



MINUTES

HOUSE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS STANDING COMMITTEE

LEGISLATURE

Tuesday, February 24, 2026 | 8:00 a.m. | 30 House Building

Members Present:

Rep. Jefferson S. Burton, Chair
Rep. Michael J. Petersen, Vice Chair
Rep. Paul A. Cutler
Rep. Sahara Hayes
Rep. Anthony E. Loubet
Rep. Matt MacPherson
Rep. A. Cory Maloy
Rep. Andrew Stoddard

Rep. Doug Welton

Members Absent:

Rep. Doug Fiefia
Rep. Candice B. Pierucci
Rep. Angela Romero

Staff Present:

Kirsi Jarvis, Policy Analyst
Karen C. Allred, Committee Secretary

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

Chair Burton called the meeting to order at 8:11 AM.

MOTION: Rep. Petersen moved to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2026 meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 5.

Yeas - 7

Rep. J. Burton
Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. A. Maloy
Rep. M. Petersen
Rep. A. Stoddard

Nays - 0

Absent - 5

Rep. D. Fiefia
Rep. A. Loubet
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. D. Welton

1. H.J.R. 25 Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution - Secretary of State(Shepherd, L.)

Rep. Lisa Shepherd presented the bill.

[HJR025 Establishing the Utah Secretary of State](#)

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

Dalane England, United Women's Forum, and Vice President, Utah Eagle Forum, spoke in favor of the bill.

Aaron Davidson, Utah County Clerk, spoke to the bill.

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

Bob McEntee, Chair, Utah Republican Veterans Caucus, representing self, spoke in favor of the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Maloy moved to pass HJR025 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 8 - 1 - 3.

Yeas - 8

Rep. J. Burton
Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. A. Loubet
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. A. Maloy
Rep. M. Petersen
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 1

Rep. A. Stoddard

Absent - 3

Rep. D. Fiefia
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. A. Romero

2. H.B. 529 Secretary of State Amendments(*Shepherd, L.*)

Rep. Lisa Shepherd presented the bill.

[HJR025 Establishing the Utah Secretary of State](#)

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

Seth Stewart, resident, spoke in opposition to the bill.

MOTION: Rep. MacPherson moved to amend HB0529 with Amendment #1. The motion passed with a vote of 8 - 0 - 4.

Amendment 1

1. Line 2614 through 2620:

2614 day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which the [~~lieutenant governor~~]
2615 secretary of state sends the notice of noncompliance; and
2616 (iii) states that failure to comply by the deadline the [~~lieutenant governor~~]secretary of
2617 state establishes under Subsection (6)(c)(ii) will result in the (~~lieutenant governor~~)secretary of state
2618 sending a notice of non-registration to the Office of the Utah State Auditor, in
2619 accordance with Subsection (9).
2620 (7) (a) If the [~~lieutenant governor~~]secretary of state identifies an entity that does not make

Yeas - 8

Rep. J. Burton
Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. A. Loubet
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. A. Maloy
Rep. M. Petersen
Rep. A. Stoddard
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Rep. D. Fiefia
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. A. Romero

MOTION: Rep. MacPherson moved to pass HB0529 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 1 - 4.

Yeas - 7

Rep. J. Burton
Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. A. Loubet
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. A. Maloy
Rep. M. Petersen
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 1

Rep. A. Stoddard

Absent - 4

Rep. D. Fiefia
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. A. Romero

MOTION: Rep. Stoddard moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 8 - 0 - 4.

Yeas - 8

Rep. J. Burton
Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. A. Loubet
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. A. Maloy
Rep. M. Petersen
Rep. A. Stoddard
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Rep. D. Fiefa
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. A. Romero

Chair Burton adjourned the meeting at 09:17 AM.