



DRAFT MINUTES

SENATE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS STANDING COMMITTEE

LEGISLATURE

Thursday, February 19, 2026 | 8:00 a.m. | 220 Senate Building

Members Present:

Sen. Ronald M. Winterton, Chair
Sen. Nate Blouin
Sen. Emily Buss
Sen. Jen Plumb
Sen. Evan J. Vickers

Members Absent:

Sen. Michael K. McKell
Sen. Scott D. Sandall

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.

Chair Winterton called the meeting to order at 08:07 AM.

MOTION: Sen. Vickers moved to approve the minutes from February 17, 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. H.B. 324 Utah Marriage Commission Fee Amendments(*Ballard, M.G.*)

Rep. Melissa Ballard presented the bill with the assistance of Brian Higginbotham, Associate Vice President, Utah State University Extension and Bruce Hough, Chairman, Utah Marriage Commission.

[HB324_Host Comments.pptx](#)

[H.B. 324.pdf](#)

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

MOTION: Sen. Vickers moved to pass HB0324 out favorably. The motion failed with a vote of 2 - 3 - 2.

Yeas - 2

Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 3

Sen. N. Blouin
Sen. E. Buss
Sen. J. Plumb

Absent - 2

Sen. M. McKell
Sen. S. Sandall

2. S.B. 264 Elected Official Publicity Amendments(*Pitcher, S.*)

Sen. Stephanie Pitcher presented the bill with the assistance of Thom DeSirant, Council Member, Millcreek City Council.

MOTION: Sen. Vickers moved to replace SB0264 with SB0264S01. The motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0 - 3.



Yeas - 4
Sen. N. Blouin
Sen. E. Buss
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 3
Sen. M. McKell
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. S. Sandall

MOTION: Sen. Blouin moved to pass SB0264S01 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 5
Sen. N. Blouin
Sen. E. Buss
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 2
Sen. M. McKell
Sen. S. Sandall

MOTION: Sen. Vickers moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 5
Sen. N. Blouin
Sen. E. Buss
Sen. J. Plumb
Sen. E. Vickers
Sen. R. Winterton

Nays - 0

Absent - 2
Sen. M. McKell
Sen. S. Sandall

Chair Winterton adjourned the meeting at 8:40 AM.