

December 18, 2025

Meeting



2026 General Session Process - *DRAFT*

Policy Review Committee role - *DRAFT*

- Meets weekly and creates a bill tracker on behavioral health legislation.
- Bill positions:
 - **Priority Support:** Priority for passage
 - **Support:** Support the bill
 - **Support In Concept:** Support but there is an area of concern
 - **NEW - Request Revisions:** Request revisions to the bill (requires position statement outlining the requested revisions)
 - **For discussion** - Consider use of the **Oppose** position
 - **No Position:** Neutral
 - **Hold:** Hold the bill for further information

Communications with Commission - *DRAFT*

- Staff will send the weekly bill tracker to commissioners.
- The Policy Review Committee will invite commissioners to attend all weekly meetings.
 - Commissioners may comment on bills as members of the public during weekly meetings.
 - Commissioners may communicate input on bills via email to staff.
- The Policy Review Committee members are representatives of the Behavioral Health Commission in their interactions with the Legislature.

Commission role - *DRAFT*

- Legislators can present legislation to Commission at 1/15/2026 meeting.
- Staff will email commissioners to flag any bills that:
 - The Policy Review Committee deems as high priority; or
 - Explicitly impact the Commission.
- Commission conducts two - three votes (voting by email as needed) to vote on priority legislation.
 - Maximum of ten bills.
 - **Will the Commission oppose any legislation?**
- Commissioners testify on legislation directly related to Commission's strategic plan or annual priorities.
- Staff may communicate with legislators on behalf of the Commission.

Key dates

- **Thursday, January 15:** Commission meeting
 - Legislators present bills to discuss with commissioners
- **Tuesday, January 20:** First day of session
- **Thursday, February 5:** Conduct e-vote on priority bills
 - Staff will circulate potential bills for vote on Thursday, January 29
- **Thursday, February 18:** Commission meeting
 - Conduct second vote on priority bills
- **Friday, March 6:** Last day of session

Potential Updates to Legislative Recommendations

Recommendations approved July 2025

Rank	Recommendation	One-time cost	Ongoing cost
1	Expand the capacity of the state hospital	\$88,800,000	\$5,000,000
2	Support two mobile crisis outreach teams (MCOTs)	\$1,600,450	\$1,600,450
3	Develop two rural receiving centers	\$6,900,000	\$2,400,000
4	Ensure access to peer recovery support services	\$0	\$10,000,000
5	Improve transportation for behavioral health crises	\$600,000	\$0
6	Support community and clinical suicide prevention training	\$0	\$100,000
7	Fund family outreach specialists for suicide surveillance	\$0	\$299,700
8	Support the Live On Utah suicide prevention campaign	\$0	\$850,000
9	Develop Center for School Health and Wellbeing Partnerships	\$0	\$3,500,000
10	Expand behavioral health screening for children	\$1,970,000	\$475,000

Decision points

- Determine whether to **change or remove** any of the original ten recommendations, including:
 - Reduce State Hospital request to 30 beds.
 - Reduce receiving center request to one receiving center.
 - Reduce requested funding for peer recovery support services.
- Determine whether to **add** any recommendations requested by legislators:
 - Increase Medicaid collaborative care rates.
 - Funding for SafeUT National Guard.
- Specific bills could be reviewed through the process described earlier.