



MINUTES

HOUSE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

STANDING COMMITTEE

LEGISLATURE

Wednesday, February 25, 2026 | 8:00 a.m. | 30 House Building

Members Present:

Rep. Ryan D. Wilcox, Chair
Rep. Mark A. Strong, Vice Chair
Rep. Melissa G. Ballard
Rep. Matthew H. Gwynn
Rep. Katy Hall
Rep. Sandra Hollins
Rep. Trevor Lee
Rep. Lisa Shepherd

Rep. Stephen L. Whyte

Members Absent:

Rep. Val L. Peterson
Rep. Andrew Stoddard

Staff Present:

Lacey Johnson, Policy Analyst
An Bradshaw, Committee Secretary

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

Chair Wilcox called the meeting to order at 8:18 a.m.

1. H.B. 476 Insanity Defense Amendments(Moss, C.)

[HB 476 Talking Points](#)

Rep. Moss presented the bill with the assistance of Mark Moffat, criminal defense attorney, Neal Hamilton, criminal defense attorney, and Tyler Durns, Director, University of Utah School of Medicine Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship Program. A handout was provided.

Carl Hollan, Executive Director, Statewide Association of Prosecutors and Public Attorneys, spoke in opposition to the bill.

MOTION: Chair Strong moved to go to the next item on the agenda, then return to HB 476. The motion passed with a vote of 9 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 9

Rep. M. Ballard
Rep. M. Gwynn
Rep. K. Hall
Rep. S. Hollins
Rep. T. Lee
Rep. L. Shepherd
Rep. M. Strong
Rep. S. Whyte
Rep. R. Wilcox

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. A. Stoddard

2. H.J.R. 28 Joint Resolution Amending Court Rules Related to Capital Felony Cases(Pierucci, C.)

Rep. Pierucci presented the resolution.

MOTION: Chair Strong moved to pass HJR028 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 8 - 1 - 2.

Yeas - 8

Rep. M. Ballard
Rep. M. Gwynn
Rep. K. Hall
Rep. T. Lee
Rep. L. Shepherd
Rep. M. Strong
Rep. S. Whyte
Rep. R. Wilcox

Nays - 1

Rep. S. Hollins

Absent - 2

Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. A. Stoddard

3. H.B. 476 Insanity Defense Amendments(Moss, C.)

Debra Widmer, Director, Utah Shattering Silence Coalition, spoke in support of the bill.

Erin Bigler, Assistant Director of Forensic Social Work, Salt Lake Legal Defender Association, spoke in support of the bill.

Sherry Whitworth, advocate, spoke in support of the bill.

Maryann Christensen, Executive Director, Utah Legislative Watch, spoke in opposition to the bill.

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

MOTION: Rep. Hollins moved to pass HB0476 out favorably.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Rep. Gwynn moved to hold HB0476. The substitute motion passed with a vote of 7 - 2 - 2.

Yeas - 7

Rep. M. Ballard
Rep. M. Gwynn
Rep. K. Hall
Rep. T. Lee
Rep. M. Strong
Rep. S. Whyte
Rep. R. Wilcox

Nays - 2

Rep. S. Hollins
Rep. L. Shepherd

Absent - 2

Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. A. Stoddard

MOTION: Rep. Gwynn moved to refer HB 476, Insanity Defense Amendments, to interim for study.

The motion passed with a vote of 9 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 9

Rep. M. Ballard
Rep. M. Gwynn
Rep. K. Hall
Rep. S. Hollins
Rep. T. Lee
Rep. L. Shepherd
Rep. M. Strong
Rep. S. Whyte
Rep. R. Wilcox

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. A. Stoddard

MOTION: Rep. Shepherd moved to approve the minutes for the February 23, 2026 meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 4.

Yeas - 7

Rep. M. Ballard
Rep. K. Hall
Rep. S. Hollins
Rep. L. Shepherd
Rep. M. Strong
Rep. S. Whyte
Rep. R. Wilcox

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Rep. M. Gwynn
Rep. T. Lee
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. A. Stoddard

4. 2nd Sub. S.B. 183 Surveillance Camera Amendments(Pitcher, S.)

Sen. Pitcher presented the bill with the assistance of Adam Craig, resident.

Nate Mutter, Chair, Law Enforcement Legislative Committee, spoke to the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Hollins moved to pass SB0183S02 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 4.

Yeas - 7

Rep. M. Ballard
Rep. K. Hall
Rep. S. Hollins
Rep. L. Shepherd
Rep. M. Strong
Rep. S. Whyte
Rep. R. Wilcox

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Rep. M. Gwynn
Rep. T. Lee
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. A. Stoddard

MOTION: Rep. Hollins moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 1 - 4.

Yeas - 6

Rep. M. Ballard
Rep. K. Hall
Rep. S. Hollins
Rep. M. Strong
Rep. S. Whyte
Rep. R. Wilcox

Nays - 1

Rep. L. Shepherd

Absent - 4

Rep. M. Gwynn
Rep. T. Lee
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. A. Stoddard

Chair Wilcox adjourned the meeting at 9:24 a.m.