

UTAH CONSERVATION COMMUNITY

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

2025 General Legislative Session

Week 3

February 9, 2025

2025 Legislative Update

Each update provides key highlights for the prior week's 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 www.le.utah.gov. 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

Action Opportunities:

There has been quite a lot of activity this past week as bills progress and new ones continue to be introduced it shows us how the legislator is moving to enact their "priorities".

Listed below are bills that deserve your attention and if you are willing and able, your voice in opposition.

Water/Wildlife:

HB304 Livestock Watering Amendments: Appears to allow grazing water rights to circumvent the usual water rights process.

HB378 Department of Natural Resources Funding Amendments: Essentially de-incentivizes solar electricity with a specific tax. Opens the door for radioactive waste disposal. Funds the Species Protection Account which, while funding some good projects also funds legal challenges to federal departments.

HB386 Public Waters Access Amendments: Essentially sets law that the responsibility of proving the bed of a river is

publicly accessible is on the public and not the private land owner. Another step in shutting off access to public lands through private property.

Inland Port Authority:

SB239 Inland Port Authority Amendments: introduced late this week and already assigned to committee, so moving fast, expands UIPA authority and responsibility. UIPA simply has not demonstrated a return on value and risking significant environmental harm.

Mining:

HB355 Critical Infrastructure Materials Amendments: This bill protects expansion of mines from local government oversight. This is in direct contrast to a study commissioned by the legislature and presented in November. The study explicitly stated, there was plenty of material in Utah and that local government should maintain jurisdiction.

SB187 Critical Minerals Amendments: This bill essentially exempts the mining of fluorspar or gallium from the full requirements to access monies in a special fund.

Energy:

All of the bills listed below subsidize or incentive nuclear or coal over renewable/non-carbon producing energy sources.

- HB70 Decommissioned Asset Disposition Amendments
- HB201 Energy Resource Amendments
- HB241 Solar Power Plant Amendments
- HB249 Nuclear Power Amendments

- SB61 Energy Corridor Amendments
- SB132 Electric Utility Amendments

There has been some positive progress.

- HB328 Water Usage Amendments
- HB330 Water Sprinkler Efficiency Amendments

Two bills sponsored by Rep. Doug Owens for water efficiency in municipal lawn watering have now been assigned to committee so some positive movement.

Bills sponsored by Rep. Casey Snider that we initially opposed:

HB244 Wildlife Management Area Amendments: the bill that creates a new WMA in the GSL but also removed a limit on impoundments was amended after conversation with National Audubon and now supported

HB309 Wildlife Amendments: which primarily addressed hunting but also create limits on WMA access and essentially permitted hunting on all conservation easements was pulled from committee hearing. This is a sign that the bill is being reworked and I am hopeful we see a substitution that addresses concerns.

Lastly, Rep. Casey Snider's

HB274 Water Amendments: which essentially allows water agencies to enact tiered water pricing structure, which

facilitates water conservation, passed the first committee hearing and is progressing.

Appropriations:

Last week I promised I would cover appropriations this week, but I am going to give it one more week to get into details. We are starting to see a few specific requests for appropriations from legislators and departments start to make their requests but at this time most are still from the Governor's budget request.

BILL TRACKING LIST

Position: Underline means initial position ... investigating further and position may change.

Bill	Sponsor	Description <i>Italics are UAC commentary/explanation</i> <i>Comments in orange are new/changed vs prior week.</i>	Topic	Status	Priority	Position
HOUSE BILLS PRE-SESSION						
<u>HB18</u> Petroleum Storage Tank Amendments	Rep. Steve Eliason	This bill: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ changes terms "underground" and "petroleum" as appropriate; ▶ provides that the Petroleum Storage Tank Restricted Account earns interest to be deposited into that account; ▶ addresses registration of underground storage tanks and aboveground petroleum storage tanks; ▶ addresses the Petroleum Storage Tank Fund, including authorization to request certain legislative appropriations; ▶ modifies assessment of an environmental assurance fee based on the cash balance of the Petroleum Storage Tank Fund; ▶ modifies the petroleum storage tank fee provisions; ▶ provides for certificates of compliance; ▶ clarifies restrictions on petroleum storage tank installation companies; ▶ directs certain monies be deposited into the Petroleum Storage Tank Cleanup Fund; ▶ addresses claims not covered by the Petroleum Storage Tank Fund; ▶ clarifies language regarding liability; 	Admin	Passed Senate Natural Resources Comm 05 Feb 25 Senate 2 nd reading	Low	Support

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ addresses eligibility for participation in the Petroleum Storage Tank Fund; and ▶ makes technical and conforming amendments. <p><i>Substantial changes, many are technical in nature. Those that are more substantial clarify the responsibilities and fees of tank installers. My read is clarifications are more stringent than previous version.</i></p>				
HB26 Road Jurisdiction Amendments	Rep. Karen M. Peterson	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ removes certain roads as state highways; and ▶ modifies the description of certain state highways. <p><i>Technical changes to highway names.</i></p>	Admin	<p>Passed Senate Transportation Comm w Favorable Recommendation 28 Jan 25</p> <p>Senate 2nd Reading</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Circled</p>	Low	Support
HB34 State Campground Amendments	Rep. Steve Eliason	<p>This bill establishes the procedure for designating a state campground; addresses management of state campgrounds; and authorizes rulemaking by the Division of State Parks to: establish the process for completing and submitting an application; and administer management of a state campground.</p> <p><i>Provides clarity on the creation and management of state-run campgrounds.</i></p>	Land use	<p>Passed Senate</p> <p>To Governor</p>	Low	Support
HB36 Provo Canyon Resource Management Plan Amendments	Rep. Gay Lynn Bennion	<p>This bill extends the sunset date for the section related to the Provo Canyon resource management plan.</p>	Admin	<p>Passed House</p> <p>To House for Enrolling</p>	Low	Support
HB41 State Water Policy Amendments 1st Sub	Rep. Carl Albrecht	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ addresses water quality in groundwater; ▶ removes language related to balancing certain values or needs in water policy; 	Water	<p>Assigned to Senate Natural Resources Committee</p>	Low	Support

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ encourages monitoring of watersheds; ▶ promotes state water planning; ▶ accounts for regionally appropriate water reuse; and ▶ makes technical changes. <p><i>Positive update to state water policy other than elimination of verbiage; "... balancing economic, social and environmental needs." This was late proposal from lame duck Rep. Jimenez. Oppose elimination of verbiage on principle.</i></p> <p><i>Text has been added back to bill. SUPPORT.</i></p>				
HB46 Water Rights Applications Amendments	Rep. Doug Owens	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ addresses time frames related to reinstatement of a lapsed application; and ▶ makes technical changes. 	Water	Passed House To Senate	Low	Support
HB47 Public Lands Watering Rights Amendments	Rep. Carl Albrecht	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ repeals language regarding livestock water use certificates; ▶ addresses when a federal land management agency reduces livestock grazing animal unit month (AUMs); ▶ addresses a claim under Public Water Reserve No. 107; and ▶ makes technical and conforming changes. <p><i>Complex legal water rights issue.</i></p> <p><i>This is based on a 19020's era executive order PWR107 setting aside land around water on public lands for grazing or human consumption. However, BLM has never completely inventoried such water sources. This requires that if the federal government claims water rights for water on federal land, they have the responsibility if to demonstrate that the water source meets the PR 107 timeline and quantify beneficial water rights.</i></p>	Land Use	Assigned to Senate Natural Resources Committee	Low	Oppose

		<p><i>The water rights will then be determined through state processes.</i></p> <p><i>My research on this is that these changes clarify the process for the state engineer. All research shows that this has been poorly planned on state and federal levels and will most likely only be worked out through litigation.</i></p>				
<p>HB48 Wildland Urban Interface Modifications 2nd sub</p>	<p>Rep. Casey Snider</p>	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ requires counties to take certain actions related to wildland urban interface property, including assessing a fee; ▶ directs the fee to be retained by a county or deposited into the Wildland-urban Interface Prevention, Preparedness, and Mitigation Fund; ▶ addresses insuring wildland urban interface property; ▶ imposes notice requirements related to insuring wildland urban interface property; ▶ requires counties and municipalities to adopt the wildland urban interface building code standards; ▶ permits the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands (division) to choose not to cover costs of local governments under certain circumstances; ▶ directs the division to establish a program for wildland urban interface coordinators to evaluate, using a triage scale, high risk wildland urban interface property; ▶ addresses actions related to evaluating the high-risk wildland urban interface property; ▶ provides for a database to be accessed by certain insurers related to evaluating high risk wildland urban interface property; ▶ authorizes rulemaking; ▶ addresses liability; and ▶ makes technical changes. 	<p>Admin</p>	<p>Passed House Business, Labor, Commerce Comm w Favorable Recommendation 31 Jan 25</p> <p>House 2nd reading.</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Support</p>

		<i>Establishes fees for development near wildland to address fire hazard risks.</i>				
HB67 Precious Metals Investment and Administration Amendments	Rep. K Ivory	<p>This bill allows the state treasurer to deduct administrative costs for investing in precious metals from earnings generated by the investments in certain funds.</p> <p><i>Bill makes no substantive changes to existing law or incentives simply clarifies money uses in the fund. This seems a mechanism to buy gold.</i></p>	Admin	<p>Passed House to Senate</p> <p>Passed Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee w Favorable Recommendation 03 Feb 25</p> <p>Senate 2nd reading.</p>	Low	Oppose
HB70 Decommissioned Asset Disposition Amendments	Rep. C. Jack	<p>This bill prohibits a project entity from: altering facilities that provide power to station service; disconnecting from or modifying existing interconnections and critical switchyard equipment; and taking actions that would require a new plant owner to make an interconnection request.</p> <p><i>This is another means to prevent the decommissioning of coal fired power plants.</i></p>	Coal*	Assigned to House public Utilities and Energy Committee	Low	<u>Oppose</u>
HB72 Electricity Rate Amendments	Rep. C. Albrecht	<p>This bill establishes requirements for the Public Service Commission to prioritize Utah ratepayer interests when allocating utility costs; prohibits cost recovery from Utah ratepayers for facilities and programs primarily benefiting other states; eliminates electrical corporation energy balancing account cost recovery for costs incurred after December 31, 2024; and maintains existing energy balancing account provisions for costs incurred before December 31, 2024.</p>	Coal	Assigned to Senate Transportation, Public Utilities, Energy and Tech Committee	Low	Support

		<p><i>Discussed at House Public Utilities and Energy Committee on Jan 22. I read this as a political battle between Rep. Albrecht and RMP. It will certainly mean more emphasis by RMP on fossil fuels.</i></p> <p><i>The Energy Balancing Account is confusing and ultimately allows RMP to increase costs outside of rates. A more appropriate mechanism is needed.</i></p>				
<p>HB85 Environmental Permitting Modifications 1st sub</p>	Rep. T. Clancy	<p>This bill requires the Division of Air Quality (division) to develop and publish guidance and rules related to federal plantwide applicability limitations; requires the division to review the division's rules related to permit by rule registration; adds a repeal date for the sections related to plantwide applicability limitations and permit by rule registration.</p> <p><i>I will listen to any committee discussion.</i></p> <p><i>This bill initiates a study and recommendation only.</i></p> <p><i>Permit by rule is a means to allow new facilities to avoid permitting reviews. Bill language includes "natural gas boilers and heaters" and "sand and gravel" as eligible for Permit by Rule. This could essentially provide a rubber stamp for such facilities in the future.</i></p>	Air	<p>Passed House.</p> <p>To Senate</p>	Low	Oppose
<p>HB89 Water Transfer Amendments 1st sub</p>	Rep. G. Bennion	<p>This bill prohibits the transfer of water shares via small estate probate procedures involving an affidavit.</p>	Water	<p>Passed House Natural Resources Comm with Favorable Recommendation 29 Jan 25</p> <p>House 2nd reading</p>	Low	Support

<p>HB103 Public Land Access Road Amendments</p>	<p>Rep. T. Shelley</p>	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ requires the Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office (PLPCO) and the School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) to identify certain roads that provide access to the state lands; ▶ requires PLPCO and SITLA to record with the relevant county recorder's office notice of the access roads relevant to state lands; ▶ exempts class A, class B, and class C roads from the notice requirements; and ▶ codifies a provision to ensure that title to a class D road abandoned by a county reverts to the state. <p><i>I read this as a requirement to map roads on state land so if sold or transferred, particularly to federal government, this is evidence to keep roads open for "traffic use" (OHV). However, it is a very specific requirement for mapping only.</i></p>	<p>Road</p>	<p>Assigned to House Political Subdivision Committee</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Oppose</p>
<p>HB115 State Park Funding Amendments</p>	<p>Rep. W. Brooks</p>	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ allows interest earned on the money in the State Park Fees Restricted Account to remain in the account. <p><i>Creates more funds for state parks through interest.</i></p>	<p>Land</p>	<p>Passed House Natural Resources Comm with Favorable Recommendation 26 Jan 25</p> <p>House 2nd reading</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Support</p>
<p>HB119 Solar Panel Restrictions in Homeowners Associations Amendments</p>	<p>Rep. D. Owens</p>	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ stops a homeowner's association from prohibiting solar panel installation; and ▶ authorizes a homeowner's association to restrict solar panel installation. 	<p>Solar</p>	<p>Passed House Political Subdivisions Comm w Favorable Recommendation 04 Feb 25</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Support</p>

				House 2 nd reading		
HB147 Aquatic Invasive Species	Rep. Shipp	<p>This bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ exempts an owner or operator of certain vessels from requirements related to invasive species and launching or operating the vessel on waters of the state. <p><i>Exempts nonmotorized boats and inflatable motorized from the inspection fee.</i></p>	Admin	House 1 st reading	Low	Neutral
HB153 Hunting Requirements 1 st sub	Rep. Shipp	<p>This bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ allows for compensating up to three individuals in locating or monitoring the location of big game animals on public land; ▶ provides an exemption under certain circumstances for an individual disclosing the location of a big game animal; ▶ clarifies effect of violating provisions related to compensating people to locate big game animals. <p><i>Changes to existing statute. Main change is expansion from 1 to 3 of compensated individuals that monitor big game and provide location to a hunting guide.</i></p> <p><i>1st substitute is a complete re-write of the original bill. It essentially creates standards for guides/spotters/etc and requires a registration process and fee and now allows up to 4 paid guides vs 2 previously.</i></p>	Admin	Passed House Natural Resources Committee w Favorable Recommendation 06 Feb 25	Low	Support
HB157 Energy Education Amendments 2 nd sub	Rep. C. Jack	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ requires the Office of Energy Development (office) to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •develop and maintain energy education programs and curricula for grades K-12; •develop and provide professional development training for educators; 	Admin	Passed House. Senate 1 st reading.	Low	Oppose

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •develop energy related workforce development programs; and •establish the Energy Education and Workforce Development Task Force <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ outlines the responsibilities and duties of the task force; and ▸ requires the office to report annually to the Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology Interim Committee. <p><i>Content is not specified but seems means to establish “coal first” education. Will monitor committee conversations.</i></p> <p><i>2nd sub adds membership of advisory council to create education curriculum, members included from Board of Oil Gas and Mining, Utah Municipal Power Agency, Utah Petroleum Assoc, Utah Mining Association, very indicative of purpose. Remain OPPOSE.</i></p>				
HB174 Water Rights Restricted Account	Rep. Albrecht	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ addresses money for obtaining legal support. <p><i>Allows funds in the restricted account to be used for legal services.</i></p> <p><i>This slightly expands how the state engineer may use the funds within the Water Rights Restricted Account. This will fund work that the state engineer already does with other funds. I do not see this as a significant expansion of legal activities.</i></p>	Admin	Passed House Natural Resources Comm w Favorable Recommendation 03 Feb 25	Low	Support
HB185 Railroad Modifications	Rep. Clancy	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ requires the Division of Air Quality (division) to conduct an inventory related to emissions from railyards in certain counties in the state; ▸ requires the division to propose an emissions reduction plan for emissions from certain 	Air	House 1 st reading	High	Support

		<p>railroad locomotives to be implemented by December 31, 2027;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ requires the division to recommend state action for implementing the emissions reduction plan; and ▸ requires the division to report on the inventory, plan, and recommendations. <p><i>This bill initiates a STUDY.</i></p>				
<p>HB201 Energy Resource Amendments 1st sub</p>	Rep. Jack	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ requires full cost attribution for supplemental resources in integrated resource plans; ▸ establishes requirements for calculating generation capacity; ▸ prohibits certain involuntary demand management programs. <p><i>Again, complex but hard not to read as a means to de-incentive non fossil fuel energy options.</i></p> <p><i>Fossil Fuel based argument against investment in renewable using consumer cost and protections as basis.</i></p> <p><i>Excellent public arguments pointing out the “unintended consequences” of this bill in forcing system costs onto renewable resources and limiting demand management planning.</i></p> <p><i>Sierra club and Utah Clean Energy objected. I will confirm with them if</i></p>	Coal*	<p>Passed House Public Utilities Comm w Favorable Recommendation 04 Feb 25</p> <p>House 3rd reading.</p>	High	<u>Oppose</u>
<p>HB212 Grid Enhancing Technology 1st sub</p>	Rep. Watkins	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ outlines cost-effectiveness analyses and approval procedures when a large-scale electric utility (utility) proposes grid enhancement deployment; and ▸ provides that a utility may recover approved costs. 	Energy	<p>Passed House Public Utilities Comm w Favorable Recommendation 30 Jan 25</p>	Low	Support

		<i>Provides for a financial incentive if an electricity generator implements grid enhancing technology.</i>		House 3rd reading		
HB229 Transportation Funds Amendments	Rep. Christofferson	This bill: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ amends provisions related to corridor preservation to include fixed guideway public transit facilities for corridor preservation. <p><i>This bill clarifies that funds in the corridor preservation fund can be used to purchase land for train paths (fixed guideways) for the future.</i></p>	Land Use	Passed House Transportation Comm with Favorable Recommendation 29 Jan 25 House 2 nd reading	Low	Support
HB241 Solar Power Plant Amendments	Rep. Jack	This bill: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ establishes location and design standards for solar power plants; ▸ sets requirements for lot size, height, setbacks, noise levels, and visual appearance; ▸ prohibits solar power plants in certain areas; ▸ requires a decommissioning plan and fund; ▸ establishes a permit application and review process; and ▸ provides for severability. <p><i>These changes significantly limit solar production facilities in Utah.</i></p>	Solar*	Assigned to House Public Utilities and Energy Committee	High	<u>Oppose</u>
HB243 Agriculture Water Optimization Amendments	Rep. Snider	This bill: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ allows the Agricultural Water Optimization Committee to use certain money to fund research; ▸ modifies eligibility requirements related to grants for agricultural water optimization; and ▸ makes technical and conforming amendments. <p><i>More uses of water optimization fund.</i></p>	Water	House 1 st reading	High	Support
HB244 Wildlife Management Area Amendments 1 st sub	Rep. Snider	This bill: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ directs the creation of a wildlife management area known as the Bear River Bay Waterfowl Management Area; 	Habitat	Passed House Natural Resources Committee w	High	<u>Support</u>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ provides limits and requirements related to the Bear River Bay Waterfowl Management Area; ▶ removes restrictions on impounding structures in certain waterfowl management areas; ▶ removes prohibitions related to the regulation of airboats or small watercraft in certain waterfowl management areas. <p><i>1st sub still permits impoundments but creates an advisory committee to determine need and placement of any impoundments.</i></p>		Favorable Recommendation 06 Feb 25		
HB249 Nuclear Power Amendments 1st sub	Rep. Albrecht	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ creates the Nuclear Energy Consortium within the Office of Energy Development (office) and establishes its membership and duties; ▶ creates the Utah Energy Council within the office and establishes its membership and duties; ▶ modifies the duties and name of the Utah San Rafael Energy Lab Board; ▶ establishes a process for designating electrical energy development zones; ▶ creates the Electrical Energy Development Investment Fund and provides for its administration; and ▶ establishes authorized uses of fund money. <p><i>Major bill. Will need to consult with Utah Clean Energy. Rep Albrecht was staunch opponent of RMP. Initial read is this is means to pull away from RMP which would mean more reliance on coal.</i></p> <p><i>Moved to OPPOSE. Many negatives to this bill. Creates a council of political appointees that will facilitate the generation of electrical transmission.</i></p>	Nuclear*	Passed House. To Senate.	Low	Oppose

		<p><i>While this bill does create incentives for all energy types, it does specifically set out processes to facilitate nuclear. Bill received verbal support in committee from democrats.</i></p> <p><i>However, it was raised in public comment that this bill incentivizes nuclear but no complimentary bill on managing the by-products. I believe this a fair statement. Seems this bill still needs work.</i></p> <p><i>I Position as OPPOSE but also LOW priority.</i></p>				
HB255 Local Land Use Modifications	Rep. Chew	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ authorizes an owner of at least 50 contiguous acres of agricultural land in a county of the third, fourth, fifth, or sixth class to create a new lot that, after the division, is separate from the remainder of the original 50 contiguous acres of agricultural land; ▶ provides that a minor subdivision lot may not be less than 500 feet from another minor subdivision lot within the same divided agricultural property. <p><i>Appears a means to ease agricultural land subdivision for development.</i></p>	Land Use	Assigned to House Political Subdivision Committee	Low	Oppose
HOUSE BILLS WEEK 1						
HB274 Water Amendments 2 nd sub	Rep. Snider	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ provides circumstances of when a municipality may set different water rates based in part on water conservation; ▶ addresses impact fees and impact fee facilities plans related to water; ▶ addresses rate setting by a retail water supplier; ▶ provides for how revenues from retail rates may be spent; ▶ creates a presumption regarding the reasonableness of certain water rates that include 	Water	Passed House Natural Resources Committee w Favorable Recommendation 06 Feb 25	High	<u>Support</u> But Object to line 885.

		<p>water conservation as an element in determining the rate;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ modifies provisions related to the Board of Water Resources; ▶ addresses tiered rates for secondary water. <p><i>Overall, very positive bill. Rep. Snider was very interested and supportive of the water study, presented to committee in November 24, that clearly demonstrated tiered water pricing as the best means for conservation. This bill appears to incorporate the changes to law necessary for water suppliers to charge tiered pricing.</i></p> <p><i>1st sub essentially pushes back date of effectiveness to 2030 to align with having metering in place.</i></p> <p><i>Object: line 885 of as introduced version eliminates the party limitation on the Board of Water Resources. This seems disconnected from the overall intent of the bill. Will need to listen to understand reasoning.</i></p>				
<p>HB285 Water Infrastructure Amendments Amended</p>	Rep. Snider	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ repeals the Water Resources Cities Water Loan Fund and provides that loan repayments go into the Water Infrastructure Fund; ▶ authorizes transfers of money in water funds and accounts to and from the Water Infrastructure Fund; ▶ requires capital asset management plans and reserve funding under certain circumstances; ▶ modifies definitions, including the definition of "relevant agency"; ▶ addresses the water infrastructure prioritization process, including exemptions from the process. 	Water	<p>Passed House Natural Resources Comm w Favorable Recommendation 03 Feb 25</p> <p>House 2nd reading.</p>	High	<u>Support</u>

		<p><i>Highly technical changes.</i></p> <p><i>This bill appears to me as a follow-up to Rep. Snider's HB280 of 2024. Essentially it is the first step of consolidation of water infrastructure funds into a single account and process for centralized water funding and decision making on infrastructure. We opposed HB280'24 as originally presented but supported the study. This implements the output of that study.</i></p> <p><i>Change to SUPPORT but watch at this point. Need to understand how this implementation differs from original plan of HB280. Does it address concerns with centralized decision making presented last year? Does it implement per study completed in November?</i></p> <p><i>Based on Rep. Sniders committee testimony his intent that this process remains apolitical and decisions are made on need basis and will be an open (publicly accessible) process.</i></p> <p><i>Farm Bureau did object so I will need to track if there are any significant changes given Farm Bureau feedback.</i></p>				
HB304 Livestock Watering Modifications	Rep. Chew	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ establishes the requirements to apply for a certificate recognizing certain livestock watering uses; ▶ directs the state engineer's actions with regard to a certificate for livestock watering use; ▶ addresses the effect of a certificate for a livestock watering use; ▶ provides for rulemaking; and ▶ makes technical and conforming amendments. 	Admin	House 1 st reading	Low	Oppose

		<p><i>Bill recognizes water use for grazing as a water share. Essentially replaces a previous certifying process.</i></p> <p><i>Friends of GSL read this as circumventing the water rights process, switching to Oppose.</i></p>				
HB306 Precious Metals Amendments	Rep. Ivory	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ extends and adds a sunset date to the state treasurer's precious metals study requirement; ▶ requires the state treasurer to develop and issue a request for proposals for a precious metals-backed electronic payment system; ▶ establishes requirements for the request for proposals; ▶ requires the state treasurer to evaluate proposals; and ▶ requires annual reporting to the Revenue and Taxation Interim Committee. <p><i>Further reading this seems like move to gold standard.</i></p>	Admin	Passed to House Business, Labor and Commerce Comm 05 Feb 25	Low	Oppose
HB309 Wildlife Amendments	Rep. Snider	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ addresses night hunting of nonprotected wildlife; ▶ provides limits on a political subdivision or conservation easement prohibiting or restricting hunting; ▶ imposes requirements for holding a hunting or combination license for service on the Wildlife Board or a regional advisory council; ▶ addresses target shooting on wildlife management areas; ▶ addresses definition of and access to wildlife management areas; ▶ modifies provisions related to Department of Agriculture and Food's activities related to livestock depredation and big game protection; ▶ corrects a definition of "big game"; 	Admin	Assigned to House Natural Resources Committee	Low	<u>Watch</u>

		<p>▶ addresses feeding of big game.</p> <p><i>Primarily hunting regulations.</i></p> <p><i>This bill can be read to limit WMA access for hunting/fishing only (lines 670-677), would exclude birding. Also, lines 383-392 essentially removes right of local jurisdictions to prohibit hunting on a conservation easement. Needs further investigation.</i></p> <p><i>National Audubon is in discussion with representative Snider. Expecting a substitution.</i></p> <p><i>This was removed from committee agenda for 05 Feb, so expecting substitution that address concerns stated above.</i></p>				
HB311 Watershed Amendments	Rep. Snider	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ allows the state engineer to require the repair or construction of certain hydroelectric facilities to prevent waste, loss, pollution, or contamination of waters; ▶ requires an owner or operator of a hydroelectric facility to maintain the facility to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •prevent waste of water, damage to property, and injury to others; and •mitigate environmental impacts; ▶ addresses liability of an owner or operator of a hydroelectric facility; ▶ clarifies that water stored in a reservoir or body of water for power generation may only be used for power generation. 	Admin	House	High	Support
HB318 Residential Turf Amendments	Rep. Owens	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ requires a municipality or county to adopt lawn or turf restrictions for certain newly constructed residences; ▶ allows a municipality or county to adopt more restrictive limitations. 	Water	Assigned to House Political Subdivisions Comm	High	<u>Support</u>

		<p><i>Sets specific requirements on lawn size for new construction. Similar bill worked last year never left committee. This may now address concerns but I see this as an uphill battle.</i></p> <p><i>Expect this bill to be pulled and worked on during interim session to re-introduce next year.</i></p>				
HB319 Natural Resources Survey Amendments	Rep. Owens	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ requires the Department of Natural Resources (department) every two years to: •survey all state-owned and federally-managed land in this state; and •create and maintain an inventory of land that the state may develop as outdoor recreation infrastructure; ▸ requires the department to identify and recommend federally-managed land that the state may acquire or manage for outdoor recreation infrastructure; ▸ allows the department to request assistance from state and federal entities to complete the survey and inventory; ▸ requires the department to submit a report to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Interim Committee in each survey year. <p><i>These amendments direct for the conduct of a survey of state and federal land that could be used for recreation purposes. This includes a recommendation by DNR for federal land to be acquired.</i></p> <p><i>Will speak to Rep. Owens about this strategy. Seems it may be a compromise bill with Republicans who are looking at federal land for transfer to state. This would require DNR to</i></p>	Land Use	House	High	<u>Support</u>

		<i>actually survey land to determine usability vs pure land grab.</i>				
HB328 Water Usage Amendments	Rep. Owens	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ directs a municipality or county to require compliance with a prohibition on use of overhead spray irrigation as part of land use approvals; ▶ requires a municipality or county to give notice of the prohibition on use of overhead spray irrigation; ▶ encourages a municipality or county to review certain plans, act on the plans, inspect for compliance, and address noncompliance; and ▶ prohibits for new development and redevelopment the use of overhead spray irrigation except under certain circumstances. 	Water	Assigned to House Political Subdivisions Committee	High	<u>Support</u>
HB330 Water Sprinkler Efficiency Amendments	Rep. Owens	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ prohibits certain activities related to spray sprinkler bodies; ▶ provides exceptions; and ▶ creates an enforcement process. <p><i>I see this as a “big ask” from Rep. Owens. Very specific limitations on sprinkler design for install. Generally, legislature not very open to such specific restrictions. Will follow.</i></p> <p><i>Removed from committee agenda for 05 Feb 25. Expect substitution with significant modifications.</i></p>	Water	Assigned to House Natural Resources Comm	High	<u>Support</u>
HOUSE BILLS WEEK 2						
HB345 State Park Road Amendments	Rep. Sawyer	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ adds descriptions of highways near certain state parks. 	Admin	Passed House. To Senate.	Low	Support
HB352 Geologic Carbon Storage Amendments	Rep. Watkins	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ clarifies that the Board of Oil, Gas, and Mining (board) has enforcement authority over Class VI injection wells upon receiving primacy from the Environmental Protection Agency; 	Admin	House	Low	Support

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ provides for civil and criminal penalties for violations established by the board and the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining (division); ▶ requires the board and the division to bring an enforcement action within two years of discovering a violation. 				
HB355 Critical Infrastructure Materials Amendments	Rep. Snider	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ modifies vested critical infrastructure materials use provisions to make them similar to vested mining provisions; ▶ addresses operations on new land; ▶ repeals redundant notice requirements; ▶ repeals study requirements. <p><i>This seems a follow up to Snider's Critical Infrastructure Materials bill last year. While muted vs that version still takes decision making on mine expansion away from local jurisdiction. My read, may allow expansion of Parley's.</i></p>	Mining	House 1 st reading	High	<u>Oppose</u>
HB378 Department of Natural Resources Funding Amendments	Rep. Snider	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ expands resources to be deposited into the Species Protection Account; ▶ modifies the brine shrimp royalty rate; ▶ provides for deposit of brine shrimp royalty into the Sovereign Lands Management Account; ▶ accounts for a tax on concentrated depleted uranium received for disposal at a radioactive waste facility to be deposited into the Species Protection Account; ▶ imposes a tax on wind or solar electric generation facilities to be deposited into the Species Protection Account; ▶ provides a tax on direct current transmission facilities to be deposited into the Species Protection Account; ▶ addresses the effect of the taxes on ratepayers; ▶ authorizes rulemaking. 	Admin	Assigned to House Revenue and Taxation Committee	High	<u>Oppose</u>

		<i>This bill creates a complicated outcome. The Species Protection Fund funds good environmental work but also funds legal challenges to federal requirements.</i>				
HB386 Public Waters Access Amendments	Rep. Chew	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ modifies the definition of "navigable water"; ▶ addresses public recreation access; ▶ addresses when a stream bed is considered private property; ▶ clarifies when an easement for public recreational access is created. <p><i>After further reading, I believe that the language adds further and cumbersome criteria to determining that the bed or a public water way is accessible to the public.</i></p>	Land Use	House	Low	Oppose
HOUSE BILLS WEEK 3						
HB411 Public Asset Ownership Amendments	Rep Shelley	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ requires a person selling or exchanging an environmental commodity in this state to report a digital identification number for the environmental commodity to the Office of Energy Development; ▶ voids an environmental commodity transaction that does not comply with certain requirements; ▶ declares that an environmental commodity generated or developed from activities receiving state funds is the property of the state; and ▶ establishes duties for the state treasurer in managing an environmental commodity. 	Land	House 1 st reading	Low	Watch
HB421 Grazing Amendments	Rep. Monson	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ requires the Division of Wildlife Resources, before purchasing or acquiring a grazing permit, to obtain approval from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a local land use authority; • the Department of Natural Resources; and 	Lands	House 1 st reading	Low	Support

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Department of Agriculture and Food. <p><i>Adds approvers to purchase and convert land for grazing.</i></p>				
HB438 Environmental Legal Action Amendments	Rep. Jack	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> repeals a bond requirement for an environmental action. <p><i>Removes requirement of bond by defendant to cover legal expenses of plaintiff in challenging permitting of DNR, SITLA and UDOT.</i></p> <p><i>I read his as removing a requirement for bond to cover government legal expenses. I believe primary "plaintiffs" would be corporations, but this could also apply to conservation groups.</i></p>	Admin	House	Low	Oppose
HB439 Outdoor Recreation Revisions	Rep. Chew	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> allows the Division of Outdoor Recreation to award cash grants from the Off-highway Vehicle Account for projects in counties of the third through sixth class; allows the Division of Outdoor Recreation to exempt an off-highway vehicle facility from certain requirements. <p><i>A means to protect and expand OHV use. Allows money to go to "non profits" to construct an "off highway facility" which could be a trail.</i></p>	Lands	House	High	<u>Oppose</u>
RESOLUTIONS PRE-SESSION						
HCR1 House Concurrent Resolution Regarding the Grand County Water Conservancy District	Rep. Carl Albrecht	<p>This resolution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> urges Congress to transfer to the Grand County Water Conservancy District water infrastructure owned by the federal government for the conveyance of water from the Green River to the Moab Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action project site. 	Water	<p>Passed Senate.</p> <p>To House for Enrolling</p>	Low	Support

		<i>This resolution would be to have BLM transfer the water line to GCWD once it is no longer used for the remediation project. Would provide water to two towns in south east Utah.</i>				
SCR3 Senate Concurrent Resolution Regarding Utah's Authority to Determine its Energy Future	Sen. Harper	<p>This resolution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ affirms that the authority to determine energy policies substantially affecting the well-being of state residents is among the powers reserved to the states under the Tenth Amendment; ▸ asserts Utah's right to play a primary role in determining energy policies within its borders, including decisions about energy development and facility siting; ▸ calls upon the federal government to recognize states' constitutional authority and superior positioning to make location-specific decisions about energy projects; ▸ urges the federal government to limit its role in energy regulation to matters of interstate commerce and national security; ▸ requests meaningful, early, and ongoing consultation between federal agencies and states when developing energy-related policies or regulations; ▸ encourages Congress to pass legislation requiring federal agencies to demonstrate adequate consultation with states before implementing energy-related regulations; and ▸ calls for the creation of formal mechanisms for state input in federal energy policy decisions. 	Energy	Senate 1 st reading	Low	Oppose
SENATE BILLS PRE-SESSION						
SB30 Forest Fire Resources Compacts Amendments	Sen. Derrin Owens	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ empowers the governor to enter into the compact related to forest fires in the form provided in statute. 	Admin	Passed House. To Senate for Enrolling	Low	Neutral
SB33 Water Rights Recording Amendments	Sen. Evan Vickers	This bill:	Water	Passed House.	Low	Support

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ allows certain signatures to be by facsimile or electronic means; and ▶ makes technical changes. 		To Senate for Enrolling		
SB34 Mineral Surety Study	Sen. Derrin Owens	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ defines "surety" for purpose of the study; ▶ requires the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining (division) to study certain surety issues; ▶ directs the division to make a report; and ▶ provides a repeal date. <p><i>Study will look at needed surety requirements from mining companies wrt mine closure and clean up.</i></p> <p><i>Support study but will be interested to see study results if more proposals for tax payers to absorb costs.</i></p>	Mining	<p>Passed House Natural Resources Comm w Favorable Recommendation 03 Feb 25</p> <p>Passed House.</p> <p>To Senate for Enrolling.</p>	High	Support
SB36 Water Quality Board Modifications 1st sub	Sen. Todd Weiler	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ establishes a process for the Utah Water Quality Board to review settlement negotiation between the director and a party in alleged violation of the Utah Water Quality Act; and ▶ authorizes the Utah Water Quality Board to issue a final order establishing a reasonable penalty in ongoing settlement negotiations. <p><i>Specific changes to address disputes.</i></p>	Water	<p>Passed Senate.</p> <p>House 1st reading.</p>	Low	Support
SB51 State Resource Plan Modifications	Sen. K. Stratton	<p>This bill adopts a state resource management plan to replace a previously adopted plan.</p> <p><i>I have read the plan. No significant changes overall. Nothing overtly negative but certainly no progressive environmental measures.</i></p>	Admin	<p>Passed House Natural Resources Committee w Favorable Recommendation 06 Feb 25</p>	Low	Support
SB61 Energy Corridor Amendments 2nd sub	Sen. D.R. Owens	<p>This bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ requires a person filing an eminent domain action for certain telecommunications, electric light, and electric power infrastructure to: 	Energy*	<p>Passed Senate Transportation, Pub Util, Energy and Tech Comm</p>	Low	Oppose

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conduct an infrastructure siting analysis; and • coordinate with federal land management agencies before pursuing condemnation of private lands; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ modifies the requirements for certain eminent domain complaints to include infrastructure siting analysis and federal agency coordination documentation; ▸ requires a public utility to submit an annual report on eminent domain actions and efforts to utilize federal public lands to the Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology Interim Committee. <p><i>Further investigation this creates process to allow eminent domain use for power companies.</i></p>		with Favorable Recommendation 28 Jan 25 Senate 2 nd reading		
SB62 Spaceport Exploration Committee 1st Sub	Sen. J. Stevenson	This bill <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ creates the Spaceport Exploration Committee; and ▸ establishes membership and duties of the committee. <p><i>Another significant development project that would impact; land, energy, air, etc.</i></p> <p><i>At this time, this only establishes a committee to conduct a study and make recommendation, concern is that this is simply a “go forward.”</i></p>	Land Use	Passed House Transportation Committee w Favorable Recommendation 06 Feb 25	Low	Neutral
SB63 Waste Tire Recycling	Sen. E. Vickers	This bill <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ exempts landfills from restrictions on accepting waste tires if the landfill uses a mobile facility to reduce the size of waste tires; ▸ allows shredded or chipped waste tires to be disposed of in a landfill; ▸ allows an owner or operator of a landfill in a county of the third through sixth class to apply for reimbursement for waste tires disposed of in the owner or operator's landfill. 	Admin	Passed Senate Nat Resources Committee w Favorable Recommendation 31 Jan 25 Senate 2 nd reading	Low	Support

		<i>This bill clarifies and adds requirements on allowing tires to be disposed in landfills. Does not allow disposal not already in statute.</i>				
SB80 Drinking Water Amendments	Sen. Sandall	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ requires the Department of Environmental Quality to establish a fee schedule; ▶ outlines requirements related to the fee schedule; ▶ allows the Department of Environmental Quality to establish a financial incentive to comply with certain criteria; ▶ provides for the collection of fees; ▶ creates an exemption related to wholesale water suppliers; ▶ provides that fees are treated as dedicated credits; and ▶ requires monitoring of fees. <p><i>Sen. Sandall has previously proposed legislation to collect fees to ensure adequate testing of drinking water given the increase in consumption and funding has been provided at a state level. This bill also provides for incentives if water systems implement tiered rate systems, which encourage conservation, therefore I rank as HIGH importance.</i></p> <p><i>This bill modifies the chapter of code on Safe Drinking Water, so appears a follow up to previous bills.</i></p> <p><i>Need to listen to discussion to determine the intent.</i></p>	Admin	<p>Passed Senate.</p> <p>Assigned to House Natural Resources Committee</p>	High	Support
SB92 Golf Course Amendments	Sen. McCay	<p>This bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ makes a record of water data regarding golf courses prepared for and provided to the Utah State University Institute of Land, Air, and Water 	Water	<p>Passed Senate.</p> <p>House 1st reading.</p>	High	Support

		<p>pursuant to statute a protected record under the Government Records Access and Management Act;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ defines terms; ▶ requires a study of water use by golf courses; ▶ outlines a process to be followed in conducting and reporting on the study; ▶ requires the Division of State Parks to develop a master plan for state-owned golf courses and to report on the master plan. <p><i>While this bill does keep the water usage data by course protected it actually has many positive requirements for working with golf courses on water conservation and allows for publication of “de-identified” data.</i></p> <p><i>Support overall bill ... express objection to the protection requirement.</i></p>				
<p>SB124 Landscaping Procurement Amendments 2nd sub</p>	Sen. Pitcher	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ creates a timeline of increasing prohibitions on the use of gasoline-powered lawn equipment for the performance of landscape maintenance of state government facilities. <p><i>Many changes in first sub. Primarily creates a more structured timeline for phasing in use of electric equipment on government facilities.</i></p> <p><i>Still see this as a long shot.</i></p>	Air	Senate Government Operations Committee HELD	High	Support
<p>SB131 Water Commitment Amendments 1st sub</p>	Sen. Blouin	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ permits a commitment of available water to uses on sovereign lands to be included in a water conservation plan. <p><i>Once again committee members outside the GSL Basin expressed objections. My belief is those</i></p>	Water	Passed Senate. House 1 st reading.	High	Support

		<p><i>that objected do not understand this bill. Their particular concern was sovereign lands.</i></p> <p><i>Sen Blouin agreed to narrow to GSL instead of sovereign lands. 1st sub makes change to commit water to GSL.</i></p>				
<p>SB132 Electric Utility Amendments 1st sub</p>	Sen. Sandall	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ establishes requirements for submitting and processing large-scale electrical service requests; ▶ requires the Public Service Commission to review large load contracts; ▶ creates requirements for electrical corporations serving large loads; ▶ establishes registration and operating requirements for large-scale generation providers; ▶ requires separate accounting for large load service costs; ▶ prohibits cost shifting to other electrical customers; and ▶ requires financial security and insurance for large-scale service. <p><i>Change to OPPOSE. Essentially eliminates renewable energy sources as option for large scale generation providers.</i></p> <p><i>1st sub removes restriction on energy storage which would permit "intermittent" energy (renewable) and also permit over build.</i></p> <p><i>Still need to follow. May switch position once I better understand changes of 1st sub.</i></p> <p><i>Sen. Sandall implied that there were more changes to come.</i></p>	Energy*	Passed Senate Nat Resources Committee w Favorable Recommendation 05 Feb 25	High	<u>Oppose</u>
<p>SB139 Mineral Rights Amendments</p>	Rep. Winterton	<p>This bill:</p>	Mining	Passed Senate.	Low	Oppose

1 st sub		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ prohibits the taking of a fee simple interest in land if an easement interest suffices; and ▶ requires for separate payment of just compensation for a mineral estate taken by eminent domain. <p><i>Interesting bill but essentially speaks to ownership of land taken by UDOT for road construction. UDOT feels important to have ownership of land under a road, which makes sense.</i></p> <p><i>Expect further substitutions and changes so may change. But overall a low priority given minimal environmental impact.</i></p>		House 1 st reading.		
SENATE BILLS WEEK 1						
SB158 Sale or Lease of Federally Managed Public Land Amendments	Sen. Stratton	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ provides for monitoring of land applications; ▶ requires a study of land application information; ▶ requires a report of the results of the study. <p><i>The Federal Recreation & Public Purposes Act allows BLM to sell up to 26,000 acres. Utah already takes advantage of this and this study would simply be an inventory of land taken through this act.</i></p>	Admin	<p>Passed Senate Natural Resources Comm with Favorable Recommendation 28 Jan 25</p> <p>Senate 2nd reading</p> <p style="color: orange;">Circled</p>	Low	Support
SB159 Environmental Quality Modifications 1 st sub	Sen. Stratton	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ prohibits approval of an operation plan or permit for certain nonhazardous solid waste landfill facilities unless specific conditions are met. <p><i>While this adds requirements for landfill design I do wonder if this is a part of a larger play to clear the way for out of state waste.</i></p>	Admin	<p>Passed Senate Nat Resources Committee w Favorable Recommendation 31 Jan 25</p> <p style="color: orange;">Senate 2nd reading.</p>	Low	Support

		<i>Further investigation no negative intent behind the bill ... move to Support.</i>				
SENATE BILLS WEEK 2						
SB184 Diesel Emissions Reduction Amendments	Sen. Escamilla	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ directs the Division of Air Quality (division) to create a voluntary registry for certain non-road diesel engines; ▶ prevents the division from paying a replacement incentive to an owner of a non-road diesel engine not on the registry; ▶ requires a registrant of a non-road diesel engine to pay a registration fee; ▶ requires the division to deposit registration fees into the Environmental Mitigation and Response Fund; ▶ grants the division rulemaking authority to implement the provisions. <p><i>Sen. Escamilla has withdrawn the bill for further development during interim.</i></p>	Air	<p>Assigned to Senate Transportation, Pub Util, Energy and Tech Comm</p> <p><i>Withdrawn by Sen. Escamilla</i></p>	High	Support
SB187 Critical Minerals Amendments	Sen. Stevenson	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ provides for the Legislature appropriating money from the Throughput Infrastructure Fund; ▶ addresses the provision of financial assistance to an industry within mining. <p><i>While this bill primarily adds funds to an existing economic development program account it also exempts specific mining materials from the detailed requirements to comply.</i></p>	Mining	<p>Passed Senate Natural Resources Comm w Favorable Recommendation 31 Jan 25</p> <p><i>Senate 2nd reading.</i></p>	High	<u>Oppose</u>
SENATE BILLS WEEK 3						
SB216 Environmental Quality Amendments	Sen. McKell	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ modifies the requirements for a waste facility to renew or amend a radioactive waste license; ▶ requires the State Tax Commission to deposit into an energy-related fund the portion of new tax revenue derived from a radioactive waste 	Nuclear	<p><i>Passed Senate Natural Resources Comm w Favorable Recommendation 05 Feb 25</i></p>	Low	<i>Oppose</i>

		<p>facility receiving radioactive waste from a new generator;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ creates a radioactive waste facility expansion tax on a radioactive waste facility that submits an application to the Division of Waste Management and Radiation Control to construct a new radioactive waste facility or expand an existing facility; ▶ provides for the payment and deposit of the radioactive waste facility expansion tax; ▶ provides for the automatic repeal of the radioactive waste facility expansion tax. <p><i>Bill targeted at a specific facility of Energy Solutions in Tooele. Essentially allows the White Mesa facility to expand and take additional types of radioactive material.</i></p>		Senate 2 nd reading.		
SB217 Recycling and Waste Amendments	Sen. Harper	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ requires a manufacturer of a consumer electronic device to provide information to a consumer at the point of sale about a collection, reuse, or recycling program for a consumer electronic device; ▶ requires the Department of Environmental Quality (department) to develop a public education program related to electronic and other waste; ▶ requires the department to publish information related to recycling programs and recycling resources on the department's website; ▶ removes an exception for the department to charge more than one fee for the same solid Waste. 	Admin	Assigned to Senate Business and Labor Committee	Low	Support
SB227 Electricity Supply Amendments		<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ authorizes alternative electrical service providers in the state to provide electrical energy to qualifying customers; 	Energy	Assigned to Senate Transportation, Public Utilities,	High	Support

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ establishes requirements for alternative electrical service providers; ▶ creates procedures for qualifying customers with large electrical loads to select and receive service from alternative electrical providers; ▶ establishes requirements for certain public electric utilities to provide transmission and other services; and ▶ creates provisions for flexible load tariffs and partial electrical services. <p><i>This reads as a means to set up privately owned power plants (probably coal) to power large data centers.</i></p> <p><i>Further reading bill provides flexibility to the large scale user to develop separate power generation (renewable) and use off gride during low production times.</i></p>		Energy and Tech Committee		
SB235 Natural Resources Ownership	Sen. McKell	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ clarifies the ownership of geothermal resources underlying land owned by a person. 	Admin	Assigned to Senate Natural Resources Committee	Low	Oppose
SB236 State Park Amendments	Sen. Riebe	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ authorizes the Division of State Parks to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •receive donations of land or facilities in Big Cottonwood Canyon and Little Cottonwood Canyon; •engage in transfers, exchanges, or purchases of land in Big Cottonwood Canyon and Little Cottonwood Canyon; and •enter into agreements with the United States Forest Service to manage and use land within Big Cottonwood Canyon and Little Cottonwood Canyon as a state park; and ▶ provides that Big Cottonwood Canyon State Park and Little Cottonwood Canyon State Park are part of the state park system. 	Lands	Assigned to Senate Natural Resources Committee	High	Support

<p>SB239 Inland Port Authority Amendments</p>	<p>Sen. Stevenson</p>	<p>This bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ provides that the Utah Inland Port Authority (authority) may facilitate and provide funding for the development of land in a project area and land related to land in a project area, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •the development of public infrastructure and improvements in a project area and directly adjacent to a project area; and •other infrastructure and improvements, including environmental sustainability projects, on or related to land in a project area; ▶ authorizes the authority to provide funding through grant or agreement to another governmental entity to fulfill the authority's duties and responsibilities; ▶ provides that contaminated land or land within a remediation project area may be used for a distribution center if the contaminated land is owned by a private landowner; ▶ provides that the authority executive director may make policies to allow the authority to classify a business proposal submitted to the authority by a nongovernment party as protected under Section 63G-2-305, for as long as is necessary to evaluate the proposal and determine whether to proceed or not proceed; ▶ requires the Utah Inland Port Authority Board (board) to conduct a review of the authority's statutory authority at least annually and, if necessary, recommend statutory changes to the Legislature; ▶ modifies the structure of the board; ▶ provides that the authority may use funding to pay for all of or part of development of land within or adjacent to a project area; ▶ modifies the timeline for an optional extension of nonmunicipal differential payments and municipal deferential payments to the authority; 	<p>Lands</p>	<p>Assigned to Senate Workforce and Economic Development Committee</p>	<p>High</p>	<p><u>Oppose</u></p>
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		<p>► provides that the authority may use primary municipality differential funds on environmental projects within or adjacent to authority jurisdictional land and economic development activities within or adjacent to authority jurisdictional land.</p> <p><i>UIPA simply has not demonstrated to the ability to provide positive economic benefit or meet commitments. Oppose any expansion of authority.</i></p>				
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