



DRAFT MINUTES

LEGISLATIVE AUDIT SUBCOMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 18, 2025 | 4:30 p.m. | 445 State Capitol

Members Present:

President J. Stuart Adams, Co-chair
Speaker Mike Schultz, Co-chair
Sen. Kirk A. Cullimore
Sen. Luz Escamilla
Rep. Angela Romero

Rep. Casey Snider

Staff Present:

Brian J. Dean, Deputy Auditor General
Donna Hernandez, Office Manager
Darin R. Underwood, Deputy Auditor General
Kade R. Minchey, Auditor General

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

Speaker Schultz called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM.

1. Audit Report Presentations

Mr. Darin Underwood, Deputy Auditor General, introduced A Systemic Performance Audit of the Tooele County School District (Report # 2025-10).

[A Systemic Performance Audit of the Tooele County School District \(Report 2025-10\)](#)

Mr. Underwood and Ms. Abigail Armstrong, Performance Audit Supervisor, presented the findings of the audit.

Melissa Rich, President of Tooele County School Board and Dr. Mark Ernst, Superintendent of Tooele County School District responded to the findings of the audit.

Dr. Ernst responded to a question from Representative Romero regarding the morale of the teachers.

Speaker Schultz thanked Tooele County School District for working cohesively with the auditors.

MOTION: President Adams moved to refer A Systemic Performance Audit of Tooele County School District (Report #2025-10) to the Education Interim Committee as the lead committee and to the Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee as the review committee. The motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 4

Sen. J. Adams
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. C. Snider

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Sen. K. Cullimore
Sen. L. Escamilla

2. Committee Business

MOTION: President Adams made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 20, 2025, meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0 - 2.

Yea - 4
Sen. J. Adams
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. C. Snider

Nays - 0

Absent - 2
Sen. K. Cullimore
Sen. L. Escamilla

3. Audit Report Presentations

Ms. Leah Blevins, Audit Manager, introduced A Performance Audit of Sensitive Materials in Schools (Report #2025-11).

[**A Performance Audit of Sensitive Materials in Schools \(Report #2025-11\)**](#)

Ms. Blevins and Ms. Morgan Hagey, Lead Auditor, presented the findings of the audit.

Ms. Blevins responded to a question from Speaker Schultz regarding who is responsible for ensuring a keyword filter is enabled on the databases being used by schools.

Ms. Blevins and Ms. Hagey continued their presentation on the findings of the audit.

Ms. Hagey responded to a question from Representative Romero on the findings within the Utah Schools Database.

Ms. Blevins clarified the auditor's findings within the Utah Schools Database.

Ms. Hagey responded to a question from Representative Romero regarding the accessibility to pornography at school.

Ms. Blevins and Ms. Hagey continued their presentation on the findings of the audit.

President Adams commented on why library content cannot be researched by teachers and librarians.

Speaker Schultz commented on the fact that the Legislature's response is more reactive, and LEAs should be proactive in keeping inappropriate materials out of the libraries.

Ms. Blevins responded to a question from Senator Cullimore regarding the narrowness of the scope of the audit.

Senator Cullimore commented on the keyword filtering not being adequate and highlighted the fact the scope of the existing audit was not broad enough to encompass all the tech and all concerns out there.

Representative Romero commented on being mindful of the fight with cell phones and the access issues that come with that.

Dr. Molly Hart, Superintendent, Utah State Board of Education (USBE), responded to the findings of the audit.

Dr. Hart responded to a question from Speaker Schultz regarding whether USBE has the authority to be proactive on some of the issues found in the audit.

Speaker Schultz clarified that USBE does have the authority and encouraged USBE to address some of the issues before bringing them to the legislature.

Dr. Hart commented on the balancing act they face when working with two groups of people: the Legislature and the Board, and Legislature and the LEA's..

President Adams commented on how the district school board and the LEAs should police their libraries and address the concerns of the parents.

Dr. Hart responded to a question from Representative Romero regarding communication gaps between LEAs and the personal classroom libraries of the teachers.

MOTION: Given the seriousness of this issue, President Adams moved that the auditors continue their review of sensitive materials. Specifically, they should conduct a limited review of content flagged by parents and legislators and report back on their findings. This will help ensure policy makers have the information they need to make informed decisions about any future policy changes. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 5

Sen. J. Adams
Sen. K. Cullimore
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. C. Snider

Nays - 0

Absent - 1

Sen. L. Escamilla

MOTION:

President Adams moved to refer A Performance Audit of Sensitive Materials in Schools to the Education Interim Committee as the lead committee and to the Public Education Appropriations Committee as the review committee. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 5

Sen. J. Adams
Sen. K. Cullimore
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. C. Snider

Nays - 0

Absent - 1

Sen. L. Escamilla

4. Audit Report Presentations

Mr. Brian Dean Deputy Auditor General, introduced A Second In-Depth Follow-Up of Healthcare in State Prisons (Report #2025-12)

[A Second In-Depth Follow-Up of Healthcare in State Prisons \(Report #2025-12\)](#)

Mr. Dean, Ms. Nicole Luscher, Audit Supervisor, and Mr. Brendon Ressler, Lead Auditor, presented the findings of the audit.

Mr. Dean responded to a question from Representative Snider regarding what the legislature can do to help ensure the recommendations are met.

Ms. Tracy Gruber, Executive Director, Department of Health and Human Services and Ms. Rebecca Brown, Deputy Executive Director, Department of Corrections, responded to the findings of the audit.

Speaker Schultz thanked Ms. Brown for the work done to improve healthcare in state prisons and the department's willingness to work on some of the issues found in the recommendations.

Ms. Brown responded to a question from Senator Escamilla regarding data collections.

Ms. Brown responded to a question from President Adams regarding funding and a culture change with employees.

MOTION:

Given the need to ensure this issue continues to move in the right direction, President Adams moved to prioritize a two-year follow-up audit of healthcare services in state prisons. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 0.

Yeas - 6 Nays - 0Absent - 0

Sen. J. Adams
Sen. K. Cullimore
Sen. L. Escamilla
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. C. Snider

Representative Romero commented on improvements in staff retention since the partnership with the Department of Health and Human Services.

MOTION: President Adams moved to refer A Second In-Depth Follow-Up of Healthcare in State Prisons to the Social Services Appropriations Committee as the lead committee and to the Health and Human Services Interim Committee as the review committee. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 0.

Yeas - 6 Nays - 0Absent - 0

Sen. J. Adams
Sen. K. Cullimore
Sen. L. Escamilla
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. C. Snider

5. Other Business

Mr. Kade Minchey, Auditor General, introduced proposed changes to the Approved Practices and Policies of the Legislative Audit Subcommittee.

[The Approved Practices and Policies of the Legislative Audit Subcommittees](#)

Mr. Dean discussed the proposed changes to the Practices and Policies of the Legislative Audit Subcommittee.

MOTION: President Adams moved to approve the updates to the Practices and Policies of the Legislative Audit Subcommittee. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 0.

Yeas - 6 Nays - 0Absent - 0

Sen. J. Adams
Sen. K. Cullimore
Sen. L. Escamilla
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. C. Snider

MOTION: President Adams moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:18 PM. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 0.

Yeas - 6 Nays - 0Absent - 0

Sen. J. Adams
Sen. K. Cullimore
Sen. L. Escamilla
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. C. Snider