



MINUTES

HOUSE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS STANDING COMMITTEE

LEGISLATURE

Thursday, February 20, 2025 | 4:00 p.m. | 30 House Building

Members Present:

Rep. Jefferson S. Burton, Chair
Rep. Michael J. Petersen, Vice Chair
Rep. Paul A. Cutler
Rep. Doug Fiefia
Rep. Sahara Hayes
Rep. Anthony E. Loubet
Rep. Matt MacPherson
Rep. A. Cory Maloy

Rep. Candice B. Pierucci
Rep. Angela Romero
Rep. Andrew Stoddard
Rep. Jason E. Thompson
Rep. Douglas R. Welton

Staff Present:

Megan L. Bolin, Senior Policy Analyst
Karen C. Allred, Committee Secretary

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

Chair Burton called the meeting to order at 4:18 p.m.

MOTION: Rep. Stoddard moved to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2025, meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 6.

Yeas - 7

Rep. J. Burton
Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. A. Loubet
Rep. A. Maloy
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. A. Stoddard
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 0

Absent - 6

Rep. D. Fiefia
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. M. Petersen
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. J. Thompson

1. H.B. 165 Process for Submitting Nonbinding Opinion Question (*Thurston, N.*)

Rep. Norm Thurston presented the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Hayes moved to amend H.B. 165 with Amendment #1. The motion passed with a vote of 9 - 0 - 4.

Amendment 1

1 . Line 585 through 590:

585 the nonbinding opinion question; and
586 (b)immediately after the board of county canvassers adjourns, transmit the abstract to the lieutenant governor.
587 {(b)seal the transcript, endorse on the transcript, "Election Returns," and transmit the
588 transcript to the lieutenant governor's office so that the lieutenant governor receives
589 the transcript on or before the fifth day before the day designated for the meeting of
590 the state board of canvassers.}
(3)The state board of canvassers established under Section 20A-4-306 shall meet to

Yeas - 9

Rep. J. Burton
Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. D. Fiefia
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. A. Loubet
Rep. A. Maloy
Rep. M. Petersen
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 0Absent - 4

Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. A. Stoddard
Rep. J. Thompson

MOTION: Rep. Hayes moved to pass H.B. 165, as amended, out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 3 - 3.

Yeas - 7

Rep. J. Burton
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. A. Loubet
Rep. A. Maloy
Rep. M. Petersen
Rep. A. Stoddard
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 3

Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. D. Fiefia
Rep. C. Pierucci

Absent - 3

Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. J. Thompson

2. H.B. 298 Volunteer Emergency Medical Service Personnel Insurance Program Amendments (Welton, D.)

Rep. Douglas Welton presented the bill.

MOTION: Chair Burton moved to amend H.B. 298 with Amendment #1. The motion passed with a vote of 10 - 0 - 3.

Amendment 1**1. Line 34 through 36:**

- 34 (i) is licensed as a ground ambulance provider under Part 5, Ambulance and
35 Paramedic Providers or a quick response provider as designated under 53-2d-403; and
36 (ii) does not offer health insurance benefits to volunteer emergency medical service

Yeas - 10

Rep. J. Burton
Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. D. Fiefia
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. A. Loubet
Rep. A. Maloy
Rep. M. Petersen
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. A. Stoddard
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 0Absent - 3

Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. J. Thompson

MOTION: Rep. Maloy moved to pass H.B. 298, as amended, out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 10 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 10

Rep. J. Burton
Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. D. Fiefia
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. A. Loubet
Rep. A. Maloy
Rep. M. Petersen
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. A. Stoddard
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 0Absent - 3

Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. J. Thompson

3. H.J.R. 10 Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution - Publication Amendments (*Loubet, A.*)

Rep. Anthony Loubet presented the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Hayes moved to pass H.J.R. 10 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 10 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 10

Rep. J. Burton
Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. D. Fiefia
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. A. Loubet
Rep. A. Maloy
Rep. M. Petersen
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. A. Stoddard
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 0Absent - 3

Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. J. Thompson

4. H.B. 481 Ballot Proposition Requirements (*Loubet, A.*)

Rep. Anthony Loubet presented the bill.

Katharine Biele, citizen, spoke to the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Fiefia moved to pass H.B. 481 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 11

Rep. J. Burton
Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. D. Fiefia
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. A. Loubet
Rep. A. Maloy
Rep. M. Petersen
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. A. Stoddard
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 0Absent - 2

Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. J. Thompson

Rep. Petersen assumed the chair.

5. 1st Sub. H.B. 412 Boards and Commissions Revisions (*Burton, J.*)

Rep. Jefferson Burton presented the bill.

Chase Thomas, Senior Policy Advisor, Alliance for a Better Utah, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Josh Craft, Director, Government Relations, Utah Clean Energy, spoke to the bill.

Kael Weston, Salt Lake County resident, spoke to the bill.

Anna Graff-Rice, Weber County resident, spoke to the bill.

Nat Williams, Democracy Policy Associate, Stewardship Utah, spoke to the bill.

MOTION: Rep. MacPherson moved to pass 1st Substitute H.B. 412 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 8 - 3 - 2.

Yeas - 8

Rep. J. Burton
Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. D. Fiefia
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. M. Petersen
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. J. Thompson
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 3

Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. A. Loubet
Rep. A. Romero

Absent - 2

Rep. A. Maloy
Rep. A. Stoddard

Rep. Burton resumed the chair.

6. H.B. 445 Revisions to Election Law (*Fiefia, D.*)

Rep. Doug Fiefia presented the bill.

Lannie Chapman, Salt Lake County Clerk, representing the Clerks Group and the Utah Association of Counties, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Aaron Davidson, Utah County Clerk, spoke in favor of the bill.

Charlene Lui, Utah Asian Pacific Islander Democratic Caucus and Board Member, American Civil Liberties Union of Utah, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Amy Buchanan, citizen, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Tara Bennally, Utah Navajos, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Jakey Siolo, Chair, Asian Pacific Islander Democratic Caucus spoke in opposition to the bill.

Pax Stevenson, citizen, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Shelly Jackson, Deputy Director of Elections, Lieutenant Governor's Office, spoke to the bill.

Chase Thomas, Senior Policy Advisor, Alliance for a Better Utah, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Ellie Menlove, Policy Council, American Civil Liberties Utah of Utah, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Helen Moser, Director, Voter Services, League of Women Voters, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Lauren Griffeth, Salt Lake resident, spoke to the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Pierucci moved to replace H.B. 445 with 1st Substitute H.B. 445. The motion passed with a vote of 12 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 12

Rep. J. Burton
Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. D. Fiefia
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. A. Loubet
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. A. Maloy
Rep. M. Petersen
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. A. Stoddard
Rep. J. Thompson

Nays - 0Absent - 1

Rep. D. Welton

MOTION: Rep. Pierucci moved to pass 1st Substitute H.B. 445 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 8 - 5 - 0.

Yeas - 8

Rep. J. Burton
Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. D. Fiefia
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. M. Petersen
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. J. Thompson
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 5

Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. A. Loubet
Rep. A. Maloy
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. A. Stoddard

Absent - 0

MOTION: Rep. Stoddard moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 13 - 0 - 0.

Yeas - 13

Rep. J. Burton
Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. D. Fiefia
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. A. Loubet
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. A. Maloy
Rep. M. Petersen
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. A. Stoddard
Rep. J. Thompson
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 0Absent - 0

Chair Burton adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.