UTAH CONSERVATION COMMUNITY

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

2024 General Legislative Session	Week #6	February 24, 2024
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2024 Legislative Update

Each update provides key highlights for the prior weeks General Legislative Session and what is expected for the week ahead. The focus of this update are the Utah state legislation and actions for protecting wildlife and the environment. Questions and comments can be directed to Dan Strauch: strauchmail@yahoo.com.

About the Legislative Update

The *Legislative Update* is made possible by the Utah Audubon Council and contributing organizations. Each *Update* provides legislative actions, descriptions and updates throughout the Session and important dates and progress of key committees. For the most up-to-date information and for the names and contact information for legislators, check the Legislative website at <u>www.le.utah.gov</u>. The *Update* focuses on legislative information pertaining to wildlife, sensitive and invasive species, public lands, state parks, SITLA land management, energy development, renewable energy and conservation and water issues. The *Update* is distributed after each Friday of the Session. Additional Action Alerts may also be distributed during the session. Please use this information to prepare you to contact your legislator with your opinions and concerns!

Weekly Update

A few more changes to the tracker format. I have created a separate column for bill status. I will also note under each bills name in the first column if substitutions have been introduced. Hopefully, these changes will make it easier to find the status and content changes of each bill.

As you go through the tracker there are still many bills that are "in process" but if a bill introduced in the first 5 weeks of the session has not passed the originating chamber by this point, there is little chance it will proceed and effectively fails.

THE FINAL WEEK ...

One week of legislative time left. The last week has seen quite a few bills pass both chambers and being prepared for the Governor. The good news, we have had more SUPPORT bills passed vs OPPOSED bills to this point.

The down side, there are many more high Priority 1, OPPOSE bills, and some of these are the most significant bills of the session, moving steadily through the process vs those we SUPPORT. So, continued action to oppose these bills is needed.

HERE ARE THE MOST SIGNIFICANT BILLS TO CONTINUE TO VOICE OPPOSITION TO:

SB211 Generational Water Infrastructure Amendments (Tracker Page 46)

This is Senate President Adam's bill that creates the Water District Water Development Council and the Water Agent to develop plans, including with other states, for water sources. **Most critically, the bill exempts the council and agent from public openness laws.** President Adam's position is that this is necessary for possible negotiations but lawyers of multiple organizations have expressed that the existing laws such as GRAMA have mechanisms for private negotiations, therefore this exception is unnecessary and creates greater hinderance to public accountability on a resource as critical as water and how it is managed.

SB224 Energy Independence Amendments (Tracker Page 47) Senator Sandall's bill is essentially a state subsidy of the power industry. It permits power generators to recover costs to keep old facilities running even when they are no longer financially viable. In large part, this is directed at existing coal burning facilities. Additionally, power generators transfers insurance liabilities to the users. Both increase power cost for citizens of Utah.

HB502 Critical Infrastructure and Mining (Tracker Page 30) This bill from Representative Snider has been significantly substituted in the last week. The original version essentially eliminated the ability of a local government to stop a mining operation that was providing "critical infrastructure materials", think aggregates to build roads and buildings. Obviously that bill was of major concern as any mining operation essentially could claim to be mining "critical infrastructure materials" and therefore be exempt from any local government control. The first substitute changes this to a study but this would still leave open a finding that such mining protection is needed for these materials. This is a House originated bill and is on the House 3rd reading calendar so time remains to take action with both of your legislators.

SB264 Inland Port Authority Amendments (Tracker Page 48) Introduced beginning of week 6 by Senator Stevenson, in brief, this bill would expand the responsibilities of UIPA to, most astonishingly, include a land fill remediation project a Trust Lands Administration facility in Salt Lake City. The TLA has already begun this project and contracted with an experienced land fill remediation UIPA has NO EXPERIENCE in land fill remediation. This bill reads as a means to create an appearance of competence for UIPA, by giving them more to do. It also establishes UIPA presence in Salt Lake City.

APPROPRIATIONS ...

Reviewing the Executive Appropriation Package that was approved, I was able to find:

- The funding requests for the necessary measuring equipment to confirm saved water is flowing to the GSL. This includes funds to improve the Division of Resources systems that manage the water data. Essentially this funds the tools to implement legislation from 2023.
- 2) Representative Doug Owens Grow Water Smart and Split Season Lease initiatives were in the approved package as well.
- 3) The funding for an improved berm on the GSL causeway was also in the package and approved.
- 4) Rep. Owens phragmites eradication for the GSL was not specifically stated but there was funding for general phragmites eradication throughout the state.

Rep. Owens Turf Removal fund was in as a Special Motion, essentially an ask if extra money was available.

This was simply another step in the funding process. This final week will be the consolidation of all of the committees request and final decisions so funds are not allocated quite yet.

BILL TRACKING LIST

Priority Code: 1 = High; 2 = Medium; 3 = Low

	Italics are UAC commentary/explanation		1	
	<i>// /</i>			
	Comments in orange are new/changed vs prior week.			
ep. Owens	This bill restricts the use of lawn or turf by certain	Passed House	1	Support
	governmental entities.	and Senate.		
		To Governor		
	ornamental lawns by Utah State entities.			
	House Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment			
	Committee agenda for Jan 18, 24 passed back to House			
	with Favorable Recommendation.			
	Passed House.			
	Passed Senate Business and Labor Committee with			
	favorable recommendation on 31 Jan.			
	2 nd Substitute that passed Senate emphasizes the			
	property and highway land and removes the 20%			
	requirement.			
ep. Bolinder	This bill provides penalty provisions that apply if a	Senate 3 rd	3	Neutral
	producer fails to file a form 1099 or fails to file the form	reading		
	1099 on time amends the percentage of the mineral	TABLED		
	production tax a producer withholds to align with the			
	income tax rate amends the information a producer is			
	required to provide on a withholding return provides			
	the requirements for a producer to file a form 1099 with			
	the State Tax Commission.			
e	p. Bolinder	This bill is another step in reducing water use on ornamental lawns by Utah State entities.House Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee agenda for Jan 18, 24 passed back to House with Favorable Recommendation.Passed House.Passed Senate Business and Labor Committee with favorable recommendation on 31 Jan.2 nd Substitute that passed Senate emphasizes the "overhead spray irrigation", limits application to school property and highway land and removes the 20% requirement.p. BolinderThis bill provides penalty provisions that apply if a production tax a producer withholds to align with the income tax rate amends the information a producer is requirements for a producer to file a form 1099 with	This bill is another step in reducing water use on ornamental lawns by Utah State entities. To Governor House Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee agenda for Jan 18, 24 passed back to House with Favorable Recommendation. Passed House. Passed House. Passed House. Passed Senate Business and Labor Committee with favorable recommendation on 31 Jan. 2nd Substitute that passed Senate emphasizes the "overhead spray irrigation", limits application to school property and highway land and removes the 20% requirement. Senate 3rd ep. Bolinder This bill provides penalty provisions that apply if a producer fails to file a form 1099 or fails to file the form 1099 on time amends the percentage of the mineral production tax a producer withholds to align with the income tax rate amends the information a producer is required to provide on a withholding return provides the requirements for a producer to file a form 1099 with Senate 3rd	This bill is another step in reducing water use on ornamental lawns by Utah State entities. To Governor House Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee agenda for Jan 18, 24 passed back to House with Favorable Recommendation. Passed House. Passed House. Passed Senate Business and Labor Committee with favorable recommendation on 31 Jan. 2 nd Substitute that passed Senate emphasizes the "overhead spray irrigation", limits application to school property and highway land and removes the 20% requirement. Senate 3 rd 3 p. Bolinder This bill provides penalty provisions that apply if a producer fails to file the form 1099 or time amends the percentage of the mineral production tax a producer withholds to align with the income tax rate amends the information a producer is required to provide on a withholding return provides the requirements for a producer to file a form 1099 with Senate 3 rd 3

HB 23 Division of	Bon Brooks	This hill ovtends the support data of the advisory equation	PASSED to	3	Support
<u>HB 23</u> Division of Outdoor Recreation Advisory Council Sunset Extension	Rep. Brooks	This bill extends the sunset date of the advisory council that advises the Division of Outdoor Recreation on boating policies from 2024 to 2029.	Governor	3	Support
HB 31 Agricultural Tourism Amendments 3 rd Substitute	Rep. Albrecht	 This bill expands agricultural nuisance liability protections in relation to an agritourism activity; provides that an agricultural protection area may include an ag-tourism activity; requires the Department of Agriculture and Food to maintain an agtourism registry and describes requirements relating to the registry; modifies civil liability limitations in relation to an agricultural tourism activity. The Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee recommended this bill. In House for 3rd reading. Supports additional income for ag producers, means to insure they do not have to sell for development Passed Senate Judiciary, Law Enforcement, and Criminal Justice Committee with favorable recommendation on 13 Feb. 3rd Substitute strengthens liability responsibilities of farm owner. 	Passed House and Senate. Concurrence	3	Support
<u>HB 42</u> Water Rights Publication Amendments	Rep. Briscoe	 This bill permits the state engineer to confirm publication of a notice of application through electronic means. Passed from House to Senate. Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee agenda for Jan 23, '24 passed back to Senate with Favorable Recommendation. 	Passed House and Senate. To Governor	3	Support

		Passed House and Senate. To GOVERNOR.			
HB 48 Utah Energy Act Amendments	Rep. Jack	This bill modifies reporting requirements for the Office of Energy Development; modifies the purposes of the Office of Energy Development to include:	Senate 3 rd reading. TABLED	2	Oppose
1 st Substitute		 developing strategies to advocate for state interests on federal energy and environmental programs; overseeing legal strategy on federal overreach and permitting delays; and engaging in federal rulemaking and advocacy for regulatory reform; directs the Office of Energy Development to adopt a master plan with data-driven modeling at a statewide level; requires adoption of best practices in development of state energy plans. 			
		The Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology Interim Committee recommended this bill. In House for 1 st reading. Concern, while this bill does add duties to OED that are positive for planning and transparency, it also gives it the authority to push back vs federal energy requirements.			
		Oppose lines that read "direct the funding of legal effort to combat federal overreach and unreasonable delays regarding energy and environmental permitting" 1 st substitute removes language stated above. Bill still is			
HB 57 Snake Valley Aquifer Advisory Council Amendments	Rep. Brooks	means to slow progress to cleaner energy sources.This bill repeals the Snake Valley Aquifer Councilchapter, removes language citing provisions of thatchapter, removes language citing provisions of thatchapter, including: a sunset provision; anda provision related to the duties of the Public LandsPolicy Coordinating Office.	Passed House and Senate. To Governor.	3	Neutra

		Agree that council is no longer needed given recent legal victories.House Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee agenda for Jan 18, 24 passed back to House with Favorable Recommendation.Passed House to Senate.Passed House and Senate.To GOVERNOR.			
HB 61 Water Measuring and Accounting Amendments	Rep. Albrecht	This bill modifies the state water policy to address telemetry; grants rulemaking authority regarding measurement and accounting; and makes technical changes, including repealing outdated language. House Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee agenda for Jan 18, 24 passed back to House with Favorable Recommendation. Passed House to Senate. Passed Senate and House. To GOVERNOR.	Passed House and Senate. To Governor.	1	Support
HB 62 Utah Water Ways Amendments 1 st Substitute	Rep. Owens	 This bill outlines coordination related to water and the public education system. House Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee agenda for Jan 18, 24 passed back to House with Favorable Recommendation. Expect that this bill will be amended. Some members concern was that the education was simply "conservation indoctrination." Rep. Owens rebutted that was not the intent and was willing to amend. Maintain SUPPORT until amendment seen. 	Senate 3 rd reading. TABLED	1	Support

		 23 Jan, this bill was "circled" by Rep. Owens on House floor. That means he is still working on changes but wants to keep on House reading calendar. Passed House to Senate. Assigned to Senate Education Committee. Substitute #1 has added language that adds to the curriculum on the water cycle; "jobs created by industrial sectors that use water" and "the importance of agriculture in providing food." This is a response to pushback that this was teaching conservation. 			
HB 65 Active Transportation and Canal Trail Amendments 1 st Substitute	Rep. Lesser	 This bill requires a canal owner or operator to notify certain entities of the intent to abandon or transfer title of a canal; provides certain entities the right of first refusal to purchase a canal; requires the Department of Natural Resources to compile a list of certain canals and provide that list to the Department of Transportation; requires the Department of Transportation to: develop a canal trail toolkit; inventory certain canals in the state; consider creating a canal trail as part of the active transportation plan; and identify certain canal corridors for transportation corridor preservation; enables the Transportation Commission to consider water savings and improvement of canal infrastructure when prioritizing a transportation project. Introduced to House Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environmental Committee on 18 Jan, 24. Some members expressed concerns about canals on private property. Held by committee. Maintain SUPPORT until amended. 	House Committee. Held New Fiscal Note	2	Support

HB 76 State Resource Management Plan Amendments	Rep. Stratton	 1st substitute maintains toolkit to help municipalities plan for and build canal paths but eliminates all requirements for canal owners to file information on existing canals that was intended as information for the local government to have as part of planning. This bill adopts a state resource management plan to replace a previously adopted plan. Passed House to Senate. 	Passed House and Senate. To Governor.	3	Support
		Passed House and Senate. To GOVERNOR.			
HB 90 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Amendments	Rep. Stenquist	This bill simply relocates definitions of the current bill. Passed House Economic Development and Workforce Services Committee with Favorable Recommendation on 26 Jan Passed House. Passed by Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee with favorable recommendation on 8 Feb. Passed House and Senate. On Concurrence calendar.	Passed House and Senate. To Governor.	3	Neutral
<u>HB 117</u> Wind Energy Facility Siting Modifications	Rep. Burton	This bill requires the owner of a wind energy facilityto file documentation with the Department of Veteransand Military Affairs (department) and the Departmentof Natural Resources that the clearinghouse and thedepartment have determined that the proposedconstruction does not encroach upon or otherwise havean adverse impact on the military; and provides forpenalties if an owner of a wind turbine or a wind energyfacility fails to submit the proper documentation to theDepartment of Natural Resources.Introduced to House Public Utilities, Energy andTechnology Committee on 25 Jan. Passed withFavorable Recommendation.	Passed House and Senate. To Governor.	3	Neutral

		Moved position to Neutral. Based on debate and my research, this process has been adopted by several other states. Is supported by wind energy producers and puts siting determination within a federal government process. Concern would be if not federal than state would act and limit much more. Passed House to Senate 1 st reading calendar. Passed by Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee with favorable recommendation on 8 Feb.			
HB 126 Emissions Regulation Amendments	Rep. Stoddard	This bill prohibits the Division of Motor Vehicles from registering a motor vehicle in certain counties if the motor vehicle has a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 14,000 pounds and emits a certain level of nitrogen oxides; removes a provision allowing a county to exempt certain vehicles from emissions inspections. <i>Remains on assigned list for House Natural Resources,</i> <i>Agriculture, and Environment Committee.</i>	House Committee. Not considered.	2	Support
HB 130 Animal Fighting Penalties	Rep. Judkins	This bill amends existing legislation and provide greater specificity to the definitions of dog and game fowl fighting and fighting paraphernalia. Passed House Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Committee with favorable recommendation on 16 Feb.	House 3 rd reading	3	Support
HB 135 County Land Use Amendments	Rep. Birkeland	This bill removes text from existing legislation that specified actions to be taken prior to 31 December, 2022. House 1 st reading introduced.	House 1 st reading	3	Oppose
HB 151 Public Lands Amendments	Rep. Ward	This bill requires an inventory of public lands by each municipality and notification of interest in public lands. <i>How would this information be used?</i>	House 1 st reading	2	<u>Neutral</u>

		House 1 st reading introduced.			
HB 159 Bears Ears Visitor Center Advisory Committee Repeal	Rep. Owens	This bill removes the repeal date of the advisory committee.	Passed Senate Committee 23 Feb	2	Support
Amendments		1 st substitute introduced by Rep. Owens replaces repeal date of 31 Dec '24 to a sunset date of 31 Dec '34.			
2nd Substitute		House 1 st reading introduced.			
		Passed House Government Operations Committee with favorable recommendation on 9 Feb.			
		2 nd substitute changes sunset date to 2029 from 2034.			
HB 191 Electrical Energy Amendments	Rep. Jack	This bill sets conditions for when the Public Service Commission may approve the early retirement of an electrical generation facility.	Passed House and Senate. To Governor.	2	Neutral
		Requires: Retirement does not create a material adverse effect on the provision of affordable, reliable, dispatchable, and secure electricity to customers in the state; create a shortage of available electricity to customers in the state; (c) harm the qualified utility's ratepayers by causing the qualified utility to incur any net incremental costs to be recovered from ratepayers that could be avoided by continuing to operate the electric generating unit proposed for retirement in compliance with applicable law; and (d) be undertaken as a result of any financial incentives or benefits offered by any federal agency.			
		Oppose as written. Complicates decision by power providers to retire older power generating facilities. On agenda for House Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology Committee 29 Jan.			

HB 195 Land Use	Rep. Owens	 Passed House Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology Committee with Favorable Recommendation. On House 3rd reading calendar. Second substitute introduced. Second sub reduces the absolutism of the initial bill and redefines early retirement and adds condition that if supplier has means to offset lost energy. Passed House. Passed Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee with favorable recommendation on 8 Feb. Passed House and Senate. To GOVERNOR. This bill requires municipalities and counties to consider 	House 1 st reading	1	Support
Planning Amendments		development impacts on wildlife in the process of considering and adopting general plans and land use regulations. <i>House 1st reading introduced.</i>			
HB 222 Wildlife Hunting Amendments 3 rd Substitute	Rep. Gricius	 This bill addresses what is sufficient wearing of hunter orange while hunting big game; grants the director of the Division of Wildlife Resources authority related to the wearing of hunter orange by non-hunters. 2nd substitute includes new language on sale of "big game by-product." Passed House Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Committee with favorable recommendation on 1 Feb. Passed House. On agenda for Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture for 20 Feb. 	Passed Senate Committee	3	Neutral

HB 232 Outdoor Recreation Impacts Fund	Rep. Stenquist	 This bill creates the Outdoor Recreation Impacts Restricted Account (restricted account); provides that appropriations from the restricted account are non- lapsing; funds the restricted account with a portion of the sales and use tax revenue remitted by sporting good sellers. Creates funds to support local municipalities in extraordinary recreation support (solid waste removal, search and rescue, etc) through ear marking funds collected as a tax on sporting goods sellers. House 1st reading introduced. Passed House Revenue and Taxation Committee on with favorable recommendation on 14 Feb. This bill prohibits a county or municipality from 	Failed House	2	Support
HB 237 Land Use Authority Amendments	Rep. Walter	 This bill prohibits a county or municipality from requiring the incorporation of a preferred aesthetic feature in new development unless the preferred aesthetic feature is expressed in the county or municipality's land use regulation. Deals with aesthetic requirements of buildings only. Assigned to House Political Subdivisions Committee. 	Assigned to House Committee.	3	Neutral
HB 241 Clean Energy Amendment	Rep. Albrecht	 This bill changes the term renewable to clean where appropriate in statute. Adds definitions of clean energy sources. Oppose as written. Identifies "nuclear" as clean energy source. Also establishes a "State Fair Park" agency, need to understand purpose. Passed in House Public Utilities, Energy and Technology Committee on 24 Jan. Passed with favorable recommendation. 	Passed House and Senate. To Governor.	3	Neutral

		 Aligns clean energy definition to federal definition (clean energy = non carbon producing). Nuclear, carbon capture and sequestration and pumped hydropower added to bill are all clean energy as defined by federal statutes. This bill does not expressly facilitate the building of such energy production in Utah. Passed House to Senate. I have changed position to Neutral. I feel would be inconsistent to take a position against aligning to federal definitions. Is there a fight at federal level to redefine definition of clean energy to remove Nuclear, etc.? Open to feedback. Passed by Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee with favorable recommendation on 8 Feb. Passed Senate and House. On Concurrence calendar. 			
HB 242 Water Usage Data Amendments	Rep. Ballard	 This bill requires that reporting of water usage by a state agency, requires the Division of Water Resources to conduct a study of public school water use; requires publication and reporting of study findings and recommendations; provides for procurement of smart irrigation controllers. HELD by House Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology Committee on 1 Feb. First, this is a study only, run by state agencies. Once again push back from rural representatives "not our problem" and "too much work" for a small town. This is very reasonable collection of date across the state. HELD due to objections of rural reps. 	Failed House	1	Support

		1 st substitute exempts small rural counties.			
		2 nd substitute adds appropriations to bill.			
HB 243 Riparian	Rep. Bennion	This bill requires a riparian area element as part of a	Passed House	1	Support
Amendments		municipal or county general plan with exceptions;	Committee.		
		addresses adoption of zoning or other land use	22 Feb		
3 rd substitute		ordinances; provides for how a riparian area element is			
		included into a municipal or county general	House 3 rd reading		
		plan; provides for action related to the general plan by			
		the legislative body of a municipality or county;			
		provides for technical assistance from the Division of			
		Water Resources; directs the appointment of a state			
		position related to riparian areas; directs the			
		compilation of a riparian map.			
		HELD by House Natural Resources, Agriculture, and			
		Environment Committee.			
		Second introduction, second substitution, to House Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Committee on 9 Feb. Again, significant pushback from committee despite second sub eliminating riparian plan as a requirement and really just creates a plan and data base of information that municipalities can use to create a riparian area.			
		Honestly, I do not see why there was such objections other than areas that would be dedicated riparian could not be used for other purposes.			
		3 rd substitute eliminates reporting requirements of canal owners and creates a technical resource (position) in the in DNR as an advisor for development of riparian areas. Does maintain the geo survey of riparian areas.			
HB249 Utah Legal	Rep. Brooks	This bill prohibits a governmental entity from granting	Passed House	1	Oppose
Personhood		or recognizing legal personhood in certain categories of	and Senate.		
Amendments		nonhumans.	To Governor.		

		Sponsor states that this was a response to a <u>"few of his</u> <u>constituents"</u> expressing confusion that other countries or states have extended personhood rights to inanimate objects. Bill is obvious response to possible environmental rights strategies. Seems reactionary to wording "person" or "personhood."			
		Passed House to Senate.			
		Passed by Senate Judiciary, Law Enforcement, and Criminal Justice Committee with favorable recommendation on 5 Feb.			
		On Senate 2 nd reading calendar.			
		Passed House and Senate. To GOVERNOR.			
HB 256 Military Compatible Land Use Amendments	Rep. Peterson	This bill modifies provisions regarding when notice is required related to applications or permits near military land; provides that a municipality or county should deny a land use application if the Department of Veterans and Military Affairs determines that a proposed land use is incompatible with military operations.	Passed House and Senate. To Governor.	3	Neutral
		First substitution introduced that provides significantly more specificity and eliminates the sole idea that the military "determination of incompatible with military operations" is cause for rejection.			
		Passed Senate Economic Development and Workforce Services Committee with favorable recommendation on 1 Feb.			
		Passed House and Senate. To GOVERNOR.			

HB 262 School and Institutional Trust Lands Amendments 1 st Substitute	Rep. Snider	 This bill clarifies that the state may sell or lease land to state entities for fair market value; exempts the sale or lease of certain large aggregations of trust lands from advertising requirements and mineral rights restrictions; excludes certain lands from sale or lease; and requires rulemaking for determining the fair market value of trust lands. <i>House</i> 1st reading. <i>Need to better understand the removal of the mineral rights restrictions.</i> <i>Substitute</i> #1 removes the mineral rights restrictions. <i>Strengthens the</i> 5,000 acre minimum requirement. Not a requirement to SITLA but an option. <i>Reduced priority as this is very limited scope as SITLA has very few parcels of this size.</i> <i>I position as Neutral but I lean to support. This is a means to keep land, albeit relatively small amounts, out of private/developer hands.</i> 1st substitute confirms that land must be 5000 acres and aggregated. Also removes restriction of mineral rights and also reduces restriction on advertising requirements. 	Passed Senate Committee 20 Feb Senate 2 nd reading	3	Neutral
HB 275 Water Amendments	Rep. Snider	 This bill clarifies who is eligible for grant money for water conservation efforts other than secondary water metering. House 1st reading. 1st substitute introduced. Improvement in that it further limits home association from requiring turf. 	Passed House and Senate. To Governor.	1	Support

		 2nd sub introduced that allows electronic submission of data by state engineer. Passed Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee with favorable recommendation on 8 Feb. Passed House and Senate. Concurrence Calendar. 			
HB 279 Air Quality Amendments	Rep. Clancy	This bill establishes a policy reducing certain [vehicle] emissions; addresses possible revocation of a vehicle registration for avoiding emissions testing; clarifies civil penalties by counties; provides for counties to notify the Motor Vehicle Division of the use of an address that is not a bona fide address to avoid emissions testing; defines terms; requires specified state agencies to develop plans to reduce emissions; repeals outdated language regarding air quality mitigation. <i>Fiscal note received 22 Jan.</i> <i>House introduced.</i>	House 1 st reading	2	Support
Bills added Week 1					
HB 280 Water Related Changes 4 th Substitution	Rep. Snider	This bill provides for the application of planning and prioritization to water funds and accounts; modifies provisions related to the formulation of a state water plan; amends provisions related to the Water Infrastructure Restricted Account; authorizes rulemaking authority; requires the Board of Water Resources to impose a water use fee and to study the fee and consolidation of funds and accounts; creates the Water Infrastructure Fund; modifies provisions of the Watershed Councils Act; modifies provisions related to the Water Development Coordinating Council; enacts planning and prioritization provisions, including: defining terms; requiring a unified water infrastructure plan; providing for ranking and prioritizing of water infrastructure projects; addressing	Passed Senate Committee 22 Feb Senate 2 nd reading	3	Neutral

		duties; and requiring reserve studies and capital asset			
		management.			
		Introduced to House Natural Resources, Agriculture, and			
		Environment Committee and HELD on Monday 29 Jan.			
		Significant concerns expressed by committee and public			
		on the undefined fees and undefined distribution of the			
		fees collected for the Water Infrastructure Fund. Also			
		concern about the centralized decision making of the			
		Water Development Coordinating Council.			
		HELD by committee for further discussion and study.			
		Second substitute bill introduced. Second bill essentially			
		converts the fee and council elements of original bill,			
		most controversial, into studies to complete in 2025.			
		Passed House Natural Resources, Agriculture and			
		Environment Committee with favorable			
		recommendation on 9 Feb.			
		Passed House to Senate.			
		Presented in Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and			
		Environment Committee single objection by GBWN to			
		lines that allow private funding for implementation.			
		Moved to Neutral and will continue to watch regarding			
		the private funding options.			
HB 291 Department of	Rep. Shipp	This bill clarifies appointment provisions and reporting	Passed Senate	3	Neutral
Agriculture and Food		requirements for the Local Food Advisory	Committee		
Amendments		Council; repeals certain requirements relating to the	20 Feb		
		registration of weights and measures in commerce or			
		trade; expands definitions in the Utah Nursery	Senate 2 nd		
		Act; changes the reporting date for the Utah Soil Health	reading		
		Program; modifies the composition of the Agricultural			
		and Wildlife Damage Prevention Board; modifies			
		provisions relating to animal branding; changes how the			

		department makes value determinations in relation to the destruction of infected livestock; clarifies a reporting requirement for a veterinarian who diagnoses a case of vesicular disease; removes a restriction for funds under the LeRay McAllister Working Farm and Ranch Fund; repeals a requirement for the department to provide education on horse tripping to horse event venues; repeals a provision relating to infected dairy animals. <i>This bill has multiple and various changes mostly technical. After further investigation, the changes appear to be of minimal impact. The McAllister Working Farm and Ranch Fund is set up to purchase and preserve open land, primarily for Ag but does prevent construction.</i>			
HB 295 Produced Water Amendments	Rep. Lund	 This bill provides for the scope of the Produced Water Act; addresses the Board of Oil, Gas, and Mining's regulation of produced water; addresses water right issues; enacts provisions related to possessory interests and control. House Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee passed with favorable recommendation on 24 Jan. Sponsor expects this would save need for fresh water as part of the mining/drilling operation, save from 2000 to 8000 acre/feet of fresh water. Non-consumptive use only in Oil and Gas drilling. Passed House to Senate. On Senate 1st reading calendar. 	Passed House and Senate. To Governor.	2	Support

		Passed Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and			
		Environment Committee with favorable			
		recommendation on 8 Feb.			
		Passed House and Senate. To Governor.			
HB 297 Utah Bee	Rep. Shipp	Prohibits a state agency from making stricter bee	Passed Senate	3	Neutral
Inspection Act		keeping requirements on private property than are	Committee		
Amendments		more restrictive than those stated in state legislation.	20 Feb		
2 nd Substitute		Fiscal note received 18 Jan.	Senate 2 nd reading		
		Passed House Natural Resources, Agriculture, and	Ŭ		
		Environment Committee with favorable			
		recommendation on 1 Feb.			
		Passed House to Senate.			
		Passed Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and			
		Environment Committee on 20 Feb.			
HB 302 Paleontological	Rep. Elison	This bill modifies the process to designate a state	Passed Senate	3	Neutral
Landmark		paleontological landmark; addresses ownership and	Committee		
Amendments		control of a state paleontological landmark; amends the	22 Feb		
		permitting requirements to excavate on a privately			
		owned paleontological landmark.	Senate 2 nd		
			reading		
		Primary difference allows site to be designated by the			
		board or by concurrent resolution of Leg & Governor.			
		Fiscal note received 19 Jan.			
		Passed House Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology			
		Committee with favorable recommendation on 1 Feb.			
		On House 3 rd reading calendar.			
		On agenda for Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee for 20 Feb.			
			1		

HB 317 Energy Storage Amendments	Rep. Musselman	 This bill directs the Office of Energy Development to study the feasibility and benefits of storing liquid fuel within the state; specifies study requirements and considerations; allows the Office of Energy Development to contract with consultants for the study; and requires a report of the study results and recommendations. This bill only initiates a study but storing large amounts of liquid fuel is simply a high risk situation. House Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee passed with favorable recommendation on 24 Jan. Sponsor position is that we need refined fuel at the ready to be stored in salt domes. State already has unrefined oil reserves this seems redundant and unnecessary. Passed House to Senate. Passed House to Senate. Passed House and Senate. To Governor. 	Passed House and Senate. To Governor.	2	Oppose
HB353 Mining Operations Amendments	Rep. Bolinder	This bill modifies definition provisions; addressesjudicial review; amends the process for approval ofnotice of intentions for large miningoperations; addresses conversion between small andlarge mining operations; provides procedures for reviewof permit orders; clarifies the process of amending orrevising a notice of intention.Passed House Public Utilities, Energy, and TechnologyCommittee with favorable recommendation on 1 Feb.	Passed Senate Committee. 20 Feb Senate 2 nd reading.	1	Oppose

Bills added Week 2		This bill severely limits the opportunity for local and public comment on large mining operations by reducing timeline for comment and defining what would be a "substantive public comment." All public comments are substantive by definition.			
HB363 Livestock Grazing Amendments	Rep. Albrecht	 This bill recognizes a federal grazing permit or lease as a valid existing right in range management. Introduced at House Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee, passed with favorable recommendation back to House on 29 Jan. On House 2nd reading calendar. Per committee discussion, this would have no impact on federal grazing permits at least without a legal battle. This would only have effect when federal lands are transferred back to the state, which is in discussion. The "right" would essentially mean the state could not prohibit grazing so long as ranchers desire to graze. Sponsor arguments; 1) ranchers invest and maintain the grazing areas and actually create a more diverse environment and 2) power pathways were granted as existing rights to power companies so grazing should be for ranchers as well. Current position on arguments 1) I will need to investigate; I am sure they maintain but is this beneficial and necessary (studies do not support grazing increases environmental diversity as general rule). On 2) power pathways serve large portions of general public, grazing does not. Grazing should remain a permit and not a right. 	Passed House and Senate. To Governor.	2	Oppose

		Passed House. Passed Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee with favorable recommendation on 8 Feb. Passed House and Senate. To GOVERNOR.			
HB373 Environmental Quality Amendments 2 nd substitute	Rep. Snider	 Passed House and Senate. To GOVERNOR. This bill specifies what acts under the Environmental Quality Code require approval of the coordination council; addresses settlement agreements addressing water quality; modifies the composition of the Air Quality Policy Advisory Board; addresses provisions related to pollution control; modifies the powers of the coordination council; and makes technical and conforming amendments. Adds members of fuel and manufacturing industry to Air Quality Council. Significant changes on a second substitution. Essentially changes to an informal advisory group between the Legislature and the Div of Env Quality. Also, clarifies a tax credit. Passed House Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee with favorable recommendation on 9 Feb. Passed House to Senate. 2nd substitute by Rep. Jimenez repeals the Air Quality Advisory board for an informal advisory board. Switch to Oppose. 	Senate 1 st reading	2	Oppose
HB374 State Energy Policy Amendments 1 st substitute	Rep. Jack	This bill provides that the state energy policy: is focused on human well-being and quality of life; encourages the use of dispatchable energy resources; fosters innovation and development to meet future energy demand; and	Passed House and Senate. To Governor	3	Neutral
		allows for market-based solutions; and requires the Office of Energy Development to report annually to the			

		 Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology Interim Committee regarding: development and implementation of the state energy plan; and the state energy plan's compliance with the state energy policy. Bill outlines attributes of energy resources that are ranked in priority but affordable and sustainable are 4 and 5 on the list. I remain Neutral. While the bill does explicitly mention "nuclear" as an energy option I see the language encouraging clean and renewable energy much stronger than in unamended bill. 			
HB382 Wildlife	Rep. Snider	This bill primary makes changes to laws regulating	Passed Senate	1	Oppose
Amendments		hunting and penalties for illegal game taking.	Committee 23 Feb		section 23A-12-
1 st substitute		 However, the final section 23A-12-102 requires the Division of Wildlife resources to advocate against the changing of "eponymous bird names." This is unnecessary and a waste or resources. Oppose unless this section is removed. Introduced to House. Passed House Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee with favorable recommendation on 12 Feb. 	23100		102
HB401 Water Usage Amendments	Rep. Owens	This bill addresses the irrigating of lawn or turf in specified counties during a restricted period; imposes fines for an infraction; provides exceptions; addresses scope of provision; and requires a good faith estimate of water savings. Prohibits lawn watering in certain counties from October 1 to April 30.	House Committee Not Considered	1	Support

		Assigned to House Natural Resources, Agriculture and			
		Environment Committee. Not considered.			
HB407 Eminent Domain	Rep. Bolinder	This bill addresses when eminent domain related to	Passed Senate	2	<u>Oppose</u>
Modifications		mining is prohibited.	Committee		
			22 Feb		
		More mining facilitation and protection.			
			Senate 2 nd		
		Sponsor clarified in Senate Committee that this applies	reading		
		to one mining operation vs another mining operation			
		and does not diminish eminent domain for			
		municipality/state. This strengthens mining operators.			
HB409 Presumption of	Rep. Ivory	This bill establishes that jurisdiction over subject	House 3 rd reading	2	Oppose
State Jurisdiction		matters not enumerated to the federal government in			
Amendments		the United States Constitution remains with the state of			
		Utah; provides that any presumption against state			
1 st Substitution		jurisdiction is overcome only by a federal demonstration			
		of specific constitutional authorization; places the			
		burden on the federal government in disputes over non-			
		enumerated jurisdiction; establishes a presumption that			
		federal government has a proprietary interest			
		over federal lands in the state; and requires the			
		Federalism Commission to provide time to hear from			
		governmental entities regarding jurisdictional disputes			
		over federal lands.			
		House Introduced.			
		Assigned to House Judiciary Committee.			
		1 st Substitution adds in the existing process of			
		"Coordination" to the bill. Oppose as bill does not			
		implement any specific new regulations/procedures and			
		appears a bill "for show."			
HB410 San Rafael State	Rep. Watkins	This bill: establishes the San Rafael Energy Research	Senate 2 nd	2	Neutral
Energy Lab		Center; creates the State Energy Lab; establishes the	reading		
		membership and duties of the board; outlines the			
		purpose and duties of the center; and establishes a			
		project proposal solicitation and approval process.			

		Passed House Public Utilities, Energy and Technology Committee with favorable recommendation on 1 Feb. Bill acquires existing clean energy research lab, that is to close, and creates state lab.			
Bills added Week 3 HB433 Brine Amendments 2 nd Substitute	Rep. Bolinder	 This bill grants rulemaking authority; provides for the designation of multiple mineral development areas; addresses notice of intention requirements related to brine mining operations in multiple mineral development areas; addresses cooperative agreements; requires a study related to brine mining operations and a report of the study; and permits the selection of a consultant. While this bill declares these development areas are "use of a production well not involving operations on the Great Salt Lake" it does not define what "on the Great Salt Lake" means. Wetlands? Plus facilitates more mining operations. 2nd Substitute eliminates key regulatory powers for the Division - (particularly on requiring co-operative agreements) and exempts specific mining operations that were in process. Amended to satisfy large mining 	Passed Senate Committee 20 Feb Senate 2 nd reading	1	Oppose
HB448 State Water Program Reporting Requirements	Rep. Ward	operation. REMAIN OPPOSED.This bill requires the Division of Water Resources (division) to monitor state legislative water optimization efforts; requires the division to work with other state entities; directs the division to annually report specific findings; specifies the legislative committees to which the report is to be given; requires posting of the report; requires state agencies to assist upon request; provides a sunset date.Requires annual reporting on progress of water optimization projects created by the legislature.	Assigned to Senate Committee	1	Support

HB452 Carbon Capture Amendments	Rep. Chew	 This bill repeals two existing funds and replaces the repealed funds with the Carbon Dioxide Storage Fund (fund); addresses the Board of Oil, Gas, and Mining's (board) authority to impose fees and deposit money into the fund; addresses the holding of title by the state of storage facilities including oversight of facilities used to store carbon dioxide after the board issues a certificate of project completion; clarifies fee provisions. <i>House introduced.</i> <i>This bill amends existing legislation and gives the Board of Oil, Gas and Mining authority to issue penalties and</i> 	Passed House Committee 22 Feb Senate 2 nd reading	2	Support
		collect fees on carbon sequestration facilities. The fees/penalties are collected into a fund that the board can access to offset expense of monitor carbon sequestration. Carbon capture is a means to store for other uses CO2 that would go direct to atmosphere. Given the beneficial nature of carbon capture I have changed to SUPPORT.			
HB453 Great Salt Lake Revisions 2 nd Substitute	Rep. Snider	SOPPORT.This bill modifies provisions related to severancetaxes; exempts challenges to a distribution managementplan from the Administrative Procedures Act; addressesmineral lease and royalty agreement provisions,including: setting production limits; providing for theloss of certain rights for failure to use; providing forroyalty discounts under certain circumstances;and providing for small projects; enacts the Great SaltLake Preservation Act, including: addressingmanagement responsibilities; requiring certainprovisions within royalty agreements; providing foracquisition of property interests or mineral estates,including through eminent domain; requiring paymentof royalties; and addressing the Great Salt Lake as amultiple mineral development area enacts the GreatSalt Lake Distribution Management chapter,	Passed Senate Committee 20 Feb Senate 2 nd reading	1	Support

Bills added Week 4		 including: directing the state engineer to develop a Great Salt Lake distribution management plan related to water rights; providing for challenges to a distribution management plan; addressing the measurement of the volume and quality of water; and addressing the scope of the chapter; modifies provisions related to local watershed councils and the Great Salt Lake Advisory Council; addresses rulemaking; addresses eminent domain. General support for this legislation. 2nd Substitute changes are primarily technical and do not reduce overall impact of the bill. 			
HB471 Public Lands Possession Amendments	Rep. Lyman	This bill asserts ownership and jurisdiction over roads included on a county's class B and class D road map or a county travel plan unless the road has been closed through proper adjudicative proceedings; allows the state or a county to disregard any attempted closure of a road without due process; asserts that the burden of proof to show the need to close a road or to claim ownership falls on the federal government. Appears another avenue to challenge federal management/authority on federal lands.	On agenda House Committee 26 Feb	2	Oppose
HB472 Water Revisions	Rep. King	This bill directs the Division of Water Resources and the Division of Water Rights (divisions) to jointly study the creation of a water database and center; permits agreements with governmental entities for cooperation in the study; outlines with whom the divisions may consult; requires reporting on the study; provides a sunset date.1st substitute was submitted by Rep. King and strengthens requirements of the study.	Assigned to Senate Committee	1	<u>Support</u>

HB496 Public Land Use	Rep. Albrecht	This bill requires the Public Lands Policy Coordinating	On agenda for	1	<u>Oppose</u>
Amendments		Office to recognize and promote principles of multiple	Senate		
		use and sustained yield on federal public lands within	Committee		
		the state; and prohibits natural asset companies from	26 Feb		
		purchasing or leasing state public lands.			
		Simply a bill to prohibit any land from not being			
		available for mining, grazing, etc.			
HB502 Critical	Rep. Snider	This bill addresses the treatment of critical	Passed House	1	<u>Oppose</u>
Infrastructure and		infrastructure materials operations and mining	Committee		
Mining		operations by political subdivisions; requires counties to	22 Feb		
		adopt plans related to critical infrastructure materials;			
1 st substitute		and requires reporting.	House 3 rd reading		
		This billing limits a local government's ability to stop a			
		mining operation and particularly if that operation has			
		already started. So, this facilitates mine expansion and			
		new mining.			
		Assigned to House Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee.			
		Environment committee.			
		1 st Substitute removes all mandates and transitions to a			
		study of necessary aggregates and appropriate means			
		to acquire needed aggregates.			
		Still public concern on construct of board members			
		(industry only) and short time period to complete the			
		study.			
HB507 Construction	Rep. Musselman	This bill authorizes the Division of Water Quality to	Passed House	1	Support
Amendments		implement and enforce a program to reduce pollutants	Committee.		
		from construction sites impacting storm water	22 Feb		
2 nd substitute		runoff; establishes standards regarding the issuance of a			
		permit; and establishes penalties for non-compliance.	House 3 rd reading		
		2 nd substitute makes technical changes and does impact			
		overall intent of bill.			

HB516 State Land	Rep. Pierrucci	This modifies the definition of restricted foreign entity	Passed House	3	Neutral
Purchase Amendments		to prevent the following entities from obtaining an	Committee		
		interest in land in the state: an entity that is owned or	20 Feb		
		directly controlled by the government of China,			
		Iran, North Korea, or Russia; and an entity in which a	House 3 rd reading		
		restricted foreign entity owns a majority			
		interest; requires that a restricted foreign entity alienate			
		any interest in the state within one year; requires that			
		the Department of Public Safety: maintain a publicly			
		available list of restricted foreign entities; create a			
		process for reporting a land conveyance to a restricted			
		foreign entity; provide an annual notice regarding			
		restricted foreign entities to each county auditor in the			
		state; and investigate any conveyance to a restricted			
		foreign entity; describes the duties of a county recorder			
		in relation to restricted foreign entities; and provides			
		the Division of Facilities Construction and Management			
		authority to sell an interest in land that a restricted			
		foreign entity fails to timely alienate.			
		On agenda for House Government Operations			
		Committee on 20 Feb.			
HB519 Department of	Rep. Snider	This bill clarifies that the Species Protection Account is	Passed House	1	<u>Oppose</u>
Natural Resources		administered by the Division of Wildlife Resources;	Committee.		
Modifications		modifies requirements related to the off-highway	22 Feb		
		vehicle safety education and training program; changes			
		how the off-highway vehicle safety user fee is set and	House 3 rd reading		
		allows the Division of Outdoor Recreation to collect an			
		electronic payment fee; clarifies provisions related to			
		the Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office; repeals a			
		provision related to actions brought to a district court			
		challenging a groundwater management plan; repeals a			
		requirement that the Board of Water Resources			
		establish a benefit to cost ratio for certain water			
		projects; repeals the definition of "species			
		protection"; repeals a provision requiring the Utah			
		Geological Survey to seek federal funds and administer			
		federally funded state programs related to			

		 energy; modifies provisions related to the director of the Office of Energy Development and removes references to energy advisor; clarifies the status of an employee of the Office of Energy Development; repeals a requirement that the governor approve the purchase or acceptance of property by the Division of Outdoor Recreation; repeals a requirement that 10% of certain expenditures by the Board of Water Resources be allocated for credit enhancement and interest buy-down agreements; clarifies that the Division of Outdoor Recreation has duties related to a contingency plan for federal property during a fiscal emergency; repeals outdated language, including appropriation language. <i>Bill language reduces the financial oversight on water projects (that use collected state taxes.) Would appear to remove another barrier to questionable water development projects.</i> During House Committee debate DNR director testified that language does not eliminate requirements for cost benefit analysis for all projects only. Rep Owens made 			
HB520 Fallow Land Amendments	Rep. Kyle	certain that statement by the director was on record.This bill clarifies that land allowed to lay fallow or uncultivated for agricultural purposes qualifies for agricultural and urban farming assessment; allows a county assessor to require the owner of fallow land to 	Passed House On agenda for Senate Committee 26 Feb	3	Neutral

HB524 Water Interests	Rep. Eliason	This bill requires the state engineer to study issues	Passed House	2	Neutral
Study		related to conveyances of water interests related to residential buildings; and requires reporting.	Committee 21 Feb		
		On agenda for House Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee for 21 Feb.	House 3 rd reading		
Bills added Week 5					
<u>HB525</u> Agricultural Amendments	Rep. Dailey-Provost	This bill requires the Department of Agriculture and Food (the department) to study the barriers and gaps related to increasing the availability of local food in the state; and requires the department to report the findings and recommendations of the study to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and the Environment Interim Committee.	Passed House Committee 21 Feb House 3 rd reading	3	Neutral
		Study of local agriculture.			
HB535 Water Conservation Modifications 1 st Substitute	Rep. Kohler	This bill requires the Great Salt Lake commissioner (commissioner) to conduct a study concerning municipal water; directs the commissioner to consult with certain persons in conducting the study; requires that the commissioner publish the study findings; requires reporting.	House 3 rd reading	1	Support
		1 st substitute makes minor changes.			
HB552 Pollution Control Amendments	Rep. Spendlove	This bill addresses provisions related to pollution control. Broadens the type of pollution control facility that can receive tax credits.	Assigned to House Committee	2	Support
<u>SB 16</u> Motor Vehicle Act Amendments	Sen. Harper	This bill allows the Division of Motor Vehicles to provide title to certain off-highway vehicles; defines terms and amends the definitions of certain motor vehicles; amends a provision to allow certain motor vehicles to emit visible contaminants.	Passed Senate and House. To GOVERNOR	2	Support
		Passed Senate and House. On Senate Concurrent calendar.			

SB 17 Safe Drinking Water Act Sunset Extension	Sen. Sandall	Some questions on Support position. My read, bill relocates definitions but more specifically gives DMV authority to site ORV that have visible emissions outside a warm up time. This was not clear in existing law. Passed House and Senate. To GOVERNOR. This bill extends the sunset date for the Safe Drinking Water Act. Passed Senate and House, to GOVERNOR.	Passed Senate and House. To GOVERNOR	1	Support
SB 18 Water Modifications	Sen. Sandall	 This bill modifies forfeiture provisions in relation to saved water; grants rulemaking authority related to saved water; addresses changes to a water right in relation to saved water; provides for proofs related to saved water; addresses certificates of appropriation in relation to saved water; modifies provisions related to segregation and saved water; clarifies language related to agricultural water optimization and saved water; repeals certain language related to agricultural water optimization. Bill does not completely address needs to ensure saved water properly but makes several significant steps. Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee agenda for 23 Jan '24 passed back to Senate with Favorable Recommendation. Minimal debate by committee. Passed House Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee with favorable recommendation on 7 Feb. Passed Senate and House. To GOVERNOR. 	Passed Senate and House. To GOVERNOR.	1	Support

SB 20 Agricultural and Wildlife Damage Prevention Board Amendments	Sen. Sandall	 This bill extends the sunset date of the Agricultural and Wildlife Damage Prevention Board from 2024 to 2034. Passed Senate to House. House Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environmental Committee passed with favorable recommendation on 24 Jan. Passed Senate and House. To GOVERNOR. 	Passed Senate and House. To GOVERNOR	3	Neutral
SB 28 Scenic Byway Program Amendments 1 st Substitute	Sen. Harper	 This bill restructures how a highway is designated as a state scenic byway and how a state scenic byway designation is removed; restructures how a highway or state scenic byway is nominated as a National Scenic Byway or an All-American Road; repeals the Utah State Scenic Byway Committee and assigns certain responsibilities of the former Utah State Scenic Byway Committee to a temporary committee and the Transportation Commission; requires the Department of Transportation and the Utah Office of Tourism to coordinate to prioritize projects for federal grants related to scenic byways and make recommendations to the Transportation Commission for final approval. Significant modification to first substitute but importantly removes the member of the billboard industry from the committee and adds the legislature via concurrent resolution for approval above the committee. Passed Senate Transportation, Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology Committee with favorable recommendation on 5 Feb. On agenda for House Transportation Committee on 21 Feb. 	Passed House Committee 21 Feb House 3 rd reading	2	Neutral

SB 39 Water Shareholder Amendments	Sen. Sandall	 This bill addresses the timing of a water company's response to a shareholder's proposed change application. Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee agenda for Jan 17, 24 passed back to Senate with Favorable Recommendation. Jan 23, Passed Senate to House. Passed House Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee with favorable recommendation on 1 Feb. On House 3rd reading calendar. Passed Senate and House. To Governor. Signed by Governor. 	SIGNED	3	Neutral
SB 55 Bear Lake Preservation Amendments	Sen. Wilson	This bill defines certain principles of the Bear Lake that are associated with its environmental and recreational uniqueness and value. It also requires development be consistent with these principles	Senate Committee Not Considered	2	<u>Neutral</u>
SB 57 Utah Constitutional Sovereignty Act	Sen. Sandall	Expecting a substitution that may not be favorable.This bill establishes a framework for the Legislature, by concurrent resolution, to prohibit the enforcement of a federal directive within the state by government officers if the Legislature determines the federal directive violates the principles of state sovereignty; describes the ways in which a federal directive violates the principles of state sovereignty; limits the authority for requesting a concurrent resolution under the bill; requires the Legislature to consult with the attorney general regarding the potential impact of a concurrent resolution on litigation; specifies the required contents of a concurrent resolution; clarifies the effects of a concurrent resolution upon adoption; establishes	SIGNED	3	Oppose

		 requirements for the termination of a concurrent resolution; and clarifies the effects of legislative inaction on a federal directive. Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee agenda for Jan 17, 24 passed back to Senate with Favorable Recommendation. Sen. Sandall positions bill as process only. Sen. Blouin expressed position that the Governor already has this capability. This is not specifically environmentally focus so priority lowered. Passed Senate to House. House Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environmental Committee passed with favorable recommendation on 24 Jan. Passed House. SIGNED by GOVERNOR. 			
SB 67 Public Thoroughfare Amendments 2 nd Substitution	Sen. Sandall	This bill amends provisions related to public use of a private road to establish the road as a public thoroughfare, including: a requirement of 10 years of continuous use in the most recent 30-year period to establish and maintain a public thoroughfare; and clarification that a road returns to private ownership if continuous use ceases; clarifies that eminent domain powers are not impacted by the changes in this bill. <i>Allows private owners to more easily block access to designated public road ways.</i> <i>Interestingly this bill is strongly opposed by ORV/ATV groups as roads primarily impacted would be roads they use. However, these are also roads, across private land, to access federal wilderness lands. Remain Oppose, not in favor a ORV but could limit other access as well.</i>	Passed Senate and House. To Governor	3	Neutral

		2 nd substitution changed language to "if public has not used listed road in last 50 years" reverts back to owner's private land, so in the end Neutral on this passed version.			
SB 75 Mineral Amendments 3 rd Substitution	Sen. Owens	This bill amends definitions; modifies aggregate value of tax credit certificates that may be issued under certain circumstances; addresses federal agency consultation before certain acts related to federal designations and minerals.	House Rules due to Fiscal Note	3	Oppose
		Expands availability of existing tax credit for certain mining operations. Does not apply to mining in GSL and SITLA, those are not part of the existing tax credit. Sen. Blouin expressed concern with the federal consultation felt there were other mechanisms to address.			
		Position. OPPOSE as this is an incentive for expanding mining operations.			
		3 rd substitution adds stronger language to exempt mining in "on the GSL" but does not change the incentive structure for mining.			
SB 77 Water Rights Restricted Account Amendments	Sen. Sandall	This bill modifies the purposes for which money in the Water Rights Restricted Account may be expended. Adds water measuring equipment and cost sharing on	Passed Senate and House. To GOVERNOR	1	Support
		stream gauges to purpose of the fund. Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment			
		Committee agenda for Jan 17, 24 passed back to Senate with Favorable Recommendation.			
		Jan 23, Passed Senate to House. House 1 st reading.			
		Passed House Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Committee with favorable recommendation on 1 Feb.			

		On House 3 rd reading calendar.			
		Passed Senate and House. To Governor.			
Bills added Week 1					
SB113 Disposition of State Property Amendments	Sen. Buxton	This bill modifies provisions related to the sale, long- term lease, or other disposition of real property, water rights, or water shares associated with the Utah State Developmental Center; modifies the duties and the	House 3 rd CIRCLED	3	Neutral
		authority of the Division of Facilities Construction and Management (division); modifies provisions related to the purchase or exchange of division-owned real property.			
		Deals specifically with land that was granted to the Developmental Center. Changes decision on land from Developmental Center board to Div of Facilities and Construction.			
		Low priority, but change to Oppose from Watch as bill seems a play to take control of the land from the Center.			
		Bill substituted and amended. New bill leaves authority with developmental center.			
		Passed Senate to House.			
		On agenda for House Government Operations Committee on 20 Feb			
<u>SB118</u> Water Efficiency Amendments	Sen. McKell	This bill provides for developer incentives to use water efficient landscaping in new residential development; grants rulemaking authority.	Passed House Committee, 22 Feb	2	Support
4 th substitute		Passed Senate Transportation, Public Utilities, Energy	To House Rules		
		and Technology Committee with favorable recommendation on 5 Feb.	due to fiscal impact		
		Passed Senate to House.			

		On agenda for House Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee for 21 Feb. 4 th and prior substitute provide more detail definition of eligible housing types. Not material to the impact of the bill.			
SB125 Secondary Water Amendments 1 st Substitute	Sen. Hinkins	 This bill modifies who may meter at strategic points of a system as approved by the state engineer. Makes one change in qualification for strategic metering raising water user from 1000 to 2500. Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee agenda for 23 Jan '24 passed back to Senate with Favorable Recommendation. Position changed to Oppose. This is a step backward meaning more unmetered secondary water that should go to GSL. Also, change being made based on two complaints to Sen. Hinkins. Senate 3rd reading calendar, CIRCLED. I have seen opinion coalesce against this change, appears the bill will now exempt only water providers outside the GSL Basin. Does not seem wise to continue to create in legislation a "not our problem" excuse for regions outside the GSL Basin. GSL condition is a state level catastrophe. 1st substitute retains 2500 user requirement for larger cities and changes to 1000 users for smaller rural cities. 	Passed Senate and House. Senate To Governor	1	Oppose
Bills added Week 2					
<u>SB142</u> Lawn Equipment Tax Credit Amendments	Sen. Pitcher	This bill enacts a nonrefundable income tax credit for sellers that sell new, electric-powered lawn equipment at a discount; requires a seller that intends to claim the tax credit to report information about sales to the State	Senate Committee Not Considered	2	Support

		Tax Commission; schedules the repeal of the tax credit but requires legislative review before repeal.			
SB153 Idling Amendments	Sen. Blouin	This bill allows certain local highway authorities to enact an ordinance to prohibit or restrict certain commercial vehicles from idling; allows an individual who reports an idling violation or certain other emissions violations to receive a reward for reporting the violation; allows an ordinance to include increased penalties for violations during times when air quality is unsafe for sensitive groups; exempts from an idling ordinance certain vehicles owned or operated by a government entity; allows an exemption from an idling ordinance certain commercial vehicles if the functional purpose of the vehicle might require idling; allows a person to purchase an exemption for a fleet of vehicles in certain circumstances; allows a local highway authority to impose a road usage charge for road usage during times when air quality is unsafe for sensitive groups.	Senate Committee HELD	2	Support
		Assigned to Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee.			
Bills added Week 3					
SB161 Energy Security Amendments 5 th Substitute	Sen. Owens	This bill requires a project entity to provide notice to the Public Service Commission (commission) before decommissioning an electrical generation facility; outlines a process for the commission to determine and provide the fair market value of an electrical generation facility intended for commissioning; requires a project entity to offer an electrical generation facility intended for decommissioning for sale at fair market value before decommissioning; allows the state the option to purchase an electrical generation facility intended for decommissioning if no buyer purchases at full fair market value; amends provisions related to air quality permits for a project entity that owns an electrical generation facility with multiple generating units and is transitioning to a new electrical generation	Passed House Committee. 22 Feb Back to rules due to fiscal note updates.	2	Oppose

		 facility; allows the project entity to apply for an alternative permit to keep one or more existing generating units in operation during the transition, if the project entity has a transition permit requiring closure of all existing units; and outlines the review process for an alternative permit and conditions for either the alternative or transition permit to become effective. <i>First read, this is another bill that could complicate the decommissioning of inefficient power plants.</i> <i>Per sponsor this is a specific bill to save a particular power plant and local jobs.</i> <i>Passed Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Committee with favorable recommendation.</i> <i>On House 2nd reading calendar.</i> <i>Several substitutes to this bill but does not diminish bill objective to keep aged coal systems operating. Most changes at request of power generator – Intermountain Power Agency.</i> 			
SB170 Clean Truck Incentive Program	Sen. Ipson	This bill creates a grant program within the Division of Air Quality for eligible purchasers of clean trucks; directs the division to provide grants from the Environmental Mitigation and Response Fund; allows the division to replenish the Environmental Mitigation and Response Fund with money from federal programs; outlines the incentives available to eligible purchasers through the program; requires the division to coordinate with the Department of Transportation in using federal funds for the program; requires the division to make a recommendation to the Air Quality Board relating to the regulation of medium or heavy duty vehicles.	Senate Committee Not Considered	2	Support

SB172 Protection Areas	Sen. Hinkins	This bill addresses general land use authority; addresses	Agenda for	1	<u>Oppose</u>
Revisions		vested critical infrastructure materials protection	Senate		
		operations, including repealing redundant	Committee		
		language; modifies provisions related to filing	26 Feb		
		declarations; provides for the rights of a critical			
		infrastructure materials operator; amends provisions			
		related to the critical infrastructure materials protection			
		area advisory board; addresses the creation of a critical			
		infrastructure materials protection area; repeals			
		authority to establish a minimum number of continuous			
		acres that may be included in a protection area; outlines			
		the notice of a proposal to create a protection			
		area; addresses public hearing requirements; modifies			
		criteria to be considered in creating a protection			
		area; amends process to add land or remove land from			
		a protection area; modifies effects of annexation; limits			
		powers related to review of protection areas; addresses			
		limitations on local regulations; addresses			
		nuisance; modifies the policy for state agencies; amends			
		restrictions related to eminent domain; addresses			
		vested mining uses.			
		Extensive existing legislation and this bill makes			
		numerous changes. First read, another means to "fence			
		off" mining, ag/ranching, etc lands from other use.			
		Assigned to Senate Economic Development and			
		Workforce Services Committee.			
		Fiscal note received, sent back to Senate Rules.			
SB179 Transportation	Sen. Harper	This bill makes technical changes throughout various	Passed House	3	Neutral
Amendments		sections to clean up cross references and remove	Committee		
		outdated language; amends the definition of a	22 Feb		
		snowmobile; prohibits the storage of flammable,			
		explosive, or combustible materials near or beneath	House Rules due		
		certain highway and public transit facilities; amends	to fiscal impact		
		provisions regarding the use of certain funds for public			
		transit studies; amends the descriptions of highways			

SB191 Grid Enhancing Technologies	Sen. Blouin	 near certain state parks; amends a provision related to required matching funds to qualify for certain transportation funding to exclude projects administered by the Department of Transportation; amends the definition of abandoned aircraft. This bill establishes a grid enhancing technologies program to incentivize electric utilities to deploy technologies that increase transmission system capacity, efficiency, and reliability; requires utilities to analyze grid enhancing technologies as alternatives in transmission infrastructure proceedings; allows cost recovery and incentives for grid enhancing technology deployments approved by the Public Service Commission (commission); provides for expedited review for local permits for grid enhancing technology technology technology technology the rule projects; and provides the commission with rulemaking authority to administer incentives for the implementation of grid enhancing technology. <i>First Substitute introduced that maintains the incentive for grid enhancing technology but essentially eliminates the reporting and monitoring requirements of the Introduced bill. Still a step forward to upgrading to latest grid technologies on existing power transmission</i> 	Passed Senate to House House 1 st reading	2	Support
Bills Added Week 4		lines.			
SB195 Golf Course Amendments	Sen. McCay	This bill makes water data regarding golf courses a protected record under Government Records Access and Management Act; requires a study of water use by golf courses; creates an advisory board related to golf that is subject to a sunset date.Appears overall positive to study water use at golf courses, need to understand the protecting of the water data.	Senate 3 rd reading CIRCLED	2	Oppose

		 Water data protection is only for data collected in the study. Public golf course water is currently available. Passed Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee with favorable recommendation on 8 Feb. Senate 3rd reading. CIRCLED. Change in position. Research of other organizations believe this would exempt all water use data going forward and not just the data collected in the study. 			
SB196 Great Salt Lake Amendments 1 st substitution	Sen. Blouin	 This directs the Great Salt Lake Commissioner to make a plan and conduct a pilot program to address wet water years; requires reporting. Passed Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee with favorable recommendation on 14 Feb. Senate 3rd reading calendar. 1st substitution does not impact the intent of the bill but clarifies a number of points for the GSL commissioner to include as part of the plan. 	Senate 3 rd reading CIRCLED	1	Support
SB203 Drinking Water Amendments	Sen. Sandall	This bill requires the Department of Environmental Quality to establish a fee schedule; outlines requirements related to the fee schedule; allows for fees to be set to establish a financial incentive to comply with certain criteria; provides for the collection of fees; provides that the fees are treated as dedicated credits; and requires monitoring of fees.Will result in increased fee on drinking water.Passed Senate to House.	House Committee agenda 26 Feb	2	Neutral

SB211 Generational	Sen. Adams	This directs the creation of the Water District Water	Passed House	1	<u>Oppose</u>
Water Infrastructure		Development Council (council) under the Interlocal	Committee		
Amendments		Cooperation Act; outlines restrictions on the	21 Feb.		
		council; provides for the powers and duties of the			
		council; requires reporting by the council; requires	House rules due		
		consultation by the council; provides for access to	to fiscal impact.		
		documents of state or local agencies; amends provisions			
		related to meetings and records of the			
		council; addresses the powers and duties of the Board			
		of Water Resources and the Division of Water			
		Resources; addresses expenditures from the Water			
		Infrastructure Restricted Account; provides for the			
		appointment of the Utah water agent (water			
		agent); provides for the powers and duties of the water			
		agent; requires reporting by the water agent; requires			
		consultation by the water agent; addresses negotiations			
		of the water agent; amends provisions related to			
		procurement and records of the water agent; addresses			
		access to documents of state or local agencies; includes			
		a sunset date regarding the water agent; and makes			
		technical and conforming changes.			
		Bill was substituted and amended. Amended language			
		was offered by Democratic Caucus and clarifies advisory			
		nature of council and no authority to make policy or			
		control money. Passed Senate with only NAY from			
		Senator Blouin.			
		Position remains OPPOSE despite the language offered			
		from Dem Caucus as language is no real impact to the			
		transparency elements of the council and agent			
		positions.			
		Minimal debate in committee, bill maintains strong			
		legislative support.			
		Representative Doug Owens came out in committee in			
		Support of this bill.			

		Utah Rivers Council and Sierra club made public opposition to the bill in House committee particular the public reporting exemptions for the council and water agent.			
SB224 Energy Independence Amendments 1 st Substitute	Sen. Sandall	Ugent.This bill modifies the factors the Public ServiceCommission (commission) must consider whenevaluating certain proposed energy resourcedecisions; establishes parameters for an affectedelectrical utility's recovery of costs associated withproven dispatchable generation resources locatedwithin the state; encourages the commission toevaluate the purchase of excess proven dispatchablegeneration capacity; allows an electrical corporation tocreate a Utah fire fund to supplement other insurancefor making certain fire damage payments; establishesrequirements for administration, funding, and access toa Utah fire fund; and enacts provisions related to filingand resolving claims against an electrical corporation fordamages caused by wildfire.Language for "dispatchable energy" is ambiguous andbroad enough to suggest this would facilitatemaintaining existing inefficient coal burning plants oradditional power generation facilities and types perhapsnuclear. State also makes commitment to purchaseexcess energy from these coal facilities that comesavailable as other states stop purchasing from coalplants.Passes cost of liability insurance to users.1 st substitute does not change overall impact of bill.	Passed Senate	1	Oppose
Bills Added Week 5					
<u>SB242</u> Utah Lake Modifications	Sen. McKell	This bill repeals the Utah Lake Restoration Act; repeals the provisions related to the Utah Lake Diking Project.	Passed Senate	1	<u>Support</u>

Bills Added Week 6 <u>SB257</u> Geothermal Energy Production Amendments	Sen. Blouin	Repeals of the act and provisions for diking at Utah Lake very positive. Passed Senate Economic Development and Workforce Committee on 16 Feb. This bill requires the Office of Energy Development to conduct a geothermal resources study; and creates the Utah Geothermal Task Force.	Agenda for House Committee 26 Feb Passed Senate Committee 22 Feb Senate 2 nd reading.	2	Support
SB264 Inland Port Authority Amendments Amended	Sen. Stevenson	This bill makes the Utah Inland Port Authority subject to the Utah Industrial Facilities and Development Act; modifies limitations on board members; modifies notice requirements for a project area plan; prohibits the authority from paying certain developer costs associated with the construction of public infrastructure and improvements in a project area; provides that the base taxable value of project area land applies to land added to the project area; modifies provisions relating to the distribution of sales tax revenue; and removes a condition applicable to the authority's creation of a remediation project area. <i>This bill further expands the authorities and responsibilities of the Utah Inland Port Authority.</i> <i>Despite poor project completion history of the UIPA this actually adds an additional project.</i> <i>Amendment has no impact to overall bill.</i> <i>Significant public opposition during Senate committee debate.</i>	Passed Senate Committee 22 Feb Senate 2 nd reading.	1	<u>Oppose</u>
SB270 Utah Lake and Great Salt Lake Study Amendments	Sen. Bramble	This bill requires the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands (division) to conduct a study meeting certain requirements; requires the division to develop an	Passed Senate Committee 23 Feb	1	<u>Support</u>

1 st Substitute	implementation plan; requires reporting; provides a sunset date.	
	1 st substitute diminishes impact of the overall bill by removing the "Implementation Plan" element for a study with proposal plan. And, adding language that essentially requires deference to the water rights and water projects that currently exist.	