



# DRAFT MINUTES

## SENATE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS STANDING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 17, 2026 | 4:00 p.m. | 220 Senate Building

**Members Present:**

Sen. Ronald M. Winterton, Chair  
Sen. Nate Blouin  
Sen. Emily Buss  
Sen. Michael K. McKell  
Sen. Jen Plumb

Sen. Scott D. Sandall  
Sen. Evan J. Vickers

**Staff Present:**

Devon Schechinger, Policy Analyst  
Zoe Adams, Committee Secretary

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

Chair Winterton called the meeting to order at 04:11 PM.

**MOTION:** Sen. Vickers moved to approve the minutes from February 13, 2026. The motion passed with a vote of 3 - 0 - 4.

Yeas - 3  
Sen. N. Blouin  
Sen. E. Vickers  
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 4  
Sen. E. Buss  
Sen. M. McKell  
Sen. J. Plumb  
Sen. S. Sandall

### 1. 1st Sub. H.B. 195 Precious Metals Amendments(Ivory, K.)

Rep. Ken Ivory presented the bill with the assistance of Marlo Oaks, Utah State Treasurer.

[H.B. 195.pdf](#)

Gayle Ruzicka, President, Utah Eagle Forum, spoke in favor of the bill.

Kim Coleman, Director, Strategic Relations at Goldback, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Stefan Gleason, President/CEO, Money Metals Exchange/Depositories, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Mike Carter, Co-Founder, National Security Investment Consultant Institute, spoke in favor of the bill.

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

**MOTION:** Sen. Plumb moved to pass HB0195S01 out favorably. The motion failed with a vote of 3 - 3 - 1.

Yeas - 3  
Sen. J. Plumb  
Sen. E. Vickers  
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 3  
Sen. N. Blouin  
Sen. E. Buss  
Sen. S. Sandall

Absent - 1  
Sen. M. McKell

### 2. 2nd Sub. H.B. 220 Public Safety Data Amendments(Wilcox, R.)

Rep. Ryan Wilcox presented the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Vickers moved to pass HB0220S02 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 6  
Sen. N. Blouin  
Sen. E. Buss  
Sen. J. Plumb  
Sen. S. Sandall  
Sen. E. Vickers  
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 1  
Sen. M. McKell

**3. 1st Sub. H.B. 215 Landscaping Restrictions Amendments(Peterson, T.)**

Rep. Thomas Peterson presented the bill.

Karson Eilers, Policy Director, Utah League of Cities and Towns, spoke to the bill.

Taz Biesinger, Utah Home Builders Associations, spoke in favor of the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Vickers moved to pass HB0215S01 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 6  
Sen. N. Blouin  
Sen. E. Buss  
Sen. J. Plumb  
Sen. S. Sandall  
Sen. E. Vickers  
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 1  
Sen. M. McKell

**4. 1st Sub. H.B. 309 1st Sub. H.B. 309 Juneteenth Observance Amendments(Hollins, S.)**

Rep. Sandra Hollins presented the bill.

Charles Evans, Utah Land Title Association, spoke in favor of the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. McKell moved to pass HB0309S01 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 0.

Yeas - 7  
Sen. N. Blouin  
Sen. E. Buss  
Sen. M. McKell  
Sen. J. Plumb  
Sen. S. Sandall  
Sen. E. Vickers  
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 0

**MOTION:** Sen. McKell moved to place HB0309S01 on the Consent Calendar. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 0.

Yeas - 7  
Sen. N. Blouin  
Sen. E. Buss  
Sen. M. McKell  
Sen. J. Plumb  
Sen. S. Sandall  
Sen. E. Vickers  
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 0

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



Yeas - 7

Nays - 0

Absent - 0

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

Chair Winterton adjourned the meeting at 5:15 PM.