

Grateful
to Almighty
God for life
and liberty, we, the
people of Utah, in order
to secure and perpetuate
the principles of free gov-
ernment, do ordain and establish
this CONSTITUTION. All men
have the inherent and inalienable
right to enjoy and defend their lives
and liberties; to acquire, possess and
protect property; to worship according

to the dictates of their consciences; to assemble peaceably, protest against wrongs, and petition for redress of grievances; to communicate freely their thoughts and opinions, being responsible for the abuse of that right. All political power is inherent in the people; and all free governments **Utah Association of Counties** are founded on their authority for **2015 GENERAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION RECAP** their equal protection and benefit, and they have the right to alter or reform their government as the public welfare may require. The State of Utah is an inseparable part of the Federal Union and the Constitution of the United States is the supreme law of the land.

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Introduction

County government enjoyed a very successful 2015 legislative session. Credit to that success goes to a number of people: a tireless UAC staff who worked hard to ensure the counties' interests were well-represented, effective county officials—both elected and non-elected—whose expertise and diligence conveyed confidence in the counties' cause, and wise legislators who recognized the counties' needs and stepped up to address those needs even when such action might have been politically challenging. The Utah Association of Counties appreciates all these partners who succeeded in making the 2015 legislative session a positive one for county government.

The Utah Association of Counties 2015 General Legislative Session Recap is a resource to county officials, legislators, and the interested public in spelling out the outcome of nearly 125 pieces of legislation UAC tracked during the session. New this year, the Recap is split into subject categories. We hope that this will provide readers a better experience in exploring items of particular interest.

UAC's legislative staff is available year-round for questions regarding state legislation. Please don't hesitate to call.

Number	Short Title	Sponsor	Position	Contact
HB 013	Jail Reimbursement Amendments <i>Transfers the reporting responsibility on jail reimbursement from the Department of Corrections to CCJJ.</i>	Paul Ray	Support	Adam
HB 017	Motor Vehicle Emissions <i>Enhanced penalties for visible vehicle pollution.</i>	Lee Perry	Support	Lincoln
HB 020	Jury Duty Amendments <i>Exempts fourth, fifth, and sixth class counties and smaller third class counties from complying with a provision relating to jury duty.</i>	Craig Hall	Support	Adam
HB 034	Personal Injury Damages Amendments <i>Limits the amount of damages recoverable in personal injury actions when the injured person dies before judgment of unrelated causes.</i>	Kay McIff	Monitor	Adam
HB 041	Local Economic Development Amendments <i>Permits a community development agency project forego notice provided the taxing entities involved enter into an interlocal agreement.</i>	Lowry Snow	Support	Lincoln
HB 042	Annexation Amendments <i>Authorizes an agreed upon annexation even in the event that said annexation results in an island or peninsula.</i>	John Westwood	Neutral	Adam
HB 043	Water Rights - Change Application Amendments <i>Requires parties to mediate issues arising from a change application before administrative review or litigation.</i>	Kay McIff	Neutral	Lincoln
HB 045	Local Governing Body Amendments <i>Prohibits a municipal or county governing body from expelling a member of the body from a public meeting.</i>	Rich Cunningham	Monitor	Lincoln
HB 051	Voter Eligibility Amendments <i>Permits supporting documents to be included as evidence in a challenge to a voter's right to vote claim.</i>	Curt Webb	Neutral	Arie
HB 053	Local Government Residential Reimbursement Authority <i>Creates a fund for counties of the first class to assist in the transfer of property in an HOA to property owners within the HOA.</i>	Johnny Anderson	Support	Lincoln
HB 061	Municipal Business Licensing Amendments <i>Prohibits a municipality from issuing business licenses to certain at-home businesses and from transmitting information to the county.</i>	Jacob Anderegg	Oppose	Lincoln
HB 070	Posting Political Signs on Public Property <i>Creates a standard for use of political signs and enforcement on public property.</i>	Brad Daw	Monitor	Arie
HB 072	Ballot Publishing Amendments <i>Allows a voter to photograph the voter's election ballot.</i>	John Knotwell	Monitor	Arie
HB 077	Postretirement Employment Taskforce <i>Creates a taskforce to consider postretirement restrictions for retirees in the Utah Retirement System.</i>	Rich Cunningham	Monitor	Adam
HB 079	Safety Belt Law Amendments <i>Permits the failure to be buckled up in an automobile a primary ticketed offense.</i>	Lee Perry	Support	Adam
HB 085	Peace Officer Training Amendments <i>Grants a \$500,000 yearly appropriation from the Uninsured Motorist Identification Restricted Account to POST for officer training until 2020.</i>	Marc Roberts	Support	Adam
HB 090	Residential Building Inspections <i>Sets standards for municipal inspections of rental dwellings.</i>	Jim Dunnigan	Monitor	Lincoln
HB 097	Election of Officials of New Municipality <i>Clarifies the process to be used in the election of officers in a newly created municipality.</i>	Jon Cox	Support	Arie
HB 100	Candidate Disclosure Amendments <i>Requires a candidate to disclose prior criminal convictions, pending charges, and bankruptcy.</i>	David Lifferth	Monitor	Arie
HB 103	Taxation of Property Amendments <i>Requires that a county assessor consider hazardous waste when determining fair market value.</i>	Doug Sagers	Neutral	Arie
HB 109	Expungement of Administrative Action <i>Provides that an individual may apply for administrative expungement of records related to disciplinary action taken against the individual.</i>	Brian Greene	Monitor	Adam
HB 111	Payment of Property Tax Amendments <i>Prohibits a taxing entity from requiring property tax payment prior to the property tax due date.</i>	Curt Webb	Neutral	Lincoln
HB 115	Public Safety Retirement for Dispatchers <i>Authorizes employers to elect to cover dispatchers in the public safety retirement system.</i>	Kraig Powell	Neutral	Adam
HB 120	Campaign Financial Disclosures <i>Moves the date for the final campaign financial disclosure date from August 31 to September 30 for state candidates.</i>	Craig Hall	Support	Arie
HB 127	Local Land Use Amendments <i>Prohibits a city or county from requiring physical changes in a structure with a conforming or legal nonconforming use.</i>	Jeremy Peterson	Monitor	Lincoln
HB 129	Economic Development Incentive Amendments <i>Modifies the requirements to qualify for the Rural Fast Track Program.</i>	Kraig Powell	Support	Lincoln
HB 132	Interstate Compact on Transfer of Public Lands Amendments <i>Adds financing provisions to the Interstate Compact on the Transfer of Public Lands.</i>	Keven Stratton	Support	Mark

Number	Short Title	Sponsor	Position	Contact
HB 151	Affiliated Emergency Service Worker Postretirement Employment Amendments <i>Provides that reemployment as a volunteer firefighter is not subject to postretirement reemployment provisions.</i>	Doug Sagers	Support	Lincoln
HB 166	Election Revisions <i>Removes the county clerk's name from the caption of a ballot.</i>	Robert Spendlove	Neutral	Arie
HB 167	Asset Forfeiture Revisions <i>Provides safeguards to prevent asset forfeiture in the event of an arrest.</i>	Brian Greene	Oppose	Adam
HB 177	Absentee Ballot Amendments <i>Establishes that a voter's absentee status does not expire.</i>	Fred Cox	Support	Arie
HB 188	Transportation Corridor Preservation Amendments <i>Allows state to reimburse local government with a written agreement for assets purchased with money from the corridor preservation fund.</i>	Kay Christofferson	Support	Lincoln
HB 190	Assessment Area Act Modifications <i>Changes the parameters in the creation of assessment areas.</i>	Curt Webb	Neutral	Lincoln
HB 191	Utah Emergency Medical Services System Act Amendments <i>Updates background clearance requirements for emergency medical personnel and requires government to set goals for paramedic services.</i>	Paul Ray	Monitor	Adam
HB 196	Wildfire Mitigation Amendments <i>Enacts a nonrefundable income tax credit for wildfire mitigation measures in certain areas for a certain time period.</i>	Joel Briscoe	Monitor	Mark
HB 200	Task Force on Voter Participation <i>Creates a task force on voter participation.</i>	Patrice Arent	Support	Arie
HB 204	Tax Increment Amendments <i>Limits what constitutes tax increment under community development and renewal agency provisions.</i>	Jeremy Peterson	Neutral	Lincoln
HB 216	Workplace Abusive Conduct Amendments <i>Prohibits abusive conduct in the workforce, requires training and publishing information on a website—applies to state employees.</i>	Keven Stratton	Monitor	Adam
HB 219	Election Day Voter Registration Pilot Project Amendments <i>Expands the Election Day Voter Registration Pilot Project to permit an individual to register to vote, and vote, during early voting.</i>	Rebecca Chavez-Houck	Support	Arie
HB 220	Vote by Mail Amendments <i>Provides that when an absentee ballot is submitted by mail, the ballot is timely if the ballot is clearly postmarked before Election Day.</i>	Rebecca Chavez-Houck	Support	Arie
HB 221	Assessment Foreclosure Amendments <i>Amends foreclosure provisions in the Assessment Area Act.</i>	Curt Webb	Oppose	Lincoln
HB 222	Farmland Assessment Act Amendments <i>Permits land transferred through foreclosure or tax sale to remain in the Farmland Assessment Act.</i>	Mike Noel	Neutral	Arie
HB 224	Beekeeping Amendments <i>Prohibits any municipal or county beekeeping regulations.</i>	Marc Roberts	Oppose	Lincoln
HB 228	Appellate Bond Amendments <i>Exempts the state and subdivisions from filing appellate bonds when appealing liability claims.</i>	Doug Sagers	Support	Adam
HB 245	Incorporation Process for Cities and Towns <i>Requires the Lt. Governor's Office, rather than the county, to pay for and conduct a feasibility study for the incorporation of a new city or town.</i>	Mel Brown	Monitor	Adam
HB 246	Amendments to Fire Code <i>Modifies provisions relating to a person's right to appeal a fire code official's order, decision, or determination.</i>	Mike Kennedy	Monitor	Lincoln
HB 250	Special Service Districts Amendments <i>Prohibits a municipality from creating a special service district smaller than the municipality itself.</i>	Mike Kennedy	Oppose	Lincoln
HB 251	Amendments to the Interlocal Act <i>Sets requirements for an interlocal agreement concerning rules, policy, and ability to bond.</i>	Johnny Anderson	Support	Adam
HB 261	Horse Tripping Amendments <i>Requires a 30-day notice of an event where horse tripping is scheduled to take place.</i>	Ken Ivory	Monitor	Lincoln
HB 269	Tourist-Oriented Highway Signing Program <i>Authorizes UDOT to erect and maintain tourist-oriented directional signs on the highway.</i>	Mike Noel	Support	Lincoln
HB 276	Agriculture Structure Amendments <i>Exempts agricultural high tunnels from property taxes.</i>	Mike McKell	Neutral	Lincoln
HB 278	Justice Court Judge Compensation <i>Permits 4th, 5th, and 6th class counties to determine justice court judge compensation by a majority vote of the governing body.</i>	Jon Cox	Support	Adam
HB 285	Building Code Review and Adoption Amendments <i>Modifies the process by which the Legislature adopts new versions of the State Construction Code and the State Fire Code.</i>	Brad Wilson	Oppose	Lincoln
HB 288	Line-of-duty Death Benefits for Peace Officers and Firefighters <i>Expands line-of-duty death benefits for peace officers and firefighters and their families.</i>	Paul Ray	Neutral	Lincoln

Number	Short Title	Sponsor	Position	Contact
HB 303	Legislative Approval of Land Transfers <i>Requires counties to notify the legislature before they enter into discussion with the federal government regarding land management issues.</i>	Keven Stratton	Support	Mark
HB 312	Reporting and Expenditure of Public Funds Amendments <i>Requires a county to provide annual reports detailing the expenditure of a grant through a state agency.</i>	Sophia DiCaro	Neutral	Lincoln
HB 315	Building Permit Amendments <i>Prohibits a land use authority from requiring an applicant to complete landscaping or infrastructure improvements.</i>	Mike Schultz	Oppose	Lincoln
HB 319	Jail Contracting Treatment Rate Amendments <i>Increases to 84% of the calculated final state daily incarceration rate for contract prisoners in county jails including treatment programs.</i>	Mike Noel	Support	Adam
HB 321	Vote by Mail Revisions <i>Requires a county that administers an election entirely by absentee ballot to provide at least one Election Day voting center.</i>	John Westwood	Support	Arie
HB 323	Resource Management Planning by Local Governments <i>Requires counties to create resource management plans.</i>	Keven Stratton	Support	Mark
HB 327	Personal Property Tax Amendments <i>Expands the business personal property tax exemption to include certain items of depreciating value.</i>	Johnny Anderson	Oppose	Lincoln
HB 328	Tax Changes <i>Changes the calculation of property tax new growth to a 10-year average.</i>	Dan McCay	Oppose	Lincoln
HB 329	Western States Presidential Primary Amendments <i>Provides a date for a Western States Presidential Primary Election in 2016.</i>	Jon Cox	Support	Arie
HB 332	Local Transportation Corridor Preservation Fund Amendments <i>Provides that the Local Transportation Corridor Preservation Fund shall be managed by local highway authorities.</i>	Mike Kennedy	Support	Lincoln
HB 340	Voter Preregistration Amendments <i>Allows 16 and 17-year-olds to preregister to vote.</i>	Jon Cox	Support	Arie
HB 343	Utah Communication Authority Emergency Radio and 911 Amendments <i>Implements a statewide public communications network for 911 emergency services.</i>	Brad Dee	Support	Adam
HB 348	Criminal Justice Programs and Amendments <i>Makes sweeping changes to the criminal justice system in sentencing and programming.</i>	Eric Hutchings	Support	Adam
HB 351	Planning District Amendments <i>Authorizes counties to create mountainous planning districts.</i>	Brad Dee	Support	Lincoln
HB 354	Exempt Vehicle Amendments <i>Requires a "how's my driving?" decal on all government vehicles with an "EX" license plate.</i>	Bruce Cutler	Oppose	Lincoln
HB 355	Utah Agricultural Code Amendments <i>Permits, rather than requires, a county bee inspector inspect all beehives in the county every year.</i>	Stephen Handy	Support	Lincoln
HB 361	Investigation Protocols for Peace Officer Use of Force <i>Requires a law enforcement agency to develop a policy regarding peace officer use of force and requires inspection from a different agency.</i>	Marc Roberts	Support	Adam
HB 362	Transportation Infrastructure Funding <i>Creates a local option general sales tax dedicated towards transportation and transit.</i>	Johnny Anderson	Support	Lincoln
HB 365	Local Elections Amendments <i>Prohibits a county to move from partisan elected officials to non-partisan elected officials.</i>	Merrill Nelson	Support	Arie
HB 384	Grazing Zones Amendments <i>Establishes a Utah Grazing Agricultural Commodity Zones in Washington County.</i>	Mike Noel	Support	Mark
HB 386	Body Cameras for Law Enforcement Officers <i>Addresses GRAMA issues surrounding law enforcement body cameras.</i>	Dan McCay	Oppose	Adam
HB 388	Disaster Recovery for Local Governments <i>Establishes a loan program for local government that provides short-term aid in the event of emergency disaster needs.</i>	Curt Oda	Support	Adam
HB 390	Local Health Departments Emergency Funding <i>Allows a local health department to determine whether an event is considered a local health emergency.</i>	Paul Ray	Support	Adam
HB 393	Energy Zones Amendments <i>Establishes a Utah Energy Zone in San Juan County.</i>	Mike Noel	Support	Mark
HB 398	Obstructions on Roads in Dixie National Forest <i>Authorizes sheriffs to work with forest service to open up roads for health, safety, and emergency reasons.</i>	Mike Noel	Support	Mark
HB 407	Scenic Byway Amendments <i>Permits a scenic byway to be segmented by the State Scenic Byway Committee or by a city or county.</i>	Mike Noel	Support	Adam
HB 408	Catastrophic Wildfire and Public Nuisance Amendments <i>Authorizes county commissioners and sheriffs to declare a public nuisance on lands that posse a catastrophic wildfire risk.</i>	Kay Christofferson	Support	Mark

Number	Short Title	Sponsor	Position	Contact
HB 419	Public Highway Amendments <i>Provides that a private property owner may challenge the existence of a road or highway as a right of way if the road has been abandoned.</i>	Dan McCay	Oppose	Mark
HB 420	Revisions to Transportation Funding <i>Loosens restrictions to counties of the first class in regards to the Highway Projects Fund.</i>	Johnny Anderson	Support	Lincoln
SB 029	School Planning and Zoning Process <i>Requires greater coordination with local government when siting a school.</i>	Evan Vickers	Support	Lincoln
SB 039	Conditions of Probation <i>Clarifies that a county can release a specified number of state probationary inmates from county jail if the state fails to provide funding.</i>	Scott Jenkins	Support	Adam
SB 043	Changes to Election Law <i>Closes primary elections to registered members of a political party.</i>	Scott Jenkins	Monitor	Arie
SB 048	Evaluating Federal Land <i>Directs the State Tax Commission to make calculations of property tax that would be generated if Federal land were privately owned.</i>	Aaron Osmond	Support	Mark
SB 052	Asset Forfeiture Amendments <i>Creates a new standard for reporting asset forfeiture receipts.</i>	Howard Stephenson	Monitor	Lincoln
SB 056	Wildland Fire Policy <i>Requires the director of the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands to coordinate the development of a state-wide wildland fire policy.</i>	Evan Vickers	Support	Mark
SB 058	Municipal and County Officials Attendance at School District Board Meetings <i>Provides that county and municipal officials can attend both open and closed meetings of the district school board under some circumstances.</i>	Wayne Harper	Neutral	Lincoln
SB 069	Clean-burning Fuel for Motor Pools <i>Requires a government entity to ensure that 50% or more of the entity's motor vehicles are alternative-fuel or high-efficiency vehicles by 2019.</i>	Scott Jenkins	Neutral	Lincoln
SB 070	Geographic Diversity Amendments <i>Requires that initiative or referendum petition in a county or city meet signature requirements within a majority of precincts in the jurisdiction.</i>	Todd Weiler	Support	Arie
SB 082	Forcible Entry Amendments <i>Modifies the requirements for peace officers regarding the use of forcible entry when serving a search warrant or making an arrest.</i>	Steve Urquhart	Neutral	Lincoln
SB 093	Uniform Commercial Code Filing Amendments <i>Modifies the provision of what constitutes a filing and the effectiveness of a filing.</i>	Lyle Hillyard	Neutral	Adam
SB 105	Public Lands Act Amendments <i>Requires the attorney general to file a petition in Federal Court by June 30, 2015 seeking title to public lands.</i>	Jim Dabakis	Oppose	Mark
SB 121	Procurement Code Revisions <i>Includes the presence and quality of work site safety programs among the criteria that may be used to evaluate a bid.</i>	Karen Mayne	Monitor	Lincoln
SB 124	Land Use Amendments <i>Authorizes a municipality or county to make certain exceptions from specific zoning district standards.</i>	Jerry Stevenson	Support	Adam
SB 132	Fiscal Requirements for Local Governments and Nonprofits <i>Requires a number of nonprofits to report to the state auditor's office.</i>	Curt Bramble	Monitor	Lincoln
SB 135	Workers' Compensation Coverage for Firefighters <i>Modifies the Utah Occupational Disease Act to address coverage for firefighters by presuming certain cancer is caused by the job.</i>	Karen Mayne	Monitor	Lincoln
SB 142	Water Rights - Change Application Revisions <i>Requires parties to mediate issues arising from a change application before administrative review or litigation.</i>	Jerry Stevenson	Monitor	Lincoln
SB 155	Children's Justice Centers Amendments <i>Adds a Children's Justice Center to Beaver and Kane Counties.</i>	Ralph Okerlund	Support	Adam
SB 157	Government Records Access and Management Act Amendments <i>Requires all GRAMA appeals go directly to the state records committee, disallowing for any appeals at the local government level.</i>	Curt Bramble	Support	Lincoln
SB 160	Transportation Funding Amendments <i>Increases the state motor fuel tax from 24½ cents per gallon to 34½ cents per gallon.</i>	Kevin Van Tassell	Support	Lincoln
SB 164	Access to Health Care Amendments <i>Adopts the Governor's Healthy Utah Initiative.</i>	Brian Shiozawa	Support	Adam
SB 165	Property Tax Valuation and Assessment Modifications <i>Changes the centrally assessed appeal process by providing counties more say in certain areas and less in others.</i>	Curt Bramble	Neutral	Lincoln
SB 167	Juvenile Offender Amendments <i>Prohibits a minor charged with a felony or class A misdemeanor may not waive the right to counsel.</i>	Aaron Osmond	Neutral	Adam
SB 171	Metal Recycling Amendments <i>States that a person who recycles an engine block is not required to remove the used oil filter on that engine block.</i>	Scott Jenkins	Monitor	Adam
SB 172	Emergency Medical Services Amendments <i>Imposes a uniform assessment on ambulance service providers.</i>	Curt Bramble	Monitor	Lincoln

Number	Short Title	Sponsor	Position	Contact
SB 176	Governmental Immunity Act Amendments <i>Expands the exemptions from immunity that applies to government employees.</i>	Curt Bramble	Neutral	Adam
SB 185	Legal Notice Amendments <i>Allows a person to file a Notice of Claim against the county with the Utah Public Notice Website.</i>	Steve Urquhart	Monitor	Adam
SB 193	Local Government Amendments <i>Requires a county treasurer to include certain information on a property tax notice regarding assessments levied by a local entity.</i>	Deidre Henderson	Monitor	Lincoln
SB 197	Animal Shelter Amendments <i>Limits the processes in which an animal shelter can euthanize animals.</i>	Todd Weiler	Oppose	Adam
SB 199	Local Government Revisions <i>Creates a new municipal township process in counties of the first class.</i>	Karen Mayne	Support	Lincoln
SB 205	Assessment Area Revisions <i>Authorizes a local entity to transfer title to property in satisfaction of debt if certain requirements are met.</i>	Curt Bramble	Monitor	Lincoln
SB 230	Utah Prairie Dog Management Appropriation <i>Appropriates \$400,000 towards the implementation of Utah's prairie dog management plan.</i>	Evan Vickers	Support	Mark
SB 234	Utah Fire Prevention Board Amendments <i>Expands the Utah Fire Prevention Board to include fire executives from counties of the first and second class and one from another county.</i>	Howard Stephenson	Support	Mark
SB 264	Survey Monuments Replacement <i>Appropriates \$100,000 to be used for a grant program from the Monument Replacement and Restoration Committee.</i>	Ralph Okerlund	Support	Lincoln
SB 274	Military Installation Development Authority Amendments <i>Amends condominium provisions within a MIDA area.</i>	Jerry Stevenson	Monitor	Lincoln
SB 288	Automobile Insurance Amendments <i>Allows a motor vehicle owner to bring a cause of action against the public entity that employs a law enforcement officer.</i>	Mark Madsen	Oppose	Adam
SB 290	Civil Actions Involving Law Enforcement Officers or Emergency Vehicle Operators <i>Repeals law enforcement protections while pursuing a suspect of a crime.</i>	Mark Madsen	Oppose	Adam
SB 296	Antidiscrimination and Religious Freedom Amendments <i>Provides protective class status based on sexual orientation.</i>	Steve Urquhart	Support	Lincoln
SB 297	Protections for Religious Expression and Beliefs about Marriage, Family, or Sexuality <i>Provides a number of protections for individuals among which requires county clerks to solemnize marriages.</i>	Stuart Adams	Neutral	Adam
SCR 3	Concurrent Resolution Urging Congress to Support the Implementation of the State's Sage Grouse Conservation Plan <i>Urges the US Congress to pass legislation recognizing state primacy in the long-term management of sage grouse.</i>	Kevin Van Tassell	Support	Mark
SJR 02	Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution -- Rights of Political Parties <i>Proposes a change to the Utah Constitution prohibiting the state from altering a political party's method for selecting a candidate.</i>	Scott Jenkins	Monitor	Arie
SJR 07	Joint Resolution on Wild Horses and Burros <i>Urges the US Congress to create a process for transferring to the state authority to protect and manage feral horses within its borders.</i>	Evan Vickers	Support	Mark

Elections and Clerk Issues

HB51 Voter Eligibility Amendments, Webb

UAC Position: NEUTRAL

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of bill – HB 51 permits supporting documents to be included as evidence in a challenge to a voter’s right to vote claim.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC monitored HB 51 to ensure that it was not amended into something problematic (it wasn’t).

What to expect next on the bill – In the rare cases where a voter’s right to vote is challenged, HB 51 should make it easier to defend the clerk’s determination regarding a voter’s right to cast a ballot.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0051.html>

HB70 Posting Political Signs on Public Property, Daw

UAC Position: MONITOR

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of bill – HB 70 prohibits anything except strict political neutrality when it comes to regulating the posting of political signs on public property.

Our efforts on the legislation – The original version of HB 70 did not make allowance for publically owned convention centers rented out by political parties for conventions. UAC meet with the sponsor concerning this oversight and he agreed to substitute the bill to include that exemption.

What to expect next on the bill – County officials should be aware that if the county is going to allow one political sign on county property, they must allow all political signs on that property.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0070.html>

HB72 Ballot Publishing Amendments, Knotwell

UAC Position: MONITOR

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of bill – HB 72 permits a voter to photograph and post pictures of his or her ballot, while clarifying that it is a class C misdemeanor to photograph another’s ballot.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor to ensure that the bill include language prohibiting taking photos of other’s ballots.

What to expect next on the bill – Plan on seeing more selfies with ballots posted on social media.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0072.html>

HB97 Election of Officials of New Municipality, J. Cox
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of bill – HB 97 clarifies the process to be used in the election of officers in a newly created municipality, codifying current practice.

Our efforts on the legislation – While UAC took a position to support HB 97, the bill faced no opposition and so UAC did little more than monitor its progression.

What to expect next on the bill – Nothing should change as far as current practice.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0097.html>

HB100 Candidate Disclosure Amendments, Lifferth
UAC Position: MONITOR
Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of bill – HB 100 would have required a candidate to disclose prior criminal convictions, pending charges, and bankruptcy.

Our efforts on the legislation – While UAC had philosophical issues with the bill; a decision was made to let the Legislature debate the merits of the policy espoused in the bill. Since the counties could comply with the bill administratively, UAC's position was to monitor.

What to expect next on the bill – The legislature showed no appetite to consider HB 100 (it never made it out of rules committee), it seems doubtful that such legislation will be introduced in the future.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0100.html>

HB120 Campaign Financial Disclosures, Hall
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of bill – HB 120 moves the date for the final campaign financial disclosure date from August 31 to September 30 for state candidates.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor to amend the bill to allow a county clerk to provide written notice on a paper ballot informing voters to check a public website to verify that the paper ballot is up to date.

What to expect next on the bill – With UAC’s language, it is easier and less costly to notice voters of a change in the ballot.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0120.html>

HB166 Election Revisions, Spendlove

UAC Position: NEUTRAL

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of bill – HB 166 removes the county clerk’s name from the caption of a ballot.

Our efforts on the legislation – The original version of the bill also prohibited a polling place from bearing the name of a candidate or a candidate’s immediate family member. UAC worked with the sponsor to permit such polling places provided certain concessions are made. Later, the sponsor dropped that portion of the bill due to pressure from the legislature.

What to expect next on the bill – The county clerk’s name will no longer appear on the caption of a ballot.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0166.html>

HB177 Absentee Ballot Amendments, F. Cox

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of bill – HB 177 establishes that a voter’s absentee status does not expire unless the voter so designates. HB 177 also requires a voter to designate a change in political party in order to have the voter’s affiliation change.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor to ensure that language in the bill allowed for a voter to limit his or her absentee status in writing to a specified period of time.

What to expect next on the bill – Uniform process for dealing with voter absentee status. The default position is that voters must opt out of absentee status.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0177.html>

HB200 Task Force on Voter Participation, Arent

UAC Position: MONITOR

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of bill – HB 200 would have created a legislative task force to study potential ideas to improve Utah’s voter participation.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC did nothing more than monitor HB 200.

What to expect next on the bill – The bill failed to pass the house. Legislation to create legislative task forces has fallen out of favor with the legislature in recent years.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0200.html>

HB219 Election Day Voter Registration Pilot Project Amendments, Chavez-Houck

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of bill – HB 219 expands 2014’s Election Day voter registration pilot project to permit same day voter registration on early voting days.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC made contact with various legislators to ensure HB 219 passed.

What to expect next on the bill – The Election Day voter registration pilot project expands to include early voting through the end of 2016.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0219.html>

HB220 Vote by Mail Amendments, Chavez-Houck

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of bill – HB 220 provides that when an absentee ballot is submitted by mail, the ballot is timely if the ballot is clearly postmarked before Election Day.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC made contact with various legislators to ensure HB 220’s passage.

What to expect next on the bill – Voter enfranchisement, motherhood, and apple pie. (Well, at least the first of those three.)

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0220.html>

HB245 Incorporation Process for Cities and Towns, Brown

UAC Position: MONITOR

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of bill – HB 245 requires the Lt. Governor’s Office, rather than the county, to pay for and conduct a feasibility study for the incorporation of a new city or town. Should the feasibility study support the incorporation of the new city or town, and should the city or town be ultimately incorporated, HB 245 also spells out the process with which the newly incorporated municipality will repay the Lt. Governor’s Office for the cost of the feasibility study.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC carefully monitored HB 245 to ensure that it didn’t adversely affect county government. While the passage of HB 245 may lead to more incorporations, it also takes counties out of a highly political process.

What to expect next on the bill – Counties are out of the feasibility study business for proposed incorporations!

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0245.html>

HB321 Vote by Mail Revisions, Westwood

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of bill – HB 321 requires a county that administers an election entirely by absentee ballot to provide at least one Election Day voting center—something that counties are already doing.

Our efforts on the legislation – The original version of the bill required the same absentee ballot provisions for municipal elections. UAC worked with the sponsor to exempt the cities from this provision.

What to expect next on the bill – Current practice won’t change.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0321.html>

HB329 Western States Presidential Primary Amendments, J. Cox

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of bill – HB 329 would have funded a Western States Presidential Primary Election for the 2016 presidential campaign.

Our efforts on the legislation – The original version of the bill required counties to provide a limited online ballot for Uniform Military and Overseas Voters. UAC lobbied to make that language permissive which the bill was amended to do. Ultimately, the Republican Party made it clear that it wanted a caucus election, and the legislature dropped the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – Look for Internet voting legislation to return in the future.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0329.html>

HB340 Voter Preregistration Amendments, J. Cox
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of bill – HB 340 allows 16 and 17 year olds to preregister to vote.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC reached out to various legislators to ensure the passage of HB 340.

What to expect next on the bill – The state’s voter registration database is already equipped to handle voter preregistration and will activate such a preregistered voter at his or her 18th birthday.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0340.html>

HB365 Local Elections Amendments, Nelson
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of bill – HB 365 clarifies a prohibition on a county to move from partisan elected officials to non-partisan elected officials.

Our efforts on the legislation – Outside of UAC’s support, we did little to assist this extremely non-controversial bill.

What to expect next on the bill – Most agree that the prohibition enumerated in HB 365 was already in place.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0365.html>

SB43 Changes to Election Law, Jenkins
UAC Position: MONITOR
Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of bill – SB 43 would have closed primary elections in 2016 only to registered members of a political party.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC steered clear of this highly politically charged bill that emerged in response to 2014’s Count My Vote compromise.

What to expect next on the bill – A lawsuit against last year’s compromise is still outstanding, depending on the outcome, similar legislation may return next year.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0043.html>

SB70 Geographic Diversity Amendments, Weiler
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of bill – SB 70 would have required that initiative or referendum petition in a county or city meet signature requirements within a majority of precincts in the jurisdiction.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC’s sole election law failure during the 2015 legislative session, we couldn’t muster the support SB 70 needed to pass out of House committee.

What to expect next on the bill – Similar legislation should return next year.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0070.html>

SB297 Protections for Religious Expression and Beliefs about Marriage, Family, or Sexuality, Adams
UAC Position: MONITOR
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of bill – SB 297 requires a county clerk or a willing designee to be available during business hours to solemnize all legal marriages.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked closely with the sponsor to provide protections, not just to would be married couples, but county clerks and their staffs. UAC helped draft the language so that the clerk could designate a designee to solemnize marriages even if said designee is not a member of the clerk’s staff.

What to expect next on the bill – County clerks will need to develop a policy for solemnizing marriages. UAC will assist in providing model provisions. Look for UAC’s detailed memo and draft provisions on our website and in your inboxes soon.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0297.html>

SJR2 Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution -- Rights of Political Parties, Jenkins
UAC Position: MONITOR
Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of bill – SJR 2 would have prohibited the infringement of the right of a political party to establish the process of selecting who appears on the general election ballot as the party's only nominees.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC steered clear of this highly politically charged bill that emerged in response to 2014’s Count My Vote compromise.

What to expect next on the bill – A lawsuit against last year’s compromise is still outstanding, depending on the outcome, similar legislation may return next year.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SJR002.html>

General Government

HB42 Annexation Amendments, Westwood

UAC Position: NEUTRAL

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 42 allows for the annexation of an unincorporated area that leaves or creates an unincorporated island or peninsula if the municipality and the county agree to the annexation.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor to ensure that the language in the bill only applied to county approved annexations.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 42 will allow for more city annexations provided the county approve the annexation.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0042.html>

HB45 Local Governing Body Amendments, Cunningham

UAC Position: MONITOR

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 45 prohibits a municipal or county governing body from expelling a member of the body from a public meeting without first holding a vote of the governing body to determine if a member of the public in the meeting is acting disorderly or otherwise unbecoming.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC monitored HB 45 to ensure that the bill wasn't amended into something problematic (it wasn't).

What to expect next on the bill – HB 45 clarifies the process for dealing with disorderly participants in a public meeting. County officials should be clear on the requirements to meet in those circumstances.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0045.html>

HB53 Local Government Residential Reimbursement Authority, Anderson

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 53 creates a fund for counties of the first class to assist in the transfer of property in an HOA to property owners within the HOA. The county must establish an ordinance with standards governing reimbursement and management of the reimbursement fund.

Our efforts on the legislation – HB 53 was sponsored on behalf of Salt Lake County. UAC offered its support and made itself available for questions from legislators.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 53 only impacts counties of the first class, allowing Salt Lake County to create the fund if it so chooses.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0053.html>

HB90 Residential Building Inspections, Dunnigan

UAC Position: MONITOR

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 90 would have prohibited a municipality from requiring that a rental dwelling be subject to inspection or meet higher standards than standards for other residential housing as a condition for licensure. HB 90 would have also prohibited that a landlord submit to a building inspection without cause and notice.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC monitored HB 90, which only applied to municipalities, to ensure it wasn't amended to include counties.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 90 was abandoned by the sponsor early in the session. It is unclear whether it will return in some form in the future.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0090.html>

HB109 Expungement of Administrative Action, Greene

UAC Position: MONITOR

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 109 would have provided that an individual in a state agency may apply for administrative expungement of records related to disciplinary action taken against the individual provided that the individual had met certain requirements. HB 109 also provided that records expunged under this legislation may still be used internally by the agency and shared with law enforcement and the courts.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC monitored HB 109 to ensure that it didn't apply to county government. The bill was poorly drafted from the beginning and it wasn't clear until subsequent substitutions that it didn't impact county government.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 109 may return in future sessions, although the sponsor explained to UAC staff that he never intended it to apply to county government.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0109.html>

HB127 Local Land Use Amendments, Peterson

UAC Position: MONITOR

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 127 prohibits a city or county from requiring physical changes to a legal nonconforming rental dwelling, including the instillation of an egress or emergency escape window in certain circumstances.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC monitored HB 127 to ensure that additional safety regulations were not included in the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 127 will affect county building codes and permits.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0127.html>

HB129 Economic Development Incentive Amendments, Powell

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 129 modifies which companies may qualify to receive incentives under the Rural Fast Track Program, including companies located in counties of the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth class under certain circumstances.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC supported HB 129 which expands the reach of the Rural Fast Track Program to include more communities.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 129 should have a positive impact on a number of communities in Utah’s rural counties.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0129.html>

HB190 Assessment Area Act Modifications, Webb

UAC Position: NEUTRAL

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 190 changes the parameters in the creation of assessment areas. HB 190 requires a higher threshold be met to create a new assessment area.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor and other interested parties throughout the interim and into the session to ensure that the new thresholds for the creation of an assessment area never became too onerous.

What to expect next on the bill – Counties interested in creating an assessment area will need to familiarize themselves with the new requirements associated with such an action.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0190.html>

HB216 Workplace Abusive Conduct Amendments, Stratton
UAC Position: MONITOR
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 216 prohibits abusive conduct in the workforce, requires training and publishing information on a website and applies to state agencies only.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC monitored HB 216 in case it was amended to include county government (it wasn't).

What to expect next on the bill – HB 216 will have no impact to county government.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0216.html>

HB221 Assessment Foreclosure Amendments, Webb
UAC Position: OPPOSE
Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 221 would have amended foreclosure provisions in the Assessment Area Act by authorizes a local entity to enforce an assessment lien by judicial foreclosure.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor of HB 221 to convince him to abandon HB 221 early in the legislative session.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 221 may return in future legislative sessions.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0221.html>

HB224 Beekeeping Amendments, Roberts
UAC Position: OPPOSE
Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 224 would have prohibited any municipal or county beekeeping regulations and would have revoked any existing regulations.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor of HB 224 to express its concerns with the bill. The sponsor promised to work with local government to find language that would satisfy all parties. When no such language was forthcoming, the sponsor abandoned the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 224 may return, but if it does it will likely include vastly different language.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0224.html>

HB228 Appellate Bond Amendments, Sagers
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 228 exempts the state and subdivisions from filing appellate bonds when appealing liability claims. HB 228 repealed and reenacted expiring code.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to support HB 228 and worked to ensure its passage by speaking with individual legislators and making itself available for questions. The bill passed with very little opposition.

What to expect next on the bill – The passage of HB 228 allows counties to appeal without onerous cost of floating an appellate bond in those proceedings.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0224.html>

HB246 Amendments to Fire Code, Kennedy
UAC Position: MONITOR
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 246 modifies provisions relating to a person’s right to appeal a fire code official’s order, decision, or determination. Specifically, HB 246 requires that the fire code official provide notice of the person’s right to appeal.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC monitored HB 246 to ensure that it never became too burdensome on the fire jurisdiction.

What to expect next on the bill – Hopefully, HB 246 won’t change current practice too much.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0246.html>

HB250 Special Service Districts Amendments, Kennedy
UAC Position: OPPOSE
Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 250 would have prohibited a municipality from creating a special service district smaller than the municipality itself and would have prohibited a municipality to add services to a special service district in certain circumstances.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to oppose HB 250 due to its over-burdensome regulations on municipalities and worry that those regulations might bleed into county government. The bill never so much as received a committee hearing.

What to expect next on the bill – It is unclear whether HB 250 will return in future legislative sessions.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0250.html>

HB251 Amendments to the Interlocal Act, Anderson
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 251 corrected some problematic language passed in the 2014 Legislative Session regarding interlocal agreements. HB 251 sets requirements for an interlocal agreement concerning rules, policy, and ability to bond.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor and other interested parties throughout the interim to ensure that HB 251 includes language that addressed all parties' concerns. The final result is much better than the language it replaced.

What to expect next on the bill – Counties entering into interlocal agreements will need to consult the code for new regulations concerning the management of such agreements.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0251.html>

HB261 Horse Tripping Amendments, Ivory
UAC Position: MONITOR
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 261 requires a 30-day notice of an event where horse tripping is scheduled to take place. That notice is to be delivered to the Department of Agriculture and Food, and an accounting of the event is also required to be delivered to the Department after the event. The Department of Agriculture and Food is required to present a report the legislature spelling out the number of horse tripping events in the state.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC met with the sponsor to understand the projected scope and impact the bill might have to county rodeos. Obtaining assurance that the bill will have minimal impact to county government, UAC did not get involved in the legislation.

What to expect next on the bill – County rodeos that schedule horse tripping events will need to be sure to notice the Department of Agriculture and Food before the event and report to the Department after the event. Failure to do so will result in a \$500 fine.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0261.html>

HB285 Building Code Review and Adoption Amendments, Wilson
UAC Position: OPPOSE
Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 285 would have modified the process by which the Legislature adopts new versions of the State Construction Code and the State Fire Code. HB 285 also would have prohibited a political subdivision from adopting an ordinance that is more restrictive than the State Fire Code.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to oppose HB 285. The bill failed to pass as it ran out of time on the final night of the legislative session.

What to expect next on the bill – Given the legislative support HB 285 had during the 2015 Legislative Session, it seems likely that some version of the bill will return in 2016.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0285.html>

HB312 Reporting and Expenditure of Public Funds Amendments, DiCaro

UAC Position: NEUTRAL

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 312 requires a county to provide annual reports detailing the expenditure of pass through funding received from a state agency.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a neutral position on HB 312 and did not get involved in the legislation.

What to expect next on the bill – Counties receiving pass through funding from state agencies will have to provide a detailed accounting of how those funds were expended.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0312.html>

HB315 Building Permit Amendments, Schultz

UAC Position: OPPOSE

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 315 would have prohibited a land use authority from requiring an applicant to complete landscaping or infrastructure improvements.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to oppose HB 315, but did little to oppose the bill as the bill failed to receive so much as a committee hearing.

What to expect next on the bill – It's unclear whether HB 315 will return to the legislature at a future date.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0315.html>

HB351 Planning District Amendments, Dee

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 351 authorizes a county to designate a mountainous planning district under certain circumstances and to establish a planning commission for a mountainous planning

district. It excludes for the most part any area within a mountainous planning district from the land use jurisdiction of a municipality.

Our efforts on the legislation – HB 351 was introduced at the request of Salt Lake County. UAC took an active part in supporting the bill and spoke to a number of legislators on the bill’s behalf.

What to expect next on the bill – Salt Lake County will likely create a mountainous planning district. It is unclear if any other counties will follow suit.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0351.html>

HB354 Exempt Vehicle Amendments, Cutler

UAC Position: OPPOSE

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 354 would have required all state vehicles with an “EX” license plate to include a decal message of “How’s my driving?” with a corresponding phone number to take complaints.

Our efforts on the legislation – In its original version HB 354 included all local government vehicles with an “EX” license plate. The bill was substituted, in part due to UAC opposition, to only include state vehicles. Despite the substitute, HB 354 still failed to pass out of committee.

What to expect next on the bill – It seems unlikely that either version of HB 354 has the support needed to pass out of the legislature.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0354.html>

HB355 Utah Agricultural Code Amendments, Handy

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 355 permits, rather than requires, a county bee inspector inspect all beehives in the county every year. Additionally, HB 355 makes changes to requirements for the Department of Agriculture and Food.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to support HB 355 and made itself available for any legislative questions. The bill passed unanimously through the legislature.

What to expect next on the bill – County bee inspectors are no longer required to inspect all beehives within the county every year.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0355.html>

SB29 School Planning and Zoning Process, Vickers
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 29 requires a school district or charter school to meet with a local governmental entity about a proposed acquisition and provide certain information regarding the acquisition to the local governmental entity. Additionally, SB 29 permits a local government to request a traffic study.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to support SB 29 and made itself available for any legislative questions. The bill passed unanimously through the legislature.

What to expect next on the bill – Counties should have a bigger say in the selection of a new school site.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0029.html>

SB58 Municipal and County Officials Attendance at School District Board Meetings, Harper
UAC Position: NEUTRAL
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 58 provides that county and municipal officials can attend both open and closed meetings of the district school board under some circumstances surrounding the acquisition of real property.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a neutral position on SB 58, but appreciates the sponsor's efforts to allow county officials greater participation in school board meetings.

What to expect next on the bill – County executives will be able to more fully participate in school board meetings.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0058.html>

SB93 Uniform Commercial Code Filing Amendments, Hillyard
UAC Position: NEUTRAL
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 93 modifies the provision of what constitutes a filing and the effectiveness of a filing and creates a crime for certain filings filed with intent to harass or defraud.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a neutral position on SB 93.

What to expect next on the bill – SB 93 shouldn't have much of an impact to county government.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0093.html>

SB121 Procurement Code Revisions, Mayne

UAC Position: MONITOR

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 121 requires information on work site safety programs from contractors/bidders as part of their statement of qualification, and would allow the public entity to consider that information in evaluating and choosing among competing bidders.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC monitored SB 121 but chose not to take a position on the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – SB 121 will allow counties to consider work safety programs when evaluating contractor bids.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0121.html>

SB124 Land Use Amendments, Stevenson

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 124 authorizes a municipality or county to make certain exceptions from specific zoning district standards.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor and interested parties throughout the interim in crafting the language of SB 124.

What to expect next on the bill – SB 124 changes the process for approving new subdivisions applicable to single family dwellings.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0124.html>

SB132 Fiscal Requirements for Local Governments and Nonprofits, Bramble

UAC Position: MONITOR

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 132 requires a number of nonprofits who receive funds from federal pass through money, state money, and local money to report to the state auditor's office. The manner in which the nonprofits are to report to the auditor's office depends on the amount of funds received.

Our efforts on the legislation – As SB 132 didn't directly impact county government, UAC opted to only monitor the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – Counties shouldn't be impacted by SB 132 although a number of nonprofits receiving county funds will be.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0132.html>

SB157 Government Records Access and Management Act Amendments, Bramble

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 157 modifies the provisions regarding appeals of a governmental entity's decision to deny a records request. SB 157 requires a political subdivision to establish an ordinance under which appeals of records decisions would go to a chief administrative officer, with further appeals to a records committee, and finally to the district court.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor to amend the bill from its original language prohibiting GRAMA appeals at the local level.

What to expect next on the bill – Counties should familiarize themselves with the changes required to GRAMA appeals found in SB 157.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0157.html>

SB171 Metal Recycling Amendments, Jenkins

UAC Position: MONITOR

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 171 states that a person who recycles an engine block is not required to remove the used oil filter on that engine block.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor to amend the original version of the bill to ensure regulatory authority of local boards of health remain in the code. With that amendment to the original bill, UAC saw no need to take a position on the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – SB 171 shouldn't impact counties greatly.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0171.html>

SB176 Governmental Immunity Act Amendments, Bramble

UAC Position: NEUTRAL

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 176 expands the exemptions from immunity that applies to government employees. SB 176 provides that immunity is retained unless expressly waived and modifies

language relating to actions that constitute an exception to a waiver of governmental immunity, replacing that language with language indicating that immunity is not waived for an injury under specified conditions.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor to amend the original version of the bill to protect county governmental immunity. In its final version, the bill poses no threat to county government.

What to expect next on the bill – SB 176 shouldn't impact counties greatly.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0176.html>

SB185 Legal Notice Amendments, Urquhart

UAC Position: MONITOR

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – SB 185 would have allowed a person to file a Notice of Claim against the county with the Utah Public Notice Website which would have created a challenge in recognizing the Notice of Claim.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC expressed some concern with the bill which was abandoned early in the legislative session.

What to expect next on the bill – It is unclear if SB 185 will return in future legislative sessions.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0185.html>

SB197 Animal Shelter Amendments, Weiler

UAC Position: OPPOSE

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – SB 197 would have limited the processes in which an animal shelter can euthanize animals, prohibiting carbon monoxide. Additionally, SB 197 would have required an animal shelter adopt a policy for euthanizing animals with procedures and a training program.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC expressed its concern with the bill which failed to pass out of committee.

What to expect next on the bill – Similar legislation has been introduced in past sessions, it is likely that similar legislation will be introduced in the future.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0197.html>

SB199 Local Government Revisions, Mayne
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 199 creates a new municipal township process in counties of the first class, requires an election in November, 2015 to consider the fate of Salt Lake County’s unincorporated population.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to support SB 199 which was proposed by Salt Lake County. We spoke to a number of legislators in effort to ensure its passage.

What to expect next on the bill – SB 199 only impacts Salt Lake County and its unincorporated areas.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0199.html>

SB205 Assessment Area Revisions, Bramble
UAC Position: MONITOR
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 205 authorizes a local entity to transfer title to property in satisfaction of debt if the local entity and owners agree to the transfer and the terms of the transfer is documented.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took no position on SB 205, opting to monitor the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – SB 205 provides another option to pay off debt.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0205.html>

SB234 Utah Fire Prevention Board Amendments, Stephenson
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 234 expands the Utah Fire Prevention Board to include fire executives from counties of the first and second class and an executive from the third through sixth class.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to support SB 234 and made itself available for questions on the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – SB 234 will provide counties with a greater voice on the Fire Prevention Board.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0234.html>

SB264 Survey Monuments Replacement, Okerlund
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 264 appropriates \$100,000 to be used for a grant program from the Monument Replacement and Restoration Committee.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor and a number of other legislators to ensure counties received the grant money appropriated in SB 264.

What to expect next on the bill – SB 264 will provide \$100,000 in a grant program for the replacement of survey monuments. UAC will return in future sessions in an attempt to obtain more funding for this project.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0264.html>

SB274 Military Installation Development Authority Amendments, Stevenson
UAC Position: MONITOR
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 274 amends condominium provisions within a MIDA area.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC did not take a position on SB 274.

What to expect next on the bill – SB 274 should have no impact on counties without a MIDA area and little impact on counties with a MIDA area.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0274.html>

SB296 Antidiscrimination and Religious Freedom Amendments, Urquhart & Adams
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 296 modifies the Utah Antidiscrimination Act and the Utah Fair Housing Act to provide a statewide law to address both discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and religious freedoms.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to support SB 296 and applauds the parties that worked to reach such an important compromise.

What to expect next on the bill – SB 296 preempts any local government remedies associated with sexual orientation. Any county with such an ordinance should repeal it, as remedies will now be covered under state law.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0296.html>

Human Services

HB390 Local Health Departments Emergency Funding, Ray

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 390 provides that a local health department determines the existence of a “local health emergency” for purposes of applying for assistance from the state to deal with the expenses incurred in responding to the emergency.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC supported the bill and made itself available for any Legislative questions on the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 390 should improve the process for applying for assistance from the state during local health emergencies.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0390.html>

SB69 Clean-burning Fuel for Motor Pools, Jenkins

UAC Position: NEUTRAL

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – SB 69 would have required first and second class counties to ensure that 50 percent or more of the entity's motor vehicles are alternative-fuel or high-efficiency vehicles by 2019.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a neutral position on SB 69. The bill faced outside opposition from other political subdivisions and failed to receive a vote in the House.

What to expect next on the bill – SB 69 is a continuation of a bill passed in 2014 that required a number of state agencies to comply with clean-burning motor vehicle pools. It is likely that it will return in some form in 2016.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0069.html>

SB164 Access to Health Care Amendments, Shiozawa

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – Perhaps no bill during the 2015 General Session was discussed more in the media than SB 164 which would have implemented the Governor’s Healthy Utah plan leveraging millions of dollars in federal funds to expand Medicaid.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to support SB 164 and spoke to a number of legislators on the issue. SB 164 was too big for UAC to influence, though, and while there was broad support for it in the Senate, there was little support from Republicans in the House.

What to expect next on the bill – The Governor and Legislative Leadership have agreed to attempt to work through the issue of Medicaid expansion over the interim and have promised to call a special session when the issue has been resolved.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0164.html>

Public Lands

HB132 Interstate Compact on Transfer of Public Lands Amendments, Stratton

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 132 adds financing provisions to the Interstate Compact on the Transfer of Public Lands.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to support HB 132 and worked with the sponsor and other legislators to ensure its passage.

What to expect next on the bill – This bill clarifies the financing of the Interstate Compact on the Transfer of Public Lands but should not affect county government.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0132.html>

HB196 Wildfire Mitigation Amendments, Briscoe

UAC Position: MONITOR

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 196 would have enacted a nonrefundable income tax credit for wildfire mitigation measures in certain areas for a certain time period.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC monitored HB 196, but did not involve itself in its progress. The bill failed to pass out of committee.

What to expect next on the bill – With the lack of support generated from HB 196, it seems unlikely that it will return.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0196.html>

HB303 Legislative Approval of Land Transfers, Stratton

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 303 requires counties to notify the legislature before they enter into discussion with the federal government regarding land management issues.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to support HB 303 and made itself available for any legislative questions on the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – In the event that a county looks to engage in discussions with the federal government regarding the sale, exchange, or transfer of lands; the county must first inform the legislature.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0303.html>

HB323 County Resource Management Planning, Stratton

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – With a companion appropriation at \$50,000 per county to do the necessary science to support effective updated plans, HB 323 will be used to leverage hoped and already applied-for CIB matching grants - all for the goal of enhanced county resource management plans.

Our efforts on the legislation – Mark Ward originated and conceptualized the idea and need for this bill before a group of legislators in last September's public lands meeting in Midway, and helped the sponsor draft the bill. UAC actively supported and lobbied for its passage.

What to expect next on the bill – This bill authorizes and enables strengthening and improving of county resource management plans over the next 18 months to leverage federal coordination and consistency requirements. Through the companion appropriation and CIB matching funds, each county will have up to \$100,000 to complete a plan. If you have questions regarding the bill or access questions for funds, please call Mark Ward for details.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0323.html>

HB384 Grazing Zones Amendments, Noel

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 384 authorizes additional grazing zones in Washington County to be added to grazing zones legislatively established the last few years. The bill also adds provisions for pushing back on federal mismanagement with resulting high wildfire risk by authorizing county officials' use of prescriptive grazing to reduce wildfire and other threats to health, safety and welfare.

Our efforts on the legislation – Mark Ward originated this concept of geographic grazing zones several years ago with the Escalante Grazing Zone bill, and subsequent bills establishing other agricultural grazing zones have followed, including this one. Officials in Garfield County conceptualized this year's addition of prescriptive grazing as a push back tool, and UAC actively supported and lobbied for this bill.

What to expect next on the bill – Washington County and other counties with grazing zones will proceed on an as-needed basis to plan with federal partners for protected grazing in these zones, and use prescriptive grazing authorized by Thisbe to reduce wildfire risk and protect health, safety and welfare.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0384.html>

HB393 Energy Zones Amendments, Noel
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 393 expands energy zone recognition on federal lands in San Juan County, so critical for leveraging coordination and consistency in federal land management planning.

Our efforts on the legislation – Mark Ward originated this concept of geographic energy zones several years ago with the Uintah Basin Energy Zones, and subsequent bills establishing other energy production zones have followed, including this one. UAC actively supported and lobbied for this bill.

What to expect next on the bill – San Juan County will proceed on an as-needed basis to plan with federal partners for energy production in these energy zones, as well as use these designations in federal lands bills.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0393.html>

HB398 Obstructions on Roads in Dixie National Forest, Noel
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 398 would have authorizes sheriffs to work with forest service to open up roads for health, safety, and emergency reasons.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked closely with the sponsor and legislators on HB 398. Unfortunately, the bill was introduced late in the session and got tied up in the rush at the end of the session and failed to receive a vote in the Senate.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 398 will likely return in 2016.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0398.html>

HB408 Catastrophic Fire Public Nuisance, Christofferson
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 408 gives public nuisance declaration and nuisance abatement authority to county officials, with needed leverage to protect citizen health, safety and welfare in the face of imminent wildfire threat from poorly managed federal lands.

Our efforts on the legislation – Mark Ward originated and conceptualized this bill, sold it to county commissioners and key legislators, and helped the sponsor draft the bill. UAC actively supported and lobbied for its passage.

What to expect next on the bill – Counties will proceed on an as-needed basis to address and seek to abate catastrophic public nuisances on public lands.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0408.html>

HB419 Public Highway Amendments, McCay

UAC Position: OPPOSE

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 419 would have provided that a private property owner may challenge the existence of a road or highway as a right of way if the road has been abandoned. The unintended consequence of HB 419 would have threatened Utah’s RS2477 right of way litigation.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked closely with the sponsor and proponents of the bill to attempt to craft a solution that didn’t harm Utah’s RS2477 efforts. When no such solution was forthcoming, the sponsor agreed to abandon the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – A variation of this bill has been introduced for a half decade now; UAC recognizes that the bill will continue to be introduced until a solution is found. We have committed to work over the interim in an effort to find a solution that satisfies all parties.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0419.html>

SB48 Evaluating Federal Land, Osmond

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – SB 48 would have directed the State Tax Commission to make calculations of property tax that would be generated if Federal land were privately owned.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to support SB 48 and made itself available for questions on the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – For some, SB 48 seemed redundant from other legislation in the past. It failed to make it to the top of the House board for final passage. It is unclear whether it will return in the future.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0048.html>

SB56 Wildland Fire Policy, Vickers

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 56 requires the director of the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands to coordinate the development of a state-wide wildland fire policy with counties, cities, and other stakeholders throughout the state.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor and interested parties in drafting SB 56. UAC spoke with legislators on behalf of SB 56, which passed unanimously.

What to expect next on the bill – County officials should plan on working with the director of the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands to help with the development of the state’s wildland fire policy.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0056.html>

SB105 Public Lands Act Amendments, Dabakis

UAC Position: OPPOSE

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – SB 105 would have required the attorney general to file a petition in Federal Court by June 30, 2015 seeking title to public lands.

Our efforts on the legislation – SB 105 was amended repeatedly during the legislative session to a point where it wasn’t as objectionable as it began. Despite that, the bill failed to receive a vote in the House.

What to expect next on the bill – It is unclear if this bill will return to the legislature.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0105.html>

SB230 Utah Prairie Dog Management Appropriation, Vickers

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 230 appropriates \$400,000 towards the implementation of Utah’s prairie dog management plan.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to support SB 230 and appreciates the sponsor’s work to see it pass.

What to expect next on the bill – The \$400,000 appropriated towards Utah’s prairie dog management plan should help Utah’s efforts to protect private property owners.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0230.html>

SCR3 Concurrent Resolution Urging Congress to Support the Implementation of the State's Sage-grouse Conservation Plan, Van Tassell

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SCR 3 urges the U.S. Congress to enact legislation recognizing and encouraging state primacy in the long-term management of sage-grouse and its habitat.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to support SCR 3 and made itself available for any questions regarding the resolution.

What to expect next on the bill – The resolution will be forwarded to the U.S. Congress for their consideration.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SCR003.html>

SJR7 Joint Resolution on Wild Horses and Burros, Vickers

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SJR 7 urges the U.S. Congress to create a process for transferring to the state authority to protect and manage feral horses within its borders.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to support SJR 7 and made itself available for any questions regarding the resolution.

What to expect next on the bill – The resolution will be forwarded to the U.S. Congress for their consideration.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SJR007.html>

Public Safety and Courts

HB13 Jail Reimbursement Amendments, Ray

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 13 transfers the reporting responsibility on jail reimbursement from the Department of Corrections to the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice. CCJJ is now responsible to annually report to the Criminal Justice Interim Committee the number of state parole and probationary inmates housed by each county.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC supported the bill and made itself available for any Legislative questions on the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 13 shouldn't effect county government in any direct way.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0013.html>

HB20 Jury Duty Amendments, Hall

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 20 exempts fourth, fifth, and sixth class counties and third class counties under 75,000 from complying with a provision relating to jury duty. In 2013, legislation was passed that limited jury summons to once every two years. HB 20 exempted smaller counties from the exemption to ensure a large enough jury pool.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC approached the sponsor of the original 2013 legislation to run the exemption. Representative Hall graciously agreed.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 20 should make it easier for smaller counties to keep a jury pool

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0020.html>

HB34 Personal Injury Damages Amendments, McIff

UAC Position: MONITOR

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 34 limits the amount of damages recoverable in personal injury actions to \$100,000 when the injured person dies before judgment of unrelated causes.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC was not heavily involved in the passage of HB 34.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 34 should only impact a very small number of personal injury cases and have little to no impact on counties.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0034.html>

HB79 Safety Belt Law Amendments, Perry

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 79 permits the failure to be buckled up in an automobile a primary ticketed offense.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC supported HB 79 and spoke with a number of legislators in an effort to ensure its passage.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 79 has the potential to save lives. Hopefully, it will result in more Utahns buckling up.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0079.html>

HB85 Peace Officer Training Amendments, Roberts

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 85 grants a \$500,000 yearly appropriation from the Uninsured Motorist Identification Restricted Account to POST for officer training until 2020.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC supported HB 85 and made itself available for any questions regarding the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 85 provides additional funding for POST training.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0085.html>

HB167 Asset Forfeiture Revisions, Greene

UAC Position: OPPOSE

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 167 would have required a direct nexus of the property to a specific alleged criminal exchange or transaction, in order for the property to be forfeited.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to oppose HB 167 feeling it was too hard on public safety. The bill failed to pass out of committee.

What to expect next on the bill – It is unclear if the sponsor will attempt to reintroduce HB 167 at a future legislative session.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0167.html>

HB191 Utah Emergency Medical Services System Act Amendments, Ray

UAC Position: MONITOR

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 191 updates background clearance requirements for emergency medical personnel and requires local government to establish cost, quality, and access goals for the ground ambulance and paramedic services that serve their areas.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC monitored HB 191 to ensure that more regulations weren't asked of county government.

What to expect next on the bill – Counties will be required to establish goals for the ground ambulance and paramedic services provided in their boundaries.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0191.html>

HB278 Justice Court Judge Compensation, J. Cox

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 278 would have permitted 4th, 5th, and 6th class counties to determine justice court judge compensation by a majority vote of the governing body.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to support HB 278, but the bill failed to receive so much as a committee hearing.

What to expect next on the bill – It seems unlikely that HB 278 will return to the legislature in spite of its merit.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0278.html>

HB319 Jail Contracting Treatment Rate Amendments, Noel

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 319 increased the compensation rate to counties housing state inmates under the jail contracting program if providing treatment programs from 79 percent of the final state daily incarceration rate to 84 percent of the final state daily incarceration rate.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC reached out to legislators to ensure that this importation bill made it through the process. In the end, the bill didn't receive a single nay vote.

What to expect next on the bill – As important as HB 319 was, it was more important to receive the funding attached to it. With an additional \$2.5 million in jail contracting and programming appropriations, counties should feel good about their success in 2015.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0319.html>

HB343 Utah Communication Authority Emergency Radio and 911 Amendments, Dee
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 343 implements a statewide public communications network for 911 emergency services including an advisory committee to help implement the network.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor to address some county concerns in the original version of the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 343 should improve Utah’s E-911 service throughout the state and primarily in the rural parts of the state.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0343.html>

HB348 Criminal Justice Programs and Amendments, Hutchings
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 348 makes sweeping changes to the criminal justice system in sentencing and programming. As one of the biggest pieces of legislation for the 2015 legislative session, the Justice Reinvestment Initiative is the first step in the changes to the criminal justice system. This will require many changes and the counties will play a major part, including many of the offices of county commissioner, sheriff, county attorney, and behavioral health treatment. The changes included in the bill affect sentencing and reduce criminal charges on controlled substance charges, reduce penalties for motor vehicle charges, and defines criminal risk factors and requires risk and needs assessment that will help determine the action plan for those charged with controlled substance use. This bill also requires the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health (DSAMH) establish the standards and evaluation of treatment programs. DSAMH and the Department of Corrections (DOC) will also establish goals and outcome measurements for all treatment programs and measure recidivism. Legislation also requires action plans for each offender. Finally, the bill requires that there are measurements and track a group to evaluate cost and determine resources needed to attain recidivism goals.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor to insure that the counties be involved in process as we begin these system-wide changes and especially as we evaluate and track costs and resources. We have been straight-forward with the sponsor that the appropriations associated with this bill are the beginning, not the end figure. We will demonstrate the need as the changes move forward.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 348 makes changes throughout the criminal justice system. Counties will be heavily impacted.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0348.html>

HB361 Investigation Protocols for Peace Officer Use of Force, Roberts
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 361 requires the chief executive officer of a law enforcement agency and the county/district attorney to confer following a police officer’s use of deadly force to assure that a proper investigation is conducted. The investigation may not be conducted by the agency employing the officer, although that agency is not precluded from conducting an internal administrative investigation. All police agencies are also required to establish and provide policies on how it will select outside agencies to conduct investigations, and which assure that investigations will be conducted professionally and thoroughly.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked through the interim to help develop the language found in HB 361. UAC took a position to support the bill and spoke with a number of legislators to ensure its passage.

What to expect next on the bill – Counties will need to develop policies on how to investigate peace officers use of force. Counties will need to find an outside agency to conduct those investigations.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0361.html>

HB386 Body Cameras for Law Enforcement Officers, McCay
UAC Position: OPPOSE
Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 386 would have created minimum guidelines for a law enforcement agency using body-worn cameras, including a retention schedule for body camera recordings. HB 368 also required law enforcement agencies to create written policies governing the use of body-worn cameras that meets or exceeds the guidelines spelled out in the bill.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor and interested parties throughout the interim to find a workable solution. When it became apparent that no such solution would be forthcoming during the 2015 Legislative Session, UAC committed to work through the 2015 interim to help find one.

What to expect next on the bill – Look for body camera legislation to return in 2016.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0386.html>

HB388 Disaster Recovery for Local Governments, Oda
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 388 would have established a loan program for local government that provides short-term aid in the event of emergency disaster needs.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to support HB 388 and made itself available for questions on the bill. The bill passed out of the House unanimously, but failed to make it to a vote in the Senate at the end of the session.

What to expect next on the bill – With the broad support HB 388 received during the session, you can expect it will return in 2016.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0388.html>

SB039 Conditions of Probation, Jenkins
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 39 limits the authority of a county to release a state prisoner in a county jail should the state fail to appropriate sufficient funds to compensate for that prison to condition of probation inmates only and not state parole inmates.

Our efforts on the legislation – SB 39 represents a compromise reached by the Utah Association of Counties and the Governor's Office reached after 2014's landmark SB 241 passed last year. Worried that last year's bill was an overreach, the Governor's Office asked for SB 39 to be introduced in 2015 with a commitment from the counties not to release state parole inmates under the allowance permitted under SB 39.

What to expect next on the bill – SB 39 won't change any practice within the counties.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0039.html>

SB52 Asset Forfeiture Amendments, Stephenson
UAC Position: MONITOR
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 52 modifies the Forfeiture and Disposition of Property Act by requiring annual reports from law enforcement agencies conducting forfeitures and a summary of the reports by the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC monitored SB 52 to ensure it wasn't substituted into something problematic.

What to expect next on the bill – County law enforcement should familiarize itself with the requirements in SB 52 when looking to conduct forfeitures.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0052.html>

SB82 Forcible Entry Amendments, Urquhart

UAC Position: NEUTRAL

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 82 modifies the requirements for peace officers regarding the use of forcible entry when serving a search warrant or making an arrest. These modifications include requiring a peace officer to wear a badge and body-worn camera if the law enforcement agency owns and operates them when executing a search warrant, as well as a prohibition that a warrant authorizing forcible entry may not be issued solely for the purpose of an alleged controlled substance or for drug paraphernalia.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked closely with the sponsor and interested parties to craft the bill to a point where we could drop our opposition to it.

What to expect next on the bill – County law enforcement should familiarize itself with the new requirements associated with forcible entry.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0082.html>

SB155 Children's Justice Centers Amendments, Okerlund

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 155 adds a Children’s Justice Center to Beaver and Kane Counties, bringing the total number of counties with a Children’s Justice Centers in the state to 18.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to support SB 155 and worked with the sponsor to ensure its passage.

What to expect next on the bill – SB 155 will only affect Beaver and Kane Counties.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0155.html>

SB167 Juvenile Offender Amendments, Osmond

UAC Position: NEUTRAL

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 167, among other things, requires that the court determine that a minor is knowingly and intentionally waiving counsel.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor to amend the bill to allow for the waiver of counsel by a minor. The original version of the bill prohibited that right and would have cost the counties a great deal to pay for that defense.

What to expect next on the bill – SB 167 shouldn't affect counties in a large degree.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0167.html>

SB172 Emergency Medical Services Amendments, Bramble

UAC Position: MONITOR

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 172 imposes a uniform assessment on ambulance service providers to offset Medicaid administration expenses.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC didn't take a position on SB 172, instead opted to monitor the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – SB 172 should have little impact on county government.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0172.html>

SB288 Automobile Insurance Amendments, Madsen

UAC Position: OPPOSE

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – SB 288 would have allowed a motor vehicle owner to bring a cause of action against the public entity that employs a law enforcement officer.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to oppose SB 288 and worked with a number of legislators to ensure it didn't pass.

What to expect next on the bill – SB 288 received no traction in the legislature, hopefully that will discourage similar bills in the future.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0288.html>

SB290 Civil Actions Involving Law Enforcement Officers or Emergency Vehicle Operators, Madsen

UAC Position: OPPOSE

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – SB 290 would have repealed law enforcement protections while pursuing a suspect of a crime.

Our efforts on the legislation – In 2014, UAC worked with the legislature to pass a bill protecting law enforcement from certain civil actions during pursuit of a suspect of a crime. SB 290 would have repealed that work. UAC took a position to oppose SB 290 and worked with a number of legislators to ensure it didn't pass.

What to expect next on the bill – SB 290 passed out of the Senate but was held up in the House. It might return again in a future legislative session.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0290.html>

Retirement and Workers Compensation

HB77 Postretirement Employment Taskforce, Cunningham

UAC Position: MONITOR

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 77 would have created a taskforce to consider postretirement restrictions for retirees in the Utah Retirement System.

Our efforts on the legislation – The original version of the bill allowed for retirees to return to work within the Utah Retirement System and presented some financial challenges for counties within the system. UAC’s original position of the bill was in opposition. The bill was substituted to create a taskforce after it was clear that the original version of the bill wouldn’t pass.

What to expect next on the bill – Legislative taskforces have fallen out of favor in recent years. There is a chance that the original version of the bill or some variation of it might return in 2016.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0077.html>

HB115 Public Safety Retirement for Dispatchers, Powell

UAC Position: NEUTRAL

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 115 requires the state to cover dispatchers in the public safety retirement system and authorizes local government employers to elect to cover dispatchers in the public safety retirement system.

Our efforts on the legislation – After ensuring that the bill was permissive, UAC took a neutral position of HB 115.

What to expect next on the bill – Counties can opt to cover dispatchers in the public safety retirement system if they choose.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0115.html>

HB151 Affiliated Emergency Service Worker Postretirement Employment Amendments, Sagers

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 151 provides that reemployment as an affiliated emergency service worker is not subject to postretirement reemployment provisions under certain circumstances.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to support HB 151 and made itself available for questions from legislators.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 151 will allow more volunteer firefighter, reserve law enforcement officer, search and rescue personnel, emergency medical technician, ambulance personnel, park ranger, or public utilities worker to go back to work with other agencies.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0115.html>

HB288 Line-of-duty Death Benefits for Peace Officers and Firefighters, Ray
UAC Position: NEUTRAL
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 288 expands line-of-duty death benefits for peace officers and firefighters and their families. HB 288 requires an employer to provide certain health coverage for the surviving spouse and children of a peace officer or firefighter who dies in the line of duty.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor to ensure that the health coverage provided in the bill only be comparable to that given at the time of death.

What to expect next on the bill – In the tragic cases where a peace officer or firefighter loss his or her life in the line of duty, counties will be required to provide additional benefits to the public servant's family than before.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0288.html>

SB135 Workers' Compensation Coverage for Firefighters, Mayne
UAC Position: MONITOR
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 135 modifies the Utah Occupational Disease Act to address coverage for firefighters by presuming certain cancer is caused by the job.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC opted not to take a position on this bill, instead choose to monitor it.

What to expect next on the bill – Counties will likely face higher worker compensation premiums with the passage of SB 135.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0135.html>

Revenue and Taxation

HB41 Local Economic Development Amendments, Snow

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 41 provides that community development project area plans are not subject to certain notice and public hearing requirements provided that the community development and renewal agency and each taxing entity and public entity that will be affected by the tax increment incentive enter into an interlocal agreement and an industry or business entity receives a tax increment incentive only on a postperformance basis.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC supported the bill and made itself available for any Legislative questions on the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 41 will expedite the process for a number of consensus community development projects.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0041.html>

HB61 Municipal Business Licensing Amendments, Anderegg

UAC Position: OPPOSE

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 61 would have prohibited a municipality from issuing business licenses to certain at-home businesses. Additionally, HB 61 would have prohibited municipalities from transmitting information regarding those at-home businesses to the county to make it easier to avoid paying business personal property taxes associated with those at-home businesses.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to oppose the bill and worked to ensure its failure. The bill was tabled at its committee hearing.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 61 might return but will face stiff opposition primarily from municipalities.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0061.html>

HB103 Taxation of Property Amendments, Sagers

UAC Position: NEUTRAL

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 103 specifically requires that a county assessor consider hazardous waste when determining fair market value.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a neutral position on HB 103. We worked closely with the sponsor to ensure that the bill didn't cause undue hardship to county assessors.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 103 should have no impact on the way county assessors assess property. It is somewhat problematic that the legislature considers it necessary to specifically spell out what should go into an assessment, when the counties are already doing so.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0103.html>

HB111 Payment of Property Tax Amendments, Webb

UAC Position: NEUTRAL

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 111 prohibits a taxing entity from requiring property tax payment prior to the property tax due date.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC staff and county treasurers worked with the sponsor of HB 111 to ensure the language allowed for certain provisions. The sponsor has agreed to work with county treasurers to craft better language in the future.

What to expect next on the bill – Additional legislation should be introduced in 2016 that will clarify the intent of HB 111 while allowing necessary prepayment of certain property tax bills.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0111.html>

HB204 Tax Increment Amendments, Peterson

UAC Position: NEUTRAL

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 204 limits what constitutes tax increment under community development and renewal agency provisions.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC didn't involve itself in HB 204, taking a neutral position on the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 204 will have an impact on what constitutes tax increment in a community development project.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0204.html>

HB222 Farmland Assessment Act Amendments, Noel

UAC Position: NEUTRAL

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 222 would have permitted land transferred through foreclosure or tax sale to remain in the Farmland Assessment Act without applying through the county to do so.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor of HB 222 to make sure the bill made sense administratively. When no solution presented itself, the sponsor graciously agreed to abandon the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 222 might return but likely won't go anywhere without county participation in the language.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0222.html>

HB276 Agriculture Structure Amendments, McKell

UAC Position: NEUTRAL

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 276 Exempts agricultural high tunnels from property taxes provided the high tunnel is not a permanent structure and is used for the storage of agricultural commodities.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor to ensure that the definition of agricultural high tunnels prohibit permanent structures. With that change adopted into the bill, UAC dropped its opposition to the bill and took a neutral position on HB 276.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 276 will have an impact on the assessment of agricultural high tunnels; however, given the provision in the enrolled version of the bill, that impact will likely be small.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0276.html>

HB327 Personal Property Tax Amendments, Anderson

UAC Position: OPPOSE

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 327 would have expanded the business personal property tax exemption to include certain items of depreciating value. The result of that expansion could have resulted in a property tax shift of billions of dollars of property value.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC met with the sponsor several times to help him understand the magnitude of the legislation. Thanks to UAC's efforts, the sponsor agreed to abandon the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – Legislative unhappiness with the business personal property tax continues to be an issue. UAC is looking to take a proactive approach over the 2015 interim to address ways to simplify the reporting and auditing of this unpopular tax.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0327.html>

HB328 Tax Changes, McCay
UAC Position: OPPOSE
Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 328 would have changed the calculation of property tax new growth to a 10-year average. The result of that change would have been a reduction in the amount of new growth available to taxing entities.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor a great deal over the session regarding HB 328. Ultimately, we agreed to work with the sponsor on developing a new process for calculating new growth over the interim if he would abandon the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – UAC has committed with the sponsor to work with him on the issue of how property tax new growth is calculated. Expect a consensus bill in 2016.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0328.html>

SB165 Property Tax Valuation and Assessment Modifications, Bramble
UAC Position: NEUTRAL
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 165 changes the counties' role in the centrally assessed appeals process. While it makes the threshold for counties to instigate an appeal higher, the bill provides counties with a number of improved mechanisms to participate in the appeals process including the option to file an objection to a taxpayer appeal instead of filing a protective appeal and a greater voice prior to the setting of centrally assessed values.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor closely on SB 165 to move the bill from its original intent (which would have greatly limited counties' role in the appeals process) to a version that counties can live with. Additionally, we worked to get a provision in the bill that allows for a legislative review of the process in three years.

What to expect next on the bill – UAC will continue to be involved in the centrally assessed appeals process, we will monitor closely the effectiveness of the changes passed in SB 165.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0165.html>

SB193 Local Government Amendments, Henderson
UAC Position: MONITOR
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – SB 193 requires a county treasurer to include certain information on a property tax notice regarding assessments levied by a local entity.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor to ensure that the requirements of the bill could be complied with by the county treasurer.

What to expect next on the bill – County treasurers will need to include additional information on property tax notices for those areas within a county that includes an assessment area.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0193.html>

Transportation

HB17 Motor Vehicle Emissions, Perry

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 17 enhances penalties for visible vehicle pollution for certain diesel engines. HB 17 sets that a vehicle owner who fails to comply is not only guilty of a class C misdemeanor, but now must pay no less than a \$50 fine for a violation and no less than a \$100 fine for any subsequent violation.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC supported the bill and made itself available for any Legislative questions on the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 17 will play a small part in cleaning up Utah’s air quality.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0017.html>

HB188 Transportation Corridor Preservation Amendments, Christofferson

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 188 allows the state to reimburse local government with a written agreement for assets purchased with money from the corridor preservation fund.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC supported the bill and made itself available for any Legislative questions on the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 188 should allow for better coordination between UDOT and local governments in regards to projects using money from the corridor preservation fund.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0188.html>

HB269 Tourist-Oriented Highway Signing Program, Noel

UAC Position: SUPPORT

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 269 authorizes UDOT to erect and maintain tourist-oriented directional signs on the highway.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to support HB 269 and made itself available for any Legislative questions on the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 269 will have little impact on county government.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0269.html>

HB332 Local Transportation Corridor Preservation Fund Amendments, Kennedy
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 332 provides that the Local Transportation Corridor Preservation Fund shall be managed by local highway authorities and no longer by the Department of Transportation.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC supported HB 332 and spoke with individual legislators to ensure its passage. The bill passed with little opposition.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 332 should provide counties with more autonomy in dealing with the Local Transportation Corridor Preservation Fund.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0332.html>

HB362 Transportation Infrastructure Funding, Anderson
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 362 creates new transportation funding options in a couple of ways. First, it converts the current 24.5 cents per gallon state motor fuel and special (diesel) taxes to a 12 percent tax on fuel. This should result in an immediate increase of 5 cents per gallon and a growth factor when gas prices increase. Second, HB 362 allows counties to place on the ballot a quarter percent sales tax increase earmarked for transportation. In counties with a transit district; the quarter percent will be shared with cities and the unincorporated county (0.1 percent), the transit district (0.1 percent), and the county (0.05 percent). In counties without a transit district; the counties (0.15 percent) and the cities (0.1 percent) will share the revenues.

Our efforts on the legislation – As one of the hallmark pieces of legislation for UAC during the 2015 legislative session, significant effort went in to the preparation and passage of HB 362. In coordination with the Wasatch Front Regional Council, UTA, Utah League of Cities and Towns and the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce, we spent a significant amount of time working on the details of this bill to ensure that all communities were given an opportunity to add resources to their infrastructure needs. Recognizing that many of our counties are currently subsidizing their transportation spending with General Fund dollars, it was imperative to add additional user fee revenues (Gas Tax), as well as general fund revenues (Sales Tax) to the equation.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 362 will produce an immediate increase of B road funds from the existing B&C road formula. Additional, counties who enact the county option sales tax will see increased transportation funding.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0362.html>

HB407 Scenic Byway Amendments, Noel
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – HB 407 would have permitted a scenic byway to be segmented by the State Scenic Byway Committee or by a city or county.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to support HB 407 and made itself available for questions on the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – It is unclear whether HB 407 will return to the legislature in the future.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0407.html>

HB420 Revisions to Transportation Funding, Anderson
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 420 loosens restrictions to counties of the first class in regards to the Highway Projects Fund by providing that for fiscal year 2015 only, a portion of the revenue in the County of the First Class State Highway Projects Fund shall be transferred to the legislative body of a county of the first class to be used for highway projects.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor and other legislators to help ensure the passage of HB 420.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 420 frees up a bunch of transportation funds for Salt Lake County.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0420.html>

SB160 Transportation Funding Amendments, Van Tassell
UAC Position: SUPPORT
Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – SB 160 would have increased the state motor fuel tax from 24½ cents per gallon to 34½ cents per gallon.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took a position to support SB 160, but when HB 362 became the consensus means for providing transportation funding, SB 160 was abandoned.

What to expect next on the bill – With the passage of HB 362, SB 160 becomes unnecessary.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0160.html>

Water Rights

HB43 Water Rights - Change Application Amendments, McIff

UAC Position: NEUTRAL

Status: ENROLLED

Outline of the bill – HB 43 modifies the procedure for filing a change application. It also provides an option for court resolution of legal issues not within the purview of the state engineer. And allows recovery of attorney fees under certain circumstances.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC worked with the sponsor to address concerns raised by a number of county officials. The bill was substituted to address our concerns and, as a result, our original opposition to the bill was dropped.

What to expect next on the bill – HB 43 shouldn't have an immediate impact on county government.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/HB0043.html>

SB142 Water Rights - Change Application Revisions, Stevenson

UAC Position: MONITOR

Status: FAILED TO PASS

Outline of the bill – SB 142 would have required parties to mediate issues arising from a change application before administrative review or litigation.

Our efforts on the legislation – UAC took no position on SB 142, opting instead to only monitor the bill.

What to expect next on the bill – SB 142 was abandoned early in the session; it is unclear if it will return.

Bill link – <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0142.html>