



MINUTES

SENATE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS STANDING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 4, 2025 | 4:00 p.m. | 220 Senate Building

Members Present:

Sen. Ronald M. Winterton, Chair
Sen. Nate Blouin
Sen. Michael K. McKell
Sen. Jen Plumb
Sen. Scott D. Sandall

Sen. Daniel W. Thatcher
Sen. Evan J. Vickers

Staff Present:

Nathan W. Brady, Policy Analyst
Lorna Wells, Committee Secretary

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

Chair Winterton called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

MOTION: Sen. Blouin moved to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2025 meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 4

Sen. N. Blouin
Sen. S. Sandall
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Sen. M. McKell
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. D. Thatcher

1. 1st Sub. H.B. 250 Public Employee Gender-specific Language Requirements (Peck, N.)

Rep. Nicholeen Peck presented the bill with the assistance of former Rep. Tim Jimenez and Carlos Jimenez, middle school teacher.

Diane Livingston, Worldwide Organization for Women, spoke in favor of the bill.

Marina Lowe, Policy Director, Equality Utah, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Maryann Christensen, Executive Director, Utah Legislative Watch, spoke in favor of the bill.

Zee Kilpack, trans community, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Kayla Aiken, Unite Utah, spoke in opposition of the bill.

Neca Allgood, transgender parent, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Yvonne Averett, former public school teacher, spoke in favor of the bill.

Elizabeth Fereday, resident, spoke in opposition of the bill.

Jakey Siolo, Vice Chair, Salt Lake Central Ninth Youth Prevention Coalition, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Sen. Thatcher assumed the chair.

MOTION: Sen. Vickers moved to pass 1st Substitute H.B. 250 out favorably. The motion failed with a vote of 2 - 3 - 2.

Yeas - 2
Sen. M. McKell
Sen. E. Vickers

Nays - 3
Sen. N. Blouin
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. D. Thatcher

Absent - 2
Sen. S. Sandall
Sen. R. Winterton

2. 3rd Sub. H.B. 270 Voter Registration Records Amendments (Lee, T.)

Rep. Trevor Lee presented the bill with the assistance of Brian McKenzie, Davis County Clerk and Ryan Axson, Chair, Republican party.

Maryann Christensen, Executive Director, Utah Legislative Watch, spoke in favor of the bill.

Rick Jorgensen, resident, spoke to the bill.

Courtenay Ellison, resident, spoke in favor of the bill.

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

MOTION: Sen. McKell moved to replace 3rd Substitute H.B. 270 with 4th Substitute H.B. 270. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 6
Sen. N. Blouin
Sen. M. McKell
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. S. Sandall
Sen. D. Thatcher
Sen. E. Vickers

Nays - 0

Absent - 1
Sen. R. Winterton

MOTION: Sen. McKell moved to pass 4th Substitute H.B. 270 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 6
Sen. N. Blouin
Sen. M. McKell
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. S. Sandall
Sen. D. Thatcher
Sen. E. Vickers

Nays - 0

Absent - 1
Sen. R. Winterton

3. 1st Sub. H.B. 423 Voting Registration Amendments (Lee, T.)

Rep. Trevor Lee presented the bill.

Brian McKenzie, Clerks of Utah, spoke in favor of the bil.

Kayla Aiken, Unite Utah, spoke in favor to the bill.

MOTION: Sen. McKell moved to pass 1st Substitute H.B. 423 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 6

Sen. N. Blouin
Sen. M. McKell
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. S. Sandall
Sen. D. Thatcher
Sen. E. Vickers

Nays - 0

Absent - 1

Sen. R. Winterton

Sen. Winterton resumed the chair.

4. 1st Sub. H.B. 435 Building Code Amendments (Kohler, M.)

Rep. Michael Kohler presented the bill.

[HB 435 Handout](#)

Terry Camp, Vice President, Public Policy, Utah Farm Bureau Federation, spoke in favor of the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Sandall moved to pass 1st Substitute H.B. 435 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 0.

Yeas - 7

Sen. N. Blouin
Sen. M. McKell
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. S. Sandall
Sen. D. Thatcher
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 0

5. 2nd Sub. H.B. 445 Revisions to Election Law (Fiefia, D.)

Rep. Doug Fiefiu presented the bill.

[HB 445 LRGC Bill Analysis](#)

Ricky Hatch, Weber County Clerk/Auditor spoke in opposition to the bill.

Lannie Chapman, Salt Lake County Clerk, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Leslie Zabristkie, Mormon Women for Ethical Government, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Helen Moser, Utah League of Women Voters, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Robert Axson, Chair, Utah Republican Party, spoke in favor of the bill.

Marilyn Momeny, resident, spoke in favor of the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Thatcher moved to hold 2nd Substitute H.B. 445 and suggest it for interim study. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 1 - 0.

<u>Yeas - 6</u> Sen. N. Blouin Sen. J. Plumb Sen. S. Sandall Sen. D. Thatcher Sen. E. Vickers Sen. R. Winterton	<u>Nays - 1</u> Sen. M. McKell	<u>Absent - 0</u>
---	-----------------------------------	-------------------

6. 3rd Sub. H.B. 364 Governmental Immunity Amendments (*Christofferson, K.*)

Rep. Kay Christofferson presented the bill.

Heidi Alder, attorney, spoke in favor of the bill.

Jared Tingey, Legal Director, Utah League of Cities and Towns spoke in favor of the bill.

Ryan Peterson, City of American Fork, spoke in favor of the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Thatcher moved to pass 3rd Substitute H.B. 364 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 4 - 2 - 1.

<u>Yeas - 4</u> Sen. N. Blouin Sen. D. Thatcher Sen. E. Vickers Sen. R. Winterton	<u>Nays - 2</u> Sen. M. McKell Sen. J. Plumb	<u>Absent - 1</u> Sen. S. Sandall
---	--	--------------------------------------

7. 1st Sub. H.B. 504 Financial and Conflict of Interest Disclosures by Candidates Amendments (*Shepherd, L.*)

Rep. Lisa Shepherd presented the bill.

[HB 504 LRG Bill Analysis](#)

Robert Axson, Chair, Utah Republican Party spoke in favor of the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Thatcher moved to pass 1st Substitute H.B. 504 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 0.

<u>Yeas - 7</u> Sen. N. Blouin Sen. M. McKell Sen. J. Plumb Sen. S. Sandall Sen. D. Thatcher Sen. E. Vickers Sen. R. Winterton	<u>Nays - 0</u>	<u>Absent - 0</u>
---	-----------------	-------------------

8. 1st Sub. H.B. 379 Population Data Amendments (*Gricius, S.*)

Sen. McKell presented the bill.

Karson Eilers, Utah League of Cities and Towns, spoke in favor of the bill.

MOTION: Sen. McKell moved to pass 1st Substitute H.B. 379 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 0.

Yeas - 7

Nays - 0

Absent - 0

Sen. N. Blouin
Sen. M. McKell
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. S. Sandall
Sen. D. Thatcher
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

9. 2nd Sub. H.B. 369 Elections Office (Wilcox, R.)

Rep. Ryan Wilcox presented the bill.

Marilyn Momeny, resident, spoke in favor of the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Thatcher moved to pass 2nd Substitute H.B. 369 out favorably. The motion failed with a vote of 2 - 5 - 0.

Yeas - 2

Nays - 5

Absent - 0

Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. D. Thatcher

Sen. N. Blouin
Sen. M. McKell
Sen. S. Sandall
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

10. 4th Sub. H.B. 351 Election Day Amendments (Wilcox, R.)

Rep. Ryan Wilcox presented the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Thatcher moved to pass 4th Substitute H.B. 351 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 1 - 1.

Yeas - 5

Nays - 1

Absent - 1

Sen. N. Blouin
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. D. Thatcher
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Sen. S. Sandall

Sen. M. McKell

MOTION: Sen. Vickers moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 0.

Yeas - 7

Nays - 0

Absent - 0

Sen. N. Blouin
Sen. M. McKell
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. S. Sandall
Sen. D. Thatcher
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Chair Winterton adjourned the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

NOTE: 02nd Substitute H.B. 0284, 02nd Substitute H.B. 0356, 03rd Substitute H.B. 0403 were not discussed in the meeting.