DRAFT MINUTES

BUSINESS AND LABOR INTERIM COMMITTEE

UTAH STATE LEGISLATURE

Wednesday, October 21, 2026 | 1:15 p.m. | 120 Senate Building

Members Present:
Sen. Evan J. Vickers, Chair
Rep. A. Cory Maloy, Chair
Sen. Daniel McCay
Sen. Stephanie Pitcher
Sen. Scott D. Sandall
Sen. Todd Weiler
Rep. Melissa G. Ballard
Rep. Jon Hawkins
Rep. Ken Ivory
Rep. Jason B. Kyle
Rep. Ashlee Matthews
Rep. Hoang Nguyen
Rep. Jake Sawyer
Rep. David Shallenberger
Rep. Norman K Thurston
Rep. Stephen L. Whyte

Members Absent:
Sen. Kirk A. Cullimore
Speaker Mike Schultz
Rep. Casey Snider
Rep. Ryan D. Wilcox

Staff Present:
Allison Cowdell, Policy Analyst
Rohnin Randles, Policy Analyst
Tyler Moore, Associate General Counsel
Austin Weenig, Associate General Counsel
Alyssa Castor, Administrative Assistant

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

Chair Vickers called the meeting to order at 1:41 p.m.

1. Committee Business

MOTION: Rep. Sawyer moved to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2026, meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 12 - 0 - 8.

Yeas - 12	Nays - 0	Absent - 8
Rep. M. Ballard		Sen. K. Cullimore
Rep. J. Hawkins		Rep. K. Ivory
Rep. J. Kyle		Sen. S. Pitcher
Rep. A. Maloy		Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. A. Matthews		Rep. D. Shallenberger
Sen. D. McCay		Rep. C. Snider
Rep. H. Nguyen		Sen. T. Weiler
Sen. S. Sandall		Rep. R. Wilcox
Rep. J. Sawyer		
Rep. N. Thurston		
Sen. E. Vickers		
Rep. S. Whyte		

2. Legislative Prioritization of Occupation Reviews Report

2 - Proposed Occupations for Review (OPLR)

Allison Cowdell provided an overview of the statutory process for periodic reviews completed by the Office of Professional Licensure Review (OPLR).

Jeff Shumway, Director, OPLR, provided an overview of construction trades proposed for review in 2027.

MOTION: Sen. McCay moved to approve the list of professions for OPLR to review in 2027. The motion passed with a vote of 13 - 0 - 7.

Yeas - 13	Nays - 0	Absent - 7
Rep. M. Ballard		Sen. K. Cullimore
Rep. J. Hawkins		Rep. K. Ivory
Rep. J. Kyle		Sen. S. Pitcher
Rep. A. Maloy		Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. A. Matthews		Rep. C. Snider
Sen. D. McCay		Sen. T. Weiler
Rep. H. Nguyen		Rep. R. Wilcox
Sen. S. Sandall		
Rep. J. Sawyer		
Rep. D. Shallenberger		
Rep. N. Thurston		
Sen. E. Vickers		
Rep. S. Whyte		

3. Residence Lien Recovery Fund Report

Allison Cowdell provided an overview of the Residence Lien Recovery Fund.

3 - Residence Lien Recovery Fund Report (Department of Commerce)

Mark Steinagel, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Commerce, provided a report on the state of the Residence Lien Recovery Fund and answered questions from the committee.

Adam Watson, Assistant Director, Division of Professional Licensing (DOPL), provided recommendations for the provisions of the Residence Lien Recovery Fund Act.

Mark Steinagel answered questions from the committee.

MOTION: Sen. Sandall moved to open a personal bill file and incorporate recommendations from DOPL regarding the Residence Lien Recovery Fund.

David Spatafore, lobbyist, provided public comment and answered questions from the committee.

Mark Steinagel answered questions from the committee.

Tyler Moore answered questions from the committee.

The underlying motion passed with a vote of 14 - 0 - 6.

Yeas - 14	Nays - 0	Absent - 6
Rep. M. Ballard		Sen. K. Cullimore
Rep. J. Hawkins		Sen. S. Pitcher
Rep. K. Ivory		Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. J. Kyle		Rep. D. Shallenberger
Rep. A. Maloy		Rep. C. Snider
Rep. A. Matthews		Rep. R. Wilcox
Sen. D. McCay		
Rep. H. Nguyen		
Sen. S. Sandall		
Rep. J. Sawyer		
Rep. N. Thurston		
Sen. E. Vickers		
Sen. T. Weiler		
Rep. S. Whyte		

4. Draft Legislation, "Health Professions Licensing Amendments"

4 - Draft Legislation "Health Professions Licensing Amendments" (v007) (Drafter: C. Williams)

Chair Vickers presented 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Health Professions Licensing Amendments."

MOTION: Rep. Thurston moved to favorably recommend as a committee bill, "Health Professions Licensing Amendments." The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 9.

Yeas - 11	Nays - 0	Absent - 9
Rep. J. Hawkins		Rep. M. Ballard
Rep. K. Ivory		Sen. K. Cullimore
Rep. J. Kyle		Rep. A. Matthews
Rep. A. Maloy		Sen. S. Pitcher
Sen. D. McCay		Rep. J. Sawyer
Rep. H. Nguyen		Rep. M. Schultz
Sen. S. Sandall		Rep. D. Shallenberger
Rep. N. Thurston		Rep. C. Snider
Sen. E. Vickers		Rep. R. Wilcox
Sen. T. Weiler		
Rep. S. Whyte		

5. Draft Legislation, "Professional Licensing Modifications"

5 - Draft Legislation "Professional Licensing Modifications" (v020) (Drafter: C. Williams)

Rep. Thurston introduced 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Professional Licensing Modifications."

Chris Williams, Senior Associate General Counsel, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, provided a summary of, "Professional Licensing Modifications," and answered questions from the committee.

Rep. Thurston and Chris Williams answered questions from the committee.

Public comment was heard from:

Beth Luthy, Associate Dean, BYU College of Nursing;

Mark Taylor, optometrist, Kaysville;

Stan Lockhart, Executive Director, Utah Academy of Physicians Assistants;

Michelle McComber, CEO, Utah Medical Association;

Sheldon Birch, compounding pharmacist, Birch Family Pharmacy; and

Jessica Black, Legislative Chair, Utah Mental Health Counselors Association.

The committee discussed policy options.

MOTION: Rep. Ballard moved to favorably recommend as a committee bill, "Professional Licensing Modifications."

5 - Draft Legislation "Professional Licensing Modifications" (v019 compared with v020) (Drafter: C. Williams)

Chris Williams clarified the differences between version 19 and version 20 of, "Professional Licensing Modifications."

Chair Vickers answered questions from the committee regarding the number of available committee bill files.

The underlying motion passed with a vote of 13 - 1 - 6.

Yeas - 13	Nays - 1	Absent - 6
Rep. M. Ballard	Rep. D. Shallenberger	Sen. K. Cullimore
Rep. J. Hawkins		Sen. S. Pitcher
Rep. K. Ivory		Sen. S. Sandall
Rep. J. Kyle		Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. A. Maloy		Rep. C. Snider
Rep. A. Matthews		Rep. R. Wilcox
Sen. D. McCay		
Rep. H. Nguyen		
Rep. J. Sawyer		
Rep. N. Thurston		
Sen. E. Vickers		
Sen. T. Weiler		
Rep. S. Whyte		

6. Draft Legislation, "Health Profession Licensing Modifications"

6 - Draft Legislation "Health Profession Licensing Modifications" (v006) (Drafter: C. Williams)

Rep. Raymond Ward presented 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Health Profession Licensing Modifications."

Brittany Carver, CEO, Utah Assisted Living Association, provided public comment.

MOTION: Rep. Maloy moved to favorably recommend as a committee bill, "Health Profession Licensing Modifications." The motion passed with a vote of 14 - 0 - 6.

Yeas - 14	Nays - 0	Absent - 6
Rep. M. Ballard		Sen. K. Cullimore
Rep. J. Hawkins		Sen. S. Pitcher
Rep. K. Ivory		Sen. S. Sandall
Rep. J. Kyle		Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. A. Maloy		Rep. C. Snider
Rep. A. Matthews		Rep. R. Wilcox
Sen. D. McCay		
Rep. H. Nguyen		
Rep. J. Sawyer		
Rep. D. Shallenberger		
Rep. N. Thurston		
Sen. E. Vickers		
Sen. T. Weiler		
Rep. S. Whyte		

7. Draft Legislation, "Property Management Amendments"

7 - Draft Legislation "Property Management Amendments" (v008) (Drafter: A. Weenig)

Austin Weenig provided an overview of 2027 General Session draft legislation, "Property Management Amendments," and answered questions from the committee.

Leigh Veillette, Director, Division of Real Estate, and Daniel Larsen, Interim Director, Division of Consumer Protection, answered questions from the committee.

Public comment was heard from:

Justin Allen, Government Affairs Director, Rental Housing Association of Utah, who answered questions from the committee;

Angela Kraniski, lobbyist, Utah Safe and Stable Rentals Project;

Kyle Arbizu, former President, Institute of Real Estate Management; and

Karly Walton, co-chair, Institute of Real Estate Management.

Chair Vickers asked for committee members to indicate if they want to be involved in further discussions of, "Property Management Amendments," and moved on to the next agenda item.

8. Health Insurance Policy Review

8 - Health Insurance Policy Review Presentation (Insurance Department)

Jon Pike, Commissioner, Insurance Department, presented information on health insurance markets and state policy, and answered questions from the committee.

MOTION: Sen. McCay moved to open a committee bill file and incorporate recommendations from the Insurance Department. The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 9.

Yeas - 11	Nays - 0	Absent - 9
Rep. M. Ballard		Sen. K. Cullimore
Rep. J. Hawkins		Rep. H. Nguyen
Rep. K. Ivory		Rep. J. Sawyer
Rep. J. Kyle		Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. A. Maloy		Rep. D. Shallenberger
Rep. A. Matthews		Rep. C. Snider
Sen. D. McCay		Sen. T. Weiler
Sen. S. Pitcher		Rep. S. Whyte
Sen. S. Sandall		Rep. R. Wilcox
Rep. N. Thurston		
Sen. E. Vickers		

9. Office of AI Policy: AI Learning Laboratory Report

Zach Boyd, Director, Office of Artificial Intelligence Policy, presented recommendations for policy consideration resulting from the 2026 Learning Laboratory Program.

10. Other Items/Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. McCay moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 12 - 0 - 8.

Yeas - 12	Nays - 0	Absent - 8
Rep. M. Ballard		Sen. K. Cullimore
Rep. J. Hawkins		Rep. H. Nguyen
Rep. K. Ivory		Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. J. Kyle		Rep. D. Shallenberger
Rep. A. Maloy		Rep. C. Snider
Rep. A. Matthews		Sen. T. Weiler
Sen. D. McCay		Rep. S. Whyte
Sen. S. Pitcher		Rep. R. Wilcox
Sen. S. Sandall		
Rep. J. Sawyer		
Rep. N. Thurston		
Sen. E. Vickers		

Chair Vickers adjourned the meeting at 4:03 p.m.