

SIERRA CLUB
UTAH CHAPTER

Utah

LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD



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Introduction

This year, legislatures across the country limited access to state capitols and moved to virtual proceedings to protect against the spread of COVID-19. The pandemic's scale and impact continue to disrupt every fabric of our lives. Once a time where the public and political leaders gathered to debate important issues, for many, the legislative session became a series of transitioning between screens and testifying or lobbying via Zoom. While technology provided some semblance of connectivity the challenges for progressive action remained.

In the end, the 2021 General Session of the 64th Utah Legislature closed, passing 503 pieces of the legislation. Because of the public and partnerships with progressive advocates, we saw big wins with shutting down attempts to increase electric vehicle registration fees and defended against a merger of two environmental agencies that could have been detrimental for public and environmental health.

The legislature will begin interim sessions in May. During interim, it will be important that the public engage and demand actions to support our communities and protect our environment. This includes advocating for legislation that commits to emission reduction goals and policies that create economic mobility for Utah's rural communities.



Negative Environmental Bills Passed

- **HB 17 - Utility Permitting Amendments** (Rep. Handy) This is a fracked gas ban, ban. This legislation prohibits local ordinances requiring building electrification.
- **SB 176 - Mineral Leasing Funds Amendments** (Sen. Winterton) Improperly broadens the Community Impact Fund Act's intent and purposes and how the Utah Permanent Community Impact Fund Board (CIB) can use these monies -- both in a way that contradicts their original intent. Making monies intended for community services more accessible to private fossil fuel industry interests.
- **SJR 7 Joint Resolution Approving Energy Solutions Constructing and Operating a Landfill for Nonhazardous Solid Waste** (Sen. Sandall) Paves the way for Energy Solutions to add another landfill to receive non-hazardous solid waste that may be slightly radioactive from the decommissioning of nuclear power plants that currently use its licensed low-level radioactive waste disposal facility.
- **SCR 008 Concurrent Resolution Supporting Utah's Natural Resources and Energy Industries** (Sen. Hinkins) Describes the benefits derived from the natural resources and energy resources in the state and reminds the federal government of its legal obligations to hold lease sales and to manage public lands for multiple uses.
- **SB 243 Political Subdivisions Amendments** (Sen. Stevenson) Creates enterprise revolving loan funds for the inland port, the point of the mountain development, and the military (MIDA) development. The purpose of each fund is to provide funding, only through infrastructure loans for infrastructure projects undertaken by a borrower. This legislation essentially enables the development of the inland port and its satellite ports!

Negative Environmental Bills Defeated

- **HB 209 - Vehicle Registration Fee Amendments** (Rep. Christofferson) Increases the vehicle registration fees on electric, hybrid, plug-in hybrid, and other vehicles. This bill would have made UT the highest fees in the country for electric vehicles, crumbling our market.
- **H.B. 364 Utah Lake Authority** (Rep. Brammer) Creates the Utah Lake Authority and would have created a pathway to undermine the authority of the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State lands to restore the lake, which could have led to trouble for the lake.
- **SB61 Outdoor Advertising Amendments** (Sen. Sandall) Prohibits a municipality or county from enacting or enforcing an ordinance that prevents an owner of certain signs from modifying or constructing an electronic or mechanical changeable message sign in certain circumstances; and requiring a sign owner to forfeit one sign in order to upgrade or construct another electronic or mechanical changeable sign.

Positive Environmental Bills Defeated

Many positive environmental bills didn't even stand a chance this session. Once numbered, the most progressive environmental legislation sat idle until the session ended to then quickly be filed for failing. This included HB 263 - Utah Clean Energy Fund (Rep. Joel Briscoe); HB 387 - Clean Air for Schools Pilot Program (Rep. Doug Owens); HB 447 - Electric Vehicle Charging Amendments (Rep. Joel Briscoe); HCR 5 - Concurrent Resolution Encouraging Statewide Emissions Reduction Goals (Rep. Stephen Handy); HB 145 Clean and Renewable Energy Requirement Amendments (Rep. Ward).

- **HCR 3 Concurrent Resolution Regarding Native American Mascots and Equality in Public Schools (Rep. Weight)** This resolution recognizes the harm done by using native American mascots, encourages schools to retire those mascots, and encourages the State Board of Education and local education agencies to provide instruction in Native American culture and history

Positive Environmental Bills Passed

- **S.B. 146: Emissions Testing Amendments (Sen. Bramble)** Makes permanent a pilot program for emissions inspection requiring counties to have an emissions inspection program for certain diesel-powered vehicles.
- **HB 224 Pollinator Amendments (Rep Matthews)** This bill's final form directs the Department of Agriculture to create a 3-year pollinator pilot program in conjunction with Southern Utah University. It permits the department to pay up to 25% of the cost to plant native flowering plants and seeds on public lands to support pollinator species.
- **SB 15 WorkforceC Solutions for Air Quality Amendments (Sen. McCay)** Requires the Department of Human Resource Management to provide, measure, and report annually on teleworking options for state employees during bad air quality days.
- **HB 399 Approval of Nonhazardous Solid or Hazardous Waste Facilities** Requires that legislative approval of a nonhazardous solid or hazardous waste facility be automatically revoked if an application is withdrawn.
- **HB 91 Tax Credit for Alternative Fuel Heavy Duty (Rep Stoddard)** Extends the availability of the income tax credit related to certain alternative fuel heavy-duty vehicles.
- **HCR 18 Concurrent Resolution Supporting Extension and Expansion of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (Rep Owens)** Addresses the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA), discusses the history of health effects from radiation exposure, past legislative statements, and congressional efforts related to RECA and radiation exposure, and supports congressional efforts to extend and expand RECA



House of Representatives

- **HCR 13 Concurrent Resolution Regarding the Bridal Veil Falls Area** (Rep.Stratton) This concurrent resolution encourages the Division of Parks and Recreation to evaluate options for designating the Bridal Veil Falls area as a state monument or state park.
- **HB 45 Radon Study** (Rep.Stratton) Creates a task force to educate about and support mitigation concerns with radon gas.
- **HB 14 Water Conservancy District Amendments** (Rep Handy) Establishes a process for filling a vacancy on the board of a water conservancy district located in more than one county, including providing notice, nominating candidates appointing an individual to fill the vacancy.

Solidarity Bills Passed

- **HB 41 - Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls Task Force** (Rep Romero) This bill creates the Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls Task Force.
- **SB 10 - Place Name Amendments** (Sen Iwamoto) Authorizes the Division of Indian Affairs to help facilitate the application process for changing location names referring to American Indian terms.

REPORT CARD

Throughout the 2021 Legislative Session, the Utah Sierra Club tracked bills, lobbied, and engaged Utahns on critical environmental pieces of legislation. We strive to improve air quality, foster a just transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy, protect Utah's lands, water and wildlife. These grades highlight the top20 bills that had a great potential impact on Utah's quality of life. The report card is organized by district, not by score

METHODOLOGY: Each vote that aligned with the Utah Sierra Club's conservation position counted as 1 point. Legislators' total voting opportunities, both committee, and floor votes were considered. Each legislator's point total was then divided by the sum of those voting opportunities. Bill sponsorship and absences were not factored into the scoring. The report card organizes legislators by the district they represent.

The following standard rubric was applied:

A 93.33-100, A- 90-93.33, B+ 86.67-90,
B 83.33-86.67, B- 80-83.33, C+ 76.67-80,
C 73.33-76.67, C- 70-73.33, D+ 66.67-70,
D 63.33-66.67, D- 60-63.33, F 0-60.

House of Representatives

HD	Representative	Party	Score	Grade	HD	Representative	Party	Score	Grade
1	Ferry, Joel	R	58%	F	33	Hall, Craig	R	79%	C+
2	Moss, Jefferson	R	54%	F	34	Kwan, Karen	D	95%	A
3	Petersen, Michael	R	37%	F	35	Wheatley, Mark A	D	94%	A
4	Johnson, Dan	R	71%	C-	36	Owens, Doug	D	100%	A
5	Snider, Casey	R	64%	D	37	Moss, Carol Spackman	D	95%	A
6	Maloy, A. Cory	R	59%	F	38	Matthews, Ashlee	D	84%	B
7	Wilcox, Ryan	R	41%	F	39	Dunnigan, James A.	R	67%	D
8	Waldrip, Steve	R	72%	C-	40	Pitcher, Stephanie	D	100%	A
9	Musselman, Calvin	R	61%	D-	41	Strong, Mark A.	R	43%	F
10	Lesser, Rosemary	D	100%	A	42	Teuscher, Jordan D	R	59%	F
11	Miles, Kelly	R	76%	C	43	Acton, Cheryl K.	R	68%	D+
12	Schutz, Mike	R	50%	F	44	Stoddard, Andrew	D	95%	A
13	Ray, Paul	R	65%	D	45	Eliason, Steve	R	70%	C-
14	Lisonbee, Karianne	R	63%	D-	46	Bennion, Gay Lynn	D	100%	A
15	Wilson, Brad R	R	56%	F	47	Christiansen, Steve R.	R	33%	F
16	Handy, Stephen G.	R	71%	C-	48	Stratton, Keven J.	R	52%	F
17	Barlow, Stewart E.	R	60%	D-	49	Spendlove, Robert M.	R	74%	C
18	Hawkes, Timothy D.	R	67%	D	50	Pulsipher, Susan	R	58%	F
19	Ward, Raymond P.	R	74%	C	51	Stenquist, Jeffrey D.	R	60%	D-
20	Ballard, Melissa G.	R	50%	F	52	Pieruccci, Candice B.	R	58%	F
21	Sagers, Douglas V.	R	72%	C-	53	Birkeland, Kera	R	63%	D-
22	Collard, Clare	D	89%	B+	54	Koherl, Mike L.	R	60%	D-
23	Hollins, Sandra	D	100%	A	55	Chew, Scott	R	68%	D+
24	Dailey-Provost, Jennifer	D	100%	A	56	Christofferson, Kay J.	R	56%	F
25	Briscoe, Joel K.	D	100%	A	57	Hawkins, Jon	R	A	ABSENT
26	Romero, Angela	D	100%	A	58	Lund, Steven J.	R	53%	F
27	Brammer, Brady	R	59%	F	59	Peterson, Val L.	R	50%	F
28	King, Brian S.	D	89%	B+	60	Abbott, Nelson T.	R	60%	D-
29	Gwynn, Matthew	R	56%	F	61	Judkins, Marsha	R	74%	C
30	Winder, Mike	R	68%	D+	62	Seegmiller, Travis M.	R	47%	F
31	Weight, Elizabeth	D	100%	A	63	Robertson, Adam	R	38%	F
32	Harrison, Suzanne	D	100%	A	64	Thurston, Norman K.	R	42%	F



House of Representatives

HD	Representative	Party	Score	Grade
65	Gibson, Francis D.	R	56%	F
66	Burton, Jefferson S.	R	56%	F
67	Welton, Douglas R.	R	68%	D+
68	Nelson, Merrill F.	R	55%	F
69	Watkins, Christine F.	R	71%	C-
70	Albrecht, Carl R.	R	60%	D-
71	Last, Bradley G.	R	55%	F
72	Shipp, Rex P	R	48%	F
73	Lyman, Phil	R	56%	F
74	Snow, V. Lowry	R	60%	D-
75	Brooks, Walt	R	58%	F



Senators

SD	Representative	Party	Score	Grade
1	Escamilla, Luz	D	100.0%	A
2	Kitchen, Derek L.	D	100.0%	A
3	Davis, Gene	D	68.2%	D+
4	Iwamoto, Jani	D	95.8%	A
5	Mayne, Karen	D	71.4%	C-
6	Harper, Wayne A.	R	68.4%	D+
7	McKell, Michael K.	R	60.0%	D-
8	Riebe, Kathleen A.	D	95.0%	A
9	Cullimore, Kirk A.	R	62.5%	D-
10	Fillmore, Lincoln	R	58.8%	F
11	McCay, Daniel	R	52.9%	F
12	Thatcher, Daniel W.	R	68.4%	D+
13	Anderegg, Jacob L.	R	53.3%	F
14	Kennedy, Michael S.	R	64.7%	D
15	Grover, Keith	R	66.7%	D
16	Bramble, Curtis S.	R	72.2%	C-
17	Sandall, Scott D.	R	65.2%	D
18	Millner, Ann	R	58.8%	F
19	Johnson, John D.	R	57.1%	F
20	Buxton, David G.	R	69.6%	D+
21	Stevenson, Jerry W.	R	56.3%	F
22	Adams, J. Stuart	R	56.3%	F
23	Weiler, Todd D.	R	66.7%	D
24	Owens, Derrin R.	R	60.9%	D-
25	Wilson, Chris H.	R	66.7%	D
26	Winterton, Ronald M.	R	61.9%	D-
27	Hinkins, David P.	R	65.2%	D
28	Vickers, Evan J.	R	66.7%	D
29	Ipson, Don L.	R	63.2%	D-

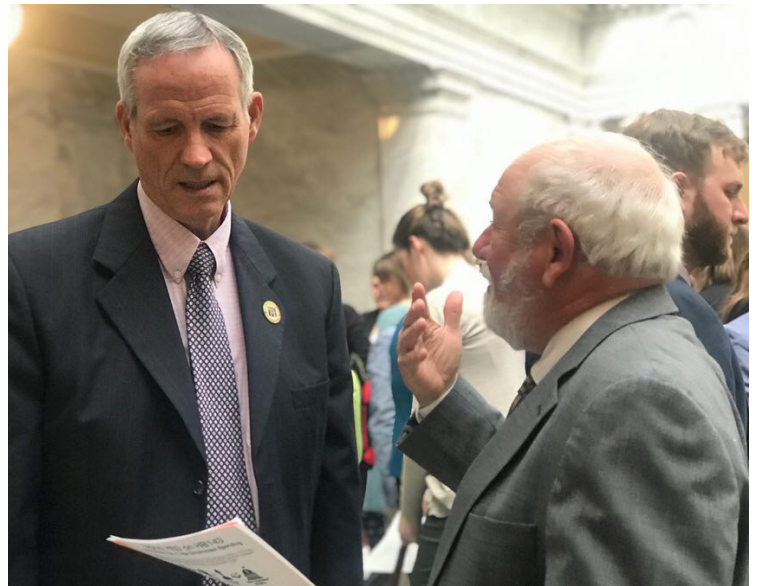
What's Next?

Thank you for making your voice heard in the 2021 Legislative Session. The work is far from over, and we hope you will join us for the interim session to build on our collective action on issues that impact Utah.

After the general session, legislators return to their jobs during the "interim" or the time between each general session. Every month during the summer, except for one month, interim committees meet to explore and research broad issues the state faces and propose and debate solutions. Essentially, the interim is where planning for the next legislative sessions begins.

The slower pace of the interim sessions makes it an ideal time to build relationships with your legislators, deepen issue knowledge, and advocate for solutions to ensure the issues you care about are addressed.

In advance of the interim, the Utah Chapter will issue a policy position guide and advocacy toolkit to help you navigate the session, and build on our collective impact to support people and the planet. Stay tuned!



Activist Toolkit

Register to vote: vote.utah.gov

To volunteer with Sierra Club: sierraclub.org/utah

Find your lawmakers: le.utah.gov

Utah Sierra Club Policy and Priorities: **sign-up for our legislative emails to receive this new toolkit in April/May** www.sierraclub.org/utah/politics