other purposes. Passage of Constitutional Amendment A triggers two statutory provisions. First, the removal of the 1.75% state sales tax rate on food, reducing state revenue by approximately \$218.6 million in fiscal year 2026. Second, maintaining state funding for public education during declining student enrollment, avoiding projected reductions to public education of approximately \$42.5 million each year.

Argument in Favor

Argument in Favor ([S.J.R. 10](#) Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution - Income Tax)

Amendment A updates the state constitution in a way that will make a meaningful impact for every Utahn.

If you approve this amendment, the state portion of the sales tax on food will be removed, and enhanced funding for education will be constitutionally guaranteed.

By voting YES on Amendment A, you are deciding to:

- Remove state sales tax on food to help ease the financial strain on Utahns and support families.
- Constitutionally guarantee a rainy-day education fund to support education during economic downturns.
- Immediately boost per-pupil spending by about \$85 million.
- Prioritize funding for student enrollment changes and long-term inflation.
- Protect the education budget even if student enrollment decreases over the next five years.

Amendment A Removes the State Sales Tax on Food

Sales tax on food is charged by both state and local governments. Eliminating the state portion of the sales tax on food will benefit all Utahns, especially as grocery prices and inflation continue to rise. It will also benefit families who spend a significant portion of their income on groceries.

The amendment makes this change possible because it allows the focus to be on all state needs when making budget decisions rather than depending on siloed revenue sources, fostering a more adaptable and responsive government.

Amendment A Protects and Prioritizes Education Funding

In 2020, an educational funding framework was passed into law, which has significantly boosted the state's investment in education.

The Result: Education funding has increased by \$1.8 billion since implementing this framework four years ago. This is more than twice as much as education funding increased in the four years before this framework went into effect. Utah will increase per-pupil spending by passing this amendment.

Amendment A will guarantee a stable framework that increases education funding in the constitution, where it cannot be altered by a simple majority in a future legislature; instead, any proposed changes must first go to a vote of the people.

By voting YES to this amendment, you are voting to put this law in Utah's Constitution, which will increase our investment in education and help Utah's students and teachers receive the resources they need to learn and thrive for years to come.

Amendment A is an A+ for education, an A+ for Utah families, and an A+ for our state. Join us in **voting YES on Amendment A** for a better, brighter, and more prosperous Utah!

– Sen. Daniel McCay and Rep. Karen Peterson

Rebuttal to Argument in Favor

Rebuttal (S.J.R. 10 Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution - Income Tax)

Utahns should vote **NO** on **Amendment A** for the following reasons:

1. **Threat to Public School Funding:** Amendment A will take away money from public schools and teachers. Vote NO on Amendment A, so that the legislature will NOT be able to use your tax dollars to support their political interests with no accountability.
2. **Sacrifice of Constitutionally Protected Funds:** Utahns deserve both protected education funding and the removal of state sales tax on food. Instead lawmakers are forcing Utahns to choose between protecting education funds and grocery bill relief. Adequate education funding can and should continue without any constitutional changes.
3. **Conditional Funding Increase:** An \$85 million increase in per-pupil spending is being withheld unless Amendment A is approved, making education funding a political bargaining chip.
4. **Misuse of Tax Dollars:** Vote NO on Amendment A to prohibit the legislature from spending taxpayer money on their own political interests. You can prevent wasteful spending and the funneling of public funds into risky projects that fail to meet the needs of all Utah's children.

Vote **NO** on **Amendment A**: YOU will ensure that education funding remains protected for all of Utah's children and people with disabilities.

- Sen. Luz Escamilla & Rep. Angela Romero

Argument Against

ARGUMENT AGAINST Amendment A: Proposal To Amend Utah Constitution - Income Tax

Amendment A is a proposed change to the Utah Constitution that will hurt our children and our public schools. If approved, this amendment will let the legislature use state income tax funds for things other than public schools and services for children and people with disabilities. **Let's not be fooled, the legislature can remove the state sales tax on food without impacting public education funding.**

Here's why you should **VOTE NO** on Amendment A:

- **Amendment A Will Hurt the Quality Education Available for All Children**
 - Every child in Utah deserves a quality education. Amendment A allows income tax funds to be used for any purpose the legislature deems important, taking away money from our public schools. The promise of a good education for all children will be broken if these funds are used elsewhere. **VOTING NO** on Amendment A will make sure our public schools get the funding they need so every child can succeed.

- **Amendment A is Not the Solution to Remove the State Sales Tax on Food**
 - Linking this tax change to public education funding is a fatal and irreversible mistake. The legislature can lower the state sales tax on food without risking the money meant for our public schools. There are better ways to deal with sales tax issues without hurting the financial stability of our public schools.
- **Amendment A is the Wrong Approach to Funding**
 - Amendment A changes how funds are allocated based on student enrollment and long-term inflation. While this might sound appealing, the risks are too high and our current education funding system already accounts for these risks. The amendment also talks about a budgetary stabilization account, but this does not ensure consistent funding for public education. The promise of a 2% increase in funding is a one-time enhancement and does not address the long-term needs of our public schools.
- **Amendment A Will Hurt the Ability of School Districts to Do Their Job**
 - If Amendment A is passed, it will change how school districts get their funding. Voters should be cautious about these changes which will negatively affect the quality of our public education. This will cause major disruptions in planning and operations for public school districts across Utah. The offer to adjust funds based on enrollment presents a misleading message that will actually lead to unpredictable funding for our public schools.

Historically as Utahns, we have recognized the importance of public education for our future workforce, our economy, and our well-being by having constitutionally protected money for our children and public schools. **By VOTING NO on Amendment A, you are protecting children and people with disabilities, and stopping the overreach of the legislature on these sacred funds.** Getting rid of the state sales tax on food is a good idea, but it should not come at the cost of our public education system.

-Senator Luz Escamilla

-Representative Angela Romero

Rebuttal to Argument Against

Despite what opponents' claim, Amendment A will benefit Utah students, families, and teachers:

Claim: *Hurts the quality of education*

Reality: Increases student funding, enhancing education statewide

Opponents omit that Amendment A includes new constitutional guarantees for education funding, which have already boosted the state's education investment and will now be secured for future generations.

The existing income tax restriction, unique to Utah, has historically resulted in some of the nation's lowest per-pupil spending. Voting yes on Amendment A changes this trajectory.

Claim: Not the solution to remove state sales tax on food

Reality: Flexibility is crucial to removing sales tax on food

Sales tax is a stable revenue source, essential for meeting the needs of the entire state. Amendment A:

- Provides budgetary stability and flexibility.
- Enables removal of state sales tax on food while guaranteeing education funding.
- Protects Utah families and schools from rising inflation.

Claim: Wrong approach to funding and hurts school districts

Reality: Offers a proven funding solution and budget predictability

Opponents' claim this introduces unpredictability, but it actually provides school districts stable funding for the first time in state history. A dedicated rainy-day fund and guaranteed adjustments for inflation and enrollment ensure schools have dependable revenue even in economic downturns. Over the past four years, this approach doubled education funding, and existing investments will continue. This is why the State Board of Education supports the funding formula in Amendment A.

Amendment A is good for Utah families and schools.

—Rep. Karen Peterson

Full Text of Constitutional Amendment A

PROPOSAL TO AMEND UTAH CONSTITUTION - INCOME TAX

2023 General Session

Utah Constitution Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

ARTICLE XIII, SECTION 5

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, two-thirds of all members elected to each of the two houses voting in favor thereof:

Section 1. It is proposed to amend Utah Constitution, Article XIII, Section 5, to read:

Article XIII, Section 5. [Use and amount of taxes and expenditures.]

(l) (a) The Legislature shall provide by statute for an annual tax sufficient, with other revenues, to defray the estimated ordinary expenses of the State for each fiscal year.

(b) If the ordinary expenses of the State will exceed revenues for a fiscal year, the Governor shall:

(i) reduce all State expenditures on a pro rata basis, except for expenditures for debt of the

State; or

(ii) convene the Legislature into session under Article VII, Section 6 to address the deficiency.

- (2) (a) For any fiscal year, the Legislature may not make an appropriation or authorize an expenditure if the State's expenditure exceeds the total tax provided for by statute and applicable to the particular appropriation or expenditure.
- (b) Subsection (2)(a) does not apply to an appropriation or expenditure to suppress insurrection, defend the State, or assist in defending the United States in time of war.
- (3) For any debt of the State, the Legislature shall provide by statute for an annual tax sufficient to pay:
- (a) the annual interest; and
 - (b) the principal within 20 years after the final passage of the statute creating the debt.
- (4) Except as provided in Article X, Section 5, Subsection (5)(a), the Legislature may not impose a tax for the purpose of a political subdivision of the State, but may by statute authorize political subdivisions of the State to assess and collect taxes for their own purposes.
- (5) All revenue from taxes on intangible property or from a tax on income shall be used:
- (a) to support the systems of public education and higher education as defined in Article X, Section 2; ~~and~~
 - (b) to maintain a statutory public education funding framework that:
 - (i) uses a portion of revenue growth for expenditures from the Uniform School Fund for changes in student enrollment and long-term inflation; and
 - (ii) provides a budgetary stabilization account;
 - ~~[(b)]~~ (c) to support children and to support individuals with a disability~~[-]; and~~
 - (d) to support other state needs after the fulfillment of the requirements in Subsection (5)(b).
- (6) Proceeds from fees, taxes, and other charges related to the operation of motor vehicles on public highways and proceeds from an excise tax on liquid motor fuel used to propel those motor vehicles shall be used for:
- (a) statutory refunds and adjustments and costs of collection and administration;
 - (b) the construction, maintenance, and repair of State and local roads, including payment for property taken for or damaged by rights-of-way and for associated administrative costs;
 - (c) driver education;
 - (d) enforcement of state motor vehicle and traffic laws; and
 - (e) the payment of the principal of and interest on any obligation of the State or a city or county, issued for any of the purposes set forth in Subsection (6)(b) and to which any of the fees, taxes, or other charges described in this Subsection (6) have been pledged, including any paid to the State or a city or county, as provided by statute.
- (7) Fees and taxes on tangible personal property imposed under Section 2, Subsection (6) of this article are not subject to Subsection (6) of this Section 5 and shall be distributed to the taxing districts in which the property is located in the same proportion as that in which the revenue collected from real property tax is distributed.
- (8) A political subdivision of the State may share its tax and other revenues with another political subdivision of the State as provided by statute.
- (9) Beginning July 1, 2016, the aggregate annual revenue from all severance taxes, as those taxes are defined by statute, except revenue that by statute is used for purposes related to any federally recognized Indian tribe, shall be deposited annually into the permanent State trust fund under Article XXII, Section 4, as follows:
- (a) 25% of the first \$50,000,000 of aggregate annual revenue;

- (b) 50% of the next \$50,000,000 of aggregate annual revenue; and
- (c) 75% of the aggregate annual revenue that exceeds \$100,000,000.

Section 2. Submittal to voters.

The lieutenant governor is directed to submit this proposed amendment to the voters of the state at the next regular general election in the manner provided by law.

Section 3. Contingent effective date.

If the amendment proposed by this joint resolution is approved by a majority of those voting on it at the next regular general election, the amendment shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

Constitutional Amendment B

Ballot Title

Shall the Utah Constitution be amended to increase the limit on the annual distributions from the State School Fund to public schools from 4% to 5% of the fund?

Legislative Votes

Utah Senate:

66 Yes 0 No 9 Not Present

Utah House:

27 Yes 0 No 2 Not Present

Ballot Title & Session

2023 Legislative General Session

House Joint Resolution [\(H.J.R.\) 18](#)

Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution - State School Fund

Impartial Analysis

Current Provisions of the Utah Constitution

The Utah Constitution establishes the State School Fund to benefit the state's public schools. The fund accumulates money from sources specified in the Utah Constitution, and the state invests that money. The state may spend only earnings received from the investment of money in the fund, and the state may spend those earnings only for the support of public schools. The Utah Constitution currently limits how much of the earnings the state may distribute annually from the fund to 4% of the fund. What constitutes 4% of the fund is determined using a calculation provided in statute. Other than those allowed expenditures, any money deposited into the fund and any unspent earnings remain in the fund.

Effect of Constitutional Amendment B

Constitutional Amendment B would increase the limit on the annual distributions from the State School Fund from 4% of the fund to 5% of the fund.

Implementing Legislation

State statute currently provides that the annual distributions from the fund may not exceed 4% of the average market value of the fund. If the voters approve Constitutional Amendment B, [H.B. 421](#), School Land Trust Program Amendments, from the 2023 legislative session would also take effect. H.B. 421 changes the statute to align with the constitutional change by increasing the 4% in the annual distribution amount formula to 5%.

Effective Date

If approved by voters, Constitutional Amendment B takes effect on January 1, 2025. H.B. 421 also takes effect on January 1, 2025, if the voters approve Constitutional Amendment B.

Fiscal Impact

The Legislative Fiscal Analyst has determined that approval of Constitutional Amendment B will have an uncertain ongoing fiscal impact because of unpredictable market conditions. However, compared to current requirements, it will increase distributions to public schools and reduce growth in the State School Fund. Had Constitutional Amendment B been in effect in fiscal year 2024, it would have increased State School Fund distributions to public schools by \$13.2 million (from \$101.8 million to \$115.0 million) and decreased the State School Fund balance by \$13.2 million, resulting in a loss of investment revenue of approximately \$650,000 and a remaining State School Fund balance of \$3.08 billion.

Argument in Favor

Argument in Favor ([HJR18](#) - Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution - State School Fund)

One of the very first actions the founders of our country took was to set aside lands to support public education. When Utah became a state, it received a grant of six million acres of trust lands dedicated to education and created a permanent school fund to hold trust land revenue. Money from this fund is distributed to every school in the state, and community councils of parents, teachers, administrators, and community members make decisions about how to use the money in their local schools.

Voting yes on Constitutional Amendment B will allow more of the money generated by these trust lands to be used in our schools for today's most pressing education needs.

5% Cap Benefits Current Students and Still Protects Future Students

Constitutional Amendment B will increase the cap on money distributed to schools today from the permanent school fund from 4% to 5% of the fund's value.

In 2013, a state task force recommended a distribution cap for the permanent school fund. The intent of the cap was to ensure the state was protecting the funds for future students. A conservative 4% cap was initially chosen because this was a new fund management model. However, a 5% distribution is much more common in other areas of charitable fund management. Furthermore, federal tax law requires private foundations to distribute **at least** 5% of their fund value to demonstrate they are benefiting the community.

In the years since the new distribution model was adopted, the fund has grown rapidly and it has become clear over the past ten years that if we increase the money going to schools today from 4% to 5%, the fund will continue to grow long into the future.

Voting yes on Amendment B will allow more money from the fund to go to each school to benefit current students and will protect the Permanent School Fund for generations to come.

Rep. Jefferson Moss and Sen. Ann Millner

Rebuttal to Argument in Favor

Amendment B ([HJR 18](#)) is simply a legal path for our legislature to access income tax dollars for pet projects. By changing our state constitution, they would be given access to a "surplus" that would be used for other projects. The authors of HJR 18 do not even have a suggestion for where they plan to use those funds, they just want access to tax dollars they currently cannot touch.

As HJR 18's authors pointed out, federal law requires "at least 5% of a fund value to prove they are benefitting the community". Utah just increased spending to the federal minimum of 5%. In other words, our legislature is doing the bare minimum to assist those who need help the most.

The problem is this false surplus our representatives pretend we have: legislators have placed an artificial cap on the amount of money the state can spend on education and people with disabilities, which are currently the only two categories where these income tax dollars can be spent. They could spend more, but they won't. They want access to the money for other things.

Currently, over 6000 Utahans are receiving state assistance, but over 4000 disabled Utahans are on a waiting list for services. These citizens, who need state help so desperately, are unable to access services due to purposeful underfunding of Utah's Division of Services for People with Disabilities (DSPD). As an example, my disabled adult daughter has been on a waiting list since she turned 21.

Douglas Rice
Former President
Epilepsy Association of Utah

Argument Against

Many Utahans have disabilities that result in the individual being unable to care for themselves. These disabilities range from brain injuries to muscular and neurologic conditions. The Utah State Constitution provides for income tax collections to be used only for two purposes: education and services for disabled people. This assistance allows disabled citizens to lead more self-sufficient lives, or to provide services when a person cannot care for themselves. In the past, Utah has not spent the entire amount of collected income tax on education or assistance for disabled persons, resulting in a false surplus. There has always been a need for those tax dollars, but our legislature has chronically underfunded the state agencies providing assistance to disabled citizens.

Disabled Utahans are provided assistance through the Division of Services for People with Disabilities (DSPD). In fiscal year 2023, over 6800 Utahans received home and community-based services from DSPD, ranging from physical therapy or skilled nursing services to personal care. Currently, DSPD also has a waiting list of over 4700 citizens waiting for assistance.

This waiting list is not a recent development; citizens have been waiting for DPSD services for decades. Yet even with the existence of this waiting list of thousands of Utahans, HJR 18 would remove restrictions on income tax, and would allow those funds to be spent elsewhere by our legislators, even though they have not expressed any need for those monies elsewhere. It's all based on a fear with no basis in fact.

In FY 2023, this income tax fund had a deficit of \$119,187,000. This deficit appeared after Gov. Cox signed SB 69 into law. SB 69 resulted in a reduction of income tax collected by \$167,000,000. In other words, the deficit in this budget is a direct result of our legislature passing a tax cut.

The authors of HJR 18 provide no reason whatsoever for diversion of income tax dollars into other funds. It is entirely based on a speculative future need, while our legislature has shown the inability to provide assistance for those in our state with existing tax dollars that have already been collected. HJR 18 allows funds to be diverted once education and DPSD needs are supposedly met. But there is no language in HJR 18 that would require full funding of education and DPSD, but rather allows for an arbitrary spending ceiling to be decided by our legislature. HJR 18 is NOT in the best interest of Utah citizens, and is most certainly not in the interest of those who need our help the most- the disabled citizens of Utah.

Douglas Rice
Former President
Epilepsy Association of Utah

Rebuttal to Argument Against

The argument against this amendment claims this will somehow limit assistance provided through the Division of Services for People with Disabilities (DPSD), but the revenue addressed in Amendment B is unrelated to people with disabilities. The income tax fund discussed in the argument is unrelated to the permanent State School Fund, which is derived from the proceeds of public lands granted to Utah and is constitutionally required to be used to support public elementary and secondary schools. Amendment B increases the distribution of funds from the permanent State School Fund to schools in Utah. This money is ineligible to be spent on assistance through the DPSD. **Amendment B is completely unrelated to the Division of Services for People with Disabilities and will benefit students in Utah now and in the future.**

– Rep. Jefferson Moss and Sen. Ann Millner

Full Text of Constitutional Amendment B

PROPOSAL TO AMEND UTAH CONSTITUTION - STATE SCHOOL FUND

2023 General Session

Utah Constitution Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

ARTICLE X, SECTION 5

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, two-thirds of all members elected to each of the two houses voting in favor thereof:

Section 1. It is proposed to amend Utah Constitution, Article X, Section 5, to read:

Article X, Section 5. [State School Fund and Uniform School Fund - Establishment and use -- Debt guaranty.]

(1) There is established a permanent State School Fund which consists of:

- (a) proceeds from the sales of all lands granted by the United States to this state for the support of the public elementary and secondary schools;
- (b) 5% of the net proceeds from the sales of United States public lands lying within this state;
- (c) all revenues derived from nonrenewable resources on state lands, other than sovereign lands and lands granted for other specific purposes;
- (d) all revenues derived from the use of school trust lands;
- (e) revenues appropriated by the Legislature; and
- (f) other revenues and assets received by the permanent State School Fund under any other provision of law or by bequest or donation.

(2) (a) The permanent State School Fund shall be prudently invested by the state and shall be held by the state in perpetuity.

(b) Only earnings received from investment of the permanent State School Fund may be distributed from the fund, and any distribution from the fund shall be for the support of the public education system as defined in Article X, Section 2 of this constitution.

(c) Annual distributions from the permanent State School Fund under Subsection (2)(b) may not exceed ~~[4%]~~ 5% of the fund, calculated as provided by statute.

(d) The Legislature may make appropriations from school trust land revenues to provide funding necessary for the proper administration and management of those lands consistent with the state's fiduciary responsibilities towards the beneficiaries of the school land trust. Unexpended balances remaining from the appropriation at the end of each fiscal year shall be deposited in the permanent State School Fund.

(e) The permanent State School Fund shall be guaranteed by the state against loss or diversion.

(3) There is established a Uniform School Fund which consists of:

- (a) money from the permanent State School Fund;
- (b) revenues appropriated by the Legislature; and
- (c) other revenues received by the Uniform School Fund under any other provision of law or by donation.

(4) The Uniform School Fund shall be maintained and used for the support of the state's public education system as defined in Article X, Section 2 of this constitution and apportioned as the Legislature shall provide.

(5) (a) Notwithstanding Article VI, Section 29, the State may guarantee the debt of school districts created in accordance with Article XIV, Section 3, and may guarantee debt incurred to refund the school district debt. Any debt guaranty, the school district debt guaranteed thereby, or any borrowing of the state undertaken to facilitate the payment of the state's obligation under any debt guaranty shall not be included as a debt of the state for purposes of the 1.5% limitation of Article XIV, Section 1.

(b) The Legislature may provide that reimbursement to the state shall be obtained from monies which otherwise would be used for the support of the educational programs of the school district which incurred the debt with respect to which a payment under the state's guaranty was made.

Section 2. Submittal to voters.

The lieutenant governor is directed to submit this proposed amendment to the voters of the state at the next regular general election in the manner provided by law.

Section 3. Contingent effective date.

If the amendment proposed by this joint resolution is approved by a majority of those voting on it at the next regular general election, the amendment shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

Constitutional Amendment C

Ballot Title

Shall the Utah Constitution be amended to have the office of county sheriff be elected by voters?

Legislative Votes

Utah House:

72 Yes 0 No 3 Not Present

Utah Senate:

26 Yes 0 No 3 Not Present

Ballot Title & Session

2023 Legislative General Session

House Joint Resolution (H.J.R.) 10

Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution - Election of County Sheriffs

Impartial Analysis

Current Provisions of the Utah Constitution

The current Utah Constitution does not specifically address the office of county sheriff. Instead, the office is established by statute. The authority of a county sheriff, the method of selecting a county sheriff, and the term of office are governed by state statute and local ordinance.

Effect of Constitutional Amendment C

Constitutional Amendment C would add the office of county sheriff to the state constitution and establish a four-year term of office for a county sheriff, providing a uniform framework for the sheriffs' election and terms of office. If the amendment passes, voters must approve any future changes to the election of or terms of office for a county sheriff.

Effective Date

If approved by voters, Constitutional Amendment C takes effect on January 1, 2025.

Fiscal Effects

The Legislative Fiscal Analyst has determined that approval of Constitutional Amendment C will likely not have a fiscal impact.

Argument in Favor

Argument in Favor (H.J.R. 10 Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution - Election of County Sheriffs)

By voting “yes” on Amendment C, Utah voters have the opportunity to protect the honored tradition of electing their county sheriff.

While county sheriffs in Utah have traditionally been elected by voters in their respective counties, without constitutional protections, this fundamental aspect of local governance is vulnerable to potential changes. By voting to require the election of county sheriffs in our state constitution, we can ensure the continuation of our current selection process—a process that upholds the principles of accountability, transparency, and local representation that are central to our Utah ideals.

Amendment C Promotes Accountability

The office of the county sheriff holds a unique position within our communities. It is more than just a law enforcement role; it is a reflection of the collective will of the people. Elected sheriffs:

- Are directly accountable to the citizens they serve, providing a vital link between law enforcement agencies and the communities they protect.
- Have a mandate to uphold the values and priorities of their constituents.
- Ensure law enforcement practices are responsive to local communities' evolving needs and preferences.
- Are held accountable at the ballot box for their actions, policies, and decisions—safeguarding against abuses of power, neglect of duty, or violations of civil liberties.
- Build trust, cooperation, and collaboration in the pursuit of public safety and justice.

Amendment C is Supported by County Sheriffs

Amendment C received unanimous support from every county sheriff in the state.

Amendment C Empowers Communities

Protecting the election of county sheriffs in our state constitution is not merely a symbolic gesture—it is a commitment to preserving the principles of citizen participation and accountability to the people. By casting a vote in support of this amendment, Utahns can empower communities, strengthen the rule of law, and shape the direction of their local law enforcement agencies.

– Speaker Mike Schultz and President J. Stuart Adams

Rebuttal to Argument in Favor

No rebuttal was submitted to the argument in favor of Constitutional Amendment C.

Argument Against

No argument was submitted against Constitutional Amendment C.

Rebuttal to the Argument Against

No rebuttal was submitted to the argument against Constitutional Amendment C.

Full Text of Constitutional Amendment C

PROPOSAL TO AMEND UTAH CONSTITUTION - ELECTION OF COUNTY SHERIFFS

2023 General Session

Utah Constitution Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

ARTICLE XI, SECTION 10

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, two-thirds of all members elected to each of the two houses voting in favor thereof:

Section 1. It is proposed to enact Utah Constitution Article XI, Section 10, to read:

Article XI, Section 10. [Election of County Sheriffs.]

(1) Each county shall have an office of county sheriff.

(2) The office of county sheriff is an elected office.

(3) Their term of office shall be four years from the first day of January next after their election.

Section 2. **Submittal to voters.**

The lieutenant governor is directed to submit this proposed amendment to the voters of the state at the next regular general election in the manner provided by law.

Section 3. **Contingent effective date.**

If the amendment proposed by this joint resolution is approved by a majority of those voting on it at the next regular general election, the amendment shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

Constitutional Amendment D

Ballot Title

Should the Utah Constitution be changed to strengthen the initiative process by:

- Prohibiting foreign influence on ballot initiatives and referendums.
- Clarifying the voters and legislative bodies' ability to amend laws.

If approved, state law would also be changed to:

- Allow Utah citizens 50% more time to gather signatures for a statewide referendum.
- Establish requirements for the legislature to follow the intent of a ballot initiative.

Legislative Votes

Utah House:

54 Yes 21 No 0 Not Present

Utah Senate:

20 Yes 8 No 1 Not Present

VOID
votes will not be counted

Ballot Title & Session

2024 Fourth Special Session

House Joint Resolution (S.J.R.) 401

Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution - Voter Legislative Power

Impartial Analysis Argument in Favor

Should Utah be influenced by foreign entities, like Russia or China? – **Absolutely not.**

California has seen over 80 ballot initiatives in the last decade, leading to laws that contributed to increased criminal activity, higher taxes and a \$68 billion deficit. Do we want Utah to follow in California's footsteps? – **Definitely not.**

Voting **FOR** Amendment D stops this from happening in Utah.

Protect Utah's Voices Through the Initiative Process

Amendment D will keep the initiative process in the hands of Utahns and protect it from deep-pocketed foreign interference. A recent court decision opened a dangerous path for foreign entities to permanently influence our state's ballot initiatives, which will fundamentally change our great state for the worse.

What Amendment D Does

- **Stops Foreign Influence:** It prevents foreign entities from contributing to our state's ballot initiatives. This keeps our state's initiatives and government processes with the people of Utah and protects the integrity of our laws.
- **Keeps a Proven Process:** Maintains the initiative process that has allowed Utahns to propose and vote on changes to our laws for the past 120 years. It does not change or alter this time-tested initiative process.
- **Strengthens the People's Right to Veto Laws:** It increases the time to collect signatures for statewide referendums from 40 to 60 days, empowering grassroots efforts and holding the legislature accountable.
- **Ensures Local Control:** Keeps the power to shape Utah's future in the hands of its residents, not outside interests.

Why Vote FOR Amendment D

- **Protect Utah's Values:** Utah now faces the risk of becoming like California, where special interest groups funnel large sums of outside money to influence laws that do not necessarily reflect the values of our citizens.
- **A Real Concern:** This concern is not hypothetical. Billions are spent every year across the country on ballot initiatives, often funded by outside groups with their own agendas.
- **Urgent Need:** Several states have already taken action to secure their ballot initiatives against growing foreign influence.
- **Preserving Stability:** Voting FOR Amendment D means protecting Utah from undue influence from foreign special interests and ensuring decisions about our state remain with Utahns.
- **Keep Utahns' Voices Strong:** The voice of the people in governance remains crucial and cannot be overstated. Amendment D sets requirements for the legislature to follow the intent of a citizen ballot initiative.

Vote FOR Amendment D to Keep Utah, Utah

Amendment D prevents foreign contributions to influence ballot propositions, maintains a proven 120-year-old process, strengthens the people's right to veto laws and makes it easier for Utahns to hold their elected officials accountable. Join us in voting FOR on Amendment D to safeguard our state's future.

Sen. Kirk A. Cullimore Rep. Jordan D. Teuscher

Rebuttal to Argument in Favor

VOTE AGAINST Amendment D to protect your voice. Amendment D gives the Legislature more power to undo the hard work of citizen initiatives, a right our constitution protects. Here's why you should VOTE AGAINST Amendment D:

Lies and Distractions:

- Amendment D tricks voters into giving more power to the Legislature. Politicians and special interest groups behind it know people don't want to lose their rights, so they are using sneaky language to hide their real goal: to take away your rights and

give themselves more power. Don't be fooled.

- There's no need to change the constitution to allow more time to gather signatures or to stop foreign interference in citizen initiatives. The Legislature can act by changing laws. There is no reason to push for a constitutional amendment. Amendment D is a trick by politicians to take away your power and ignore what Utahns vote for.

Here's the truth: In the last 20 years, Utahns have only been able to get 4 citizen initiatives on the ballot because the process is tough. Only 3 passed, and the Legislature changed all of them. Meanwhile, the Legislature has passed over 9,700 laws and proposed 32 constitutional amendments. If Amendment D passes, politicians can undo even more laws Utahns vote for, taking more power from the people and giving it to themselves.

Defend your constitutional rights, keep your voice in government, and stop the Legislature from taking away the power of citizen initiatives. **VOTE AGAINST Amendment D.**

-Senator Luz Escamilla and Representative Angela Romero

Argument Against

ARGUMENT AGAINST (S.J.R. 40) Proposal to Amend the Utah Constitution - Voter Legislative Power)

VOTE AGAINST Amendment D to protect your voice. Keep the power where it belongs – in your hands, not the legislature's.

Here's why you should VOTE AGAINST Amendment D:

- **Amendment D Takes Power Away from the People**
 - Our government should belong to the people, not the politicians who work for us. Amendment D would allow the legislature to undo and rewrite any laws passed through citizen initiatives. The Utah Supreme Court unanimously said that the Utah Constitution gives us the right to use citizen initiatives to help decide how our government works. Amendment D would let politicians overrule the will of the people, ignoring our votes and our voices. By VOTING AGAINST Amendment D, you protect your right to have the final say in how our government works.
- **Amendment D Tries to Trick You Into Giving More Power to Utah Politicians**
 - The politicians and special interests who wrote this amendment know that voters don't want to give up their constitutional rights. That's why they filled the amendment with confusing language meant to trick us. This amendment is designed to do one thing - take away our rights and give politicians more power. Don't fall for their tricks.
- **Amendment D is Opposed by Republicans, Democrats, and Independents**
 - We all want the freedom to make decisions that affect our lives. Citizen-led initiatives give us the power to make laws when elected officials don't do their

job. The Utah Supreme Court has said that this is a right belonging to us, the people of Utah. But Amendment D, which was rushed through in an “emergency” special Legislative Session, threatens that right by trying to change the Constitution to give more power to the legislature. Their dishonesty has brought people from all walks of life together to oppose Amendment D.

- **Amendment D is Not Needed**

- Over the past 100 years, the Utah Constitution has allowed citizen initiatives, but they have only been used seven times to create new laws in the state. It's hard to pass a citizen initiative, and it should be. Citizens must collect nearly 15,000 signatures from registered voters all over the state, and then the proposed law must be approved by a majority of voters on a ballot before it becomes law. The legislature is using scare tactics about the system being abused to distract us from their real goal – to give themselves the entire power to undo and rewrite any laws we pass through this process.

- **Protect Your Rights by VOTING AGAINST Amendment D**

- Our constitution should protect us – not give more power to the legislature. The Utah Supreme Court recently said that changing our government is a job for both the people and the legislature. The Court made it clear that the legislature needs to be very careful when changing the goals set by citizen initiatives, using a close and careful review called strict scrutiny. Amendment D tries to undo this unanimous Utah Supreme Court decision, take away our rights, and give too much power to the legislature. Amendment D is against our state's values. This isn't the Utah way.

As Utahns, we've always valued the power of the people to shape our future. Amendment D would give the legislature more power to undo the hard work of citizen initiatives, a right granted by our constitution. By **VOTING AGAINST Amendment D**, you're protecting your rights and keeping your voice strong. Let's keep the laws we vote for in the hands of the people – not just the legislature.

Stand up for your rights. Protect the power to keep citizen initiatives safe from abuse by the legislature. VOTE AGAINST Amendment D.

–Senator Luz Escamilla and Representative Angela Romero

Rebuttal to the Argument Against

To REALLY protect your voice, VOTE FOR Amendment D.

Amendment D:

Protects Utah from Foreign Influence: By prohibiting foreign contributions to initiatives from places like China and Russia, we keep Utah's future in Utah's hands.

Keeps Power with the People: It gives Utahns 50% more time to override laws through referendum process. This supports grassroots efforts and makes legislators directly accountable.

It does NOT strip power from the people – it DOES prevent foreign manipulation while improving local control.

Maintains a Time-Tested Process: It keeps checks and balances that have existed in our initiative process for over 120 years and led to Utah's success as the best-managed state in the nation.

Provides Needed Protections: Outside dark money groups are spending millions on initiatives across the country; it's essential Utah has safeguards in place so our laws reflect our values. **Amendment D preserves local control and ensures Utah's laws are determined by Utahns—not outside interests.**

Clearly Respects the Will of the People: This straightforward measure sets requirements for the legislature to follow the intent of initiatives passed by Utahns. It keeps Utah's voice strong and guarantees that Utah's laws reflect the will of its people.

Supported in Every Corner of the State: Amendment D is supported by a wide range of commonsense Utahns, including Republicans, Democrats and Independents.

Voting FOR Amendment D guards Utah's laws from foreign interference, protects Utah's voices, preserves local control and enhances citizen involvement!

VOTE FOR Amendment D to keep Utah's future in Utahns' hands.

Sen. Kirk A. Cullimore – Rep. Jordan D. Teuscher

Full Text of Constitutional Amendment D

PROPOSAL TO AMEND UTAH CONSTITUTION - VOTER LEGISLATIVE POWER

2024 Fourth Special Session

Utah Constitution Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

ARTICLE I, SECTION 2

ARTICLE VI, SECTION 1

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, two-thirds of all members elected to each of the two houses voting in favor thereof:

Section 1. It is proposed to amend Utah Constitution, Article I, Section 2, to read:

Article I, Section 2 . All political power inherent in the people

All political power is inherent in the people; and all free governments are founded on their authority for their equal protection and benefit, and they have the right to alter or reform their government through the processes established in Article VI, Section 1, Subsection (2), or through Article XXIII as the public welfare may require.

Section 2. It is proposed to amend Utah Constitution, Article VI, Section 1, to read:

Article VI, Section 1 . Power vested in Senate, House, and People -- Prohibition of foreign influence on initiatives and referenda.

(1) The Legislative power of the State shall be vested in:

(a) a Senate and House of Representatives which shall be designated the Legislature of the State of Utah; and

(b) the people of the State of Utah as provided in Subsection (2).

(2)(a)(i) The legal voters of the State of Utah, in the numbers, under the conditions, in the manner, and within the time provided by statute, may:

(A) initiate any desired legislation and cause it to be submitted to the people for adoption upon a majority vote of those voting on the legislation, as provided by statute; or

(B) require any law passed by the Legislature, except those laws passed by a two-thirds vote of the members elected to each house of the Legislature, to be submitted to the voters of the State, as provided by statute, before the law may take effect.

(ii) Notwithstanding Subsection (2)(a)(i)(A), legislation initiated to allow, limit, or prohibit the taking of wildlife or the season for or method of taking wildlife shall be adopted upon approval of two-thirds of those voting.

(b) The legal voters of any county, city, or town, in the numbers, under the conditions, in the manner, and within the time provided by statute, may:

(i) initiate any desired legislation and cause it to be submitted to the people of the county, city, or town for adoption upon a majority vote of those voting on the legislation, as provided by statute; or

(ii) require any law or ordinance passed by the law making body of the county, city, or town to be submitted to the voters thereof, as provided by statute, before the law or ordinance may take effect.

(3)(a) Foreign individuals, entities, or governments may not, directly or indirectly, influence, support, or oppose an initiative or a referendum.

(b) The Legislature may provide, by statute, definitions, scope, and enforcement of the prohibition under Subsection (3)(a).

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, the people's exercise of their Legislative power as provided in Subsection (2) does not limit or preclude the exercise of Legislative power, including through amending, enacting, or repealing a law, by the Legislature, or by a law making body of a county, city, or town, on behalf of the people whom they are elected to represent.

Section 3. Submittal to voters.

The lieutenant governor is directed to submit this proposed amendment to the voters of the state at the next regular general election in the manner provided by law.

Section 4. Contingent effective date.

If the amendment proposed by this joint resolution is approved by a majority of those voting on it at the next regular general election, the amendment shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

Section 5. Retrospective operation.

The actions affecting Article I, Section 2 and Article VI, Section 1, Subsection (4) have retrospective operation.

2024 GENERAL ELECTION

Voter Information Pamphlet

PROPOSITION #12

Shall Uintah County Resolution #5-21-2024 R1 imposing a 0.3% local option sales tax for public safety purposes under U.C.A. 59-12-2216 be repealed?

- FOR
 - AGAINST
-

In 2024, the Utah Legislature authorized counties, such as Uintah County, to impose a sales and use tax to include funding for public safety purposes. The Uintah County Commission adopted by resolution the imposition of said tax to generate an estimated \$4,485,000 in annual revenue. The Uintah County Commission allocated 100% of this revenue to the Uintah County Sheriff's Office for public safety purposes.

The repeal of this resolution will result in a loss of that revenue for public safety services. Currently, the Uintah County Sheriff's Office is being funded by revenues, property tax, sales tax, and county savings. Repeal of this 0.3% sales tax will require Uintah County to continue the current funding configuration.

Argument FOR

The arguments for or against a ballot proposition are the opinions of the authors.

None submitted timely.

Argument AGAINST

In the fall of 2023 Uintah County held a Truth in Taxation hearing where Uintah County residents expressed a preference to explore alternative funding sources, rather than a property tax rate increase. This year the State of Utah authorized counties to implement a 0.3% sales tax increase, which is \$.30 on a \$100.00 purchase. This provided the Uintah County Commission with an option to continue to support public safety services while not increasing property tax rates. As a result, the Uintah County Commission adopted Resolution #5-21-2024 R1 imposing a 0.3% local option sales tax for public safety purposes under U.C.A. 59-12-2216. The sales tax is expected to generate an estimated \$4,485,000 in revenue annually, distributing the financial responsibility more broadly to residents, tourists, and visitors, rather than solely on property owners. With the costs to provide public safety services continually on the rise nationwide, the Commission will allocate 100% of this additional revenue to a dedicated special fund to support the Uintah County Sheriff's Office for public safety services. The Uintah County Sheriff's Office is currently funded by contracts for services, sales tax revenues, property tax, and County savings. Without the proposed sales tax, the County will face a revenue shortfall, potentially leading to service reductions. To balance the 2024 County Operating Budget, the County has allocated \$3,727,900 from savings. The requested 2025 County Operating Budget would require \$4,596,100 from savings. The local sales tax option will assist in alleviating these strains. The Uintah County Commission urges voters to vote against Proposition #12. A vote AGAINST Proposition #12 is a vote in support of your local law enforcement.
John Laursen, Commissioner
Sonja Norton, Commissioner

Fiscal and Legal Impact Statement

- i. This fiscal and legal impact statement prepared on behalf of Uintah County as presented regarding Resolution #5-21-2024 R1, approved on May 21, 2024, for the purpose of imposing a 0.3% Sales and Use Tax for Public Safety purposes as permitted under UCA 59-12-2216. The fiscal impact of repealing Resolution #5-21-2024 R1 is estimated to be a \$4,485,000 loss in revenue intended solely for the purpose of Public Safety. Specifically referring to the services involving the Uintah County Jail and the Uintah County Sheriff Department.
- ii. Repealing Resolution #5-21-2024 R1 would decrease the County sales tax by 0.30%, an estimated revenue of \$4,485,000.
- iii. Repealing Resolution #5-21-2024 R1 would result in no change in the issuance or status of bonds, notes, or other debt instruments.
- iv. The repeal of Resolution #5-21-2024 R1 will result in an estimated loss of \$4,485,000 for public safety services that will have to be funded by property tax.
- v. The repeal of Resolution #5-21-2024 R1 will cost the County \$4,485,000 to provide Public Safety services to the citizens of Uintah County. The approved 2024 budget for Public Safety services for the Sheriff and Jail alone are \$14,584,500. Revenues from Public Safety services are \$4,518,900 leaving expenses over revenues of \$10,065,000. The County is currently funding this short fall with \$3.5 million from savings. Property tax and other sales tax cover the balance. This will secure funding for Public Safety without the use of savings.
- vi. There are no legal impacts that would result from repealing Resolution #5-21-2024 R1.
- vii. Concise explanation of the information described in this section and estimated fiscal impact if repealed.

If Resolution #5-21-2024 R1 is repealed, the imposed 0.3% Sales and Use Tax will not provide Public Safety with the estimated \$4,485,000 in revenue for ongoing expenses for the Uintah County Jail and the Sheriff Department. Public Safety is a crucial service to the community. Considering inflation, demand for services, and other unknown future events, Resolution #5-21-2024 R1 is expected to reduce the deficits that are not currently being covered by revenues the Jail and Sheriff generate. This Resolution is intended to help Public Safety with specific funds for growth, safety, and security for the citizens of Uintah County.

**You can find a copy of Resolution #5-21-2024 R1 on the County Website:
Uintah.gov/referendum.**

For more information regarding other items on the ballot, constitutional amendments and candidates, please go to votesearch.utah.gov

If you have any questions regarding the Election, please contact the Uintah County Clerk-Auditor's office at 435-781-5360 or visit the website: Uintah.gov/Elections.