

2024 SESSION REPORT

Dear Friends,



We have wrapped up the 2024 General Legislative Session, and legislators have returned to their regular schedules, to their families, and for many like myself, returned to our full-time jobs. While serving in the Legislature is part-time, I am eager to hear the voices of my constituents all year long. I look forward to your emails, letters, and calls. The best way to reach me and to share your policy concerns is through my legislative email: jplumb@le.utah.gov

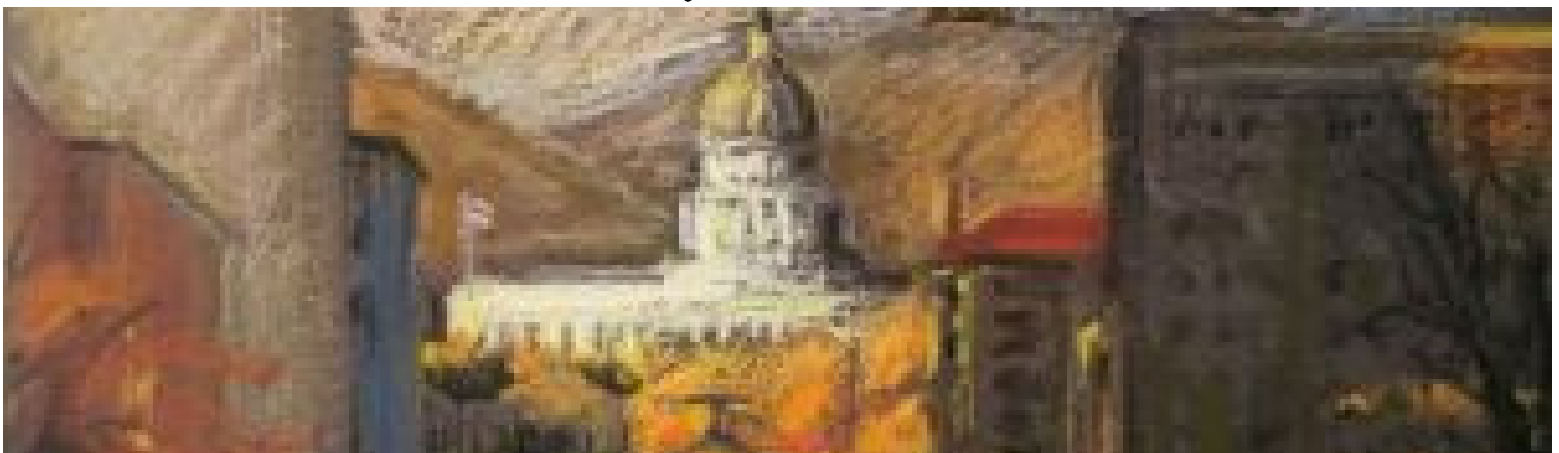
Over the 45 days of session, my colleagues and I tackled a multitude of issues, ranging from education to infrastructure to healthcare, all with the aim of bettering the lives of all Utahns. We were met with our fair share of challenges with continued attacks on our LGBTQ+ community and DEI practices, as well as attempts to restrict access to other essential freedoms. Although the road ahead may still be fraught with obstacles, I will continue to champion policies that uphold the principles of inclusivity and freedom and remain steadfast in my defense of all Utahns' right to live authentically and healthfully.

I continue to learn with each session as a Senator, and I continue to enjoy serving on the Senate Minority leadership team as the Minority Assistant Whip. This has allowed me to dive deeper into the State's budget and spending as leadership members serve on the Executive Appropriations Committee (EAC). This committee builds and approves the final State budget after receiving recommendations from the 8 different appropriations subcommittees. Each of the subcommittees reviews a very specific portion of the state budget. This session, I served on the Infrastructure and General Government Appropriations Subcommittee as well as the Executive Offices and Criminal Justice Appropriations Subcommittee.

In addition to determining the budget, the Legislature considered a variety of policy issues and legislation—we passed 591 bills this session! It is important to remember that each bill is not always a major policy adjustment. There are many bills that make simple tweaks and technical changes to our existing statute. You can read more about the legislation and funding items I sponsored this session on the following pages of this report. I'll also describe some bills we defeated this session.

As always, I welcome your feedback, input, and stories. I am grateful for your support in Senate District 9, and I want to ensure your voice is heard throughout the entire legislative process at the Capitol.

Kindly, *Senator Jen Plumb*



AUTUMN ON STATE STREET BY KAREN HORNE

Legislative Recap

My Bills That Passed

S.B. 60, Drug Paraphernalia Amendments: This bill connects people to syringe service providers and treatment options to help reduce infectious disease transmission and get folks on a road to recovery. It also aims to decrease syringe litter and public health risks to our first responders and community members.

S.B. 61, Electronic Cigarette Amendments: This bill creates a statewide registry for electronic cigarette products, bans certain flavors, and requires products to be FDA PMTA (Pre-market Tobacco Product Application) approved.

S.B. 116, Eviction Notice Requirement Amendments: This bill requires tenants to be notified of where their companion animals/pets are located if they are evicted while not present on the property. This bill also requires an animal control services response within 24 hours.



S.B. 130 Overdose Outreach Provider Amendments: This bill adds Social Workers, peer support specialists (CPSS), and substance use disorder counselors (SUDC) to the definition of overdose outreach providers.

S.B. 180 Court Jurisdiction Modifications: This bill clarifies juvenile and justice court jurisdictions and makes technical changes to address infractions that happen while youth are at school.

S.B. 212 Substance Use Treatment in Correctional Facilities: This bill allows for the continuation of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for Opioid Use Disorder for individuals incarcerated in our prisons who have been on MAT in the prior 6 months.

S.B. 223 Youth Fee Waiver Amendments: This bill creates a fee waiver program for birth certificates, Driver's Licenses, ID cards, and school transcripts for youth under 26 who are in foster care, aged out of foster care, or are experiencing homelessness

S.B. 261 Opioid Settlement Proceeds Amendments: This bill addresses Utah's Opioid Litigation Funds and establishes reporting requirements for entities receiving state opioid settlement fund proceeds. It aims to ensure transparency, accountability, and appropriate use of these dollars.

My Bills That Did Not Pass

S.B. 102, Funeral Services Amendments: This bill would have established the option of using the natural organic reduction process as a funeral services offering in Utah. There are many community members in support of having this option across the state and I will continue working on this in the interim.

S.B. 105, Student Privacy and Modesty in Public Education: This bill would have established a guarantee of privacy and modesty for all students in school changing spaces (locker rooms, bathrooms, dressing rooms). No students should have to undress or be undressed in front of other students or adults in school settings. I will continue working on this as I believe it is essential to protect all students' reasonable expectations of privacy at school.

S.B. 129, Child Health Medical Amendments: This bill would have created a medical director position with a specific focus on children, youth, and families within the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). While this bill didn't pass, I am going to continue these efforts.

S.B. 275 Medical Preauthorization Amendments: This bill establishes a path for our most critical care hospitals to have more beds available to care for patients via an insurance preauthorization process. We will continue to work on this issue during the interim.

S. B. 269 Farming Equipment Amendments: This bill would have addressed the "right to repair" for owners of tractors and other agricultural equipment allowing them the freedom to choose who and where their machines are repaired and maintained. I will continue working on this with Senate colleagues.

Passed Floor Sponsored Legislation

Rep. Dailey-Provost's HCR006, Concurrent Resolution Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Tanner Dance: This bill honors the incredible legacy and accomplishments of Tanner Dance and all those they have inspired in their 75 years.

Rep. Hayes H.B. 234, Vital Records Information Modifications: This bill streamlines the process for requesting name and gender marker changes on birth certificates.

Rep. Lesser's H.B. 468, Student Health Amendments: This bill allows emergency administration of medications for children needing adrenal insufficiency medications at school.

Rep. Strong's H.B. 475, School Prescription Amendments: This bill establishes a standing order process for schools to be prescribed the medications epinephrine and albuterol for emergency use.

Rep. Thurston's H.B. 478, Animal Care Amendments: This bill establishes a route for agencies to intervene in an animal care facility, rescue, or sanctuary as well as establishes requirements and penalties.



Fortunate Near-Misses

BILLS THAT WE * THANKFULLY * DID NOT PASS

H.B. 514, School Chaplain Amendments: This bill would have allowed school districts to permit volunteer chaplains in their public schools. We were very concerned about the separation of church and state with this legislation, and we advocated for more mental health resources rather than bringing religion into our schools.

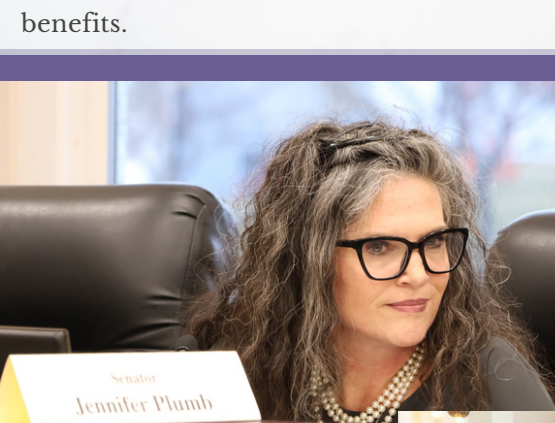
H.B. 290, Ranked Choice Voting Amendments: This bill would have repealed the Municipal Alternative Voting Methods Pilot Project two years earlier than its original sunset date. This means cities who choose to utilize ranked choice voting will continue to have that ability through the 2025 municipal elections.

H.B. 303, School Curriculum Requirements: This bill was known as the “Don’t Say Gay” bill during the 2023 session. It would have prohibited teachers from discussing “social and political beliefs” and would have placed an unreasonable burden on Utah teachers. It would have prohibited the use of diversity, equity, and inclusion statements or materials by a state entity to determine employment, admission, or other benefits.

H.B. 477, School Employee Conduct Amendments: This bill had a very atypical path and had a near complete substitution of its content on the final night in the Senate. This substitute would have included language from HB303 and from Tennessee that prohibited certain flags (including Pride flags) from display in public classrooms.

H.B. 111, Employment Training Requirement Amendments: This bill would have prevented employers from requiring private employees to participate in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion trainings covering specific topics and concepts. This would have been an unprecedented act of government intrusion into the private sector.

H.B. 92 and HJR14, Voting Amendments: HB 92 would have required voters to opt-in to receive mail in ballots. HJR14 sought to increase the signature threshold for ballot initiatives to 60% from 50% (via a Constitutional amendment).



Budget Highlights

My Funded Appropriation Requests:

Utah Pediatric Trauma Network Support (UPTN): This funding will provide increased support to the UPTN, which is a non-competitive, transparent, all inclusive, statewide program aimed at improving the capabilities of hospitals to care for injured kids across Utah. This is an absolutely critical resource for children and families in our state.



Substance Use Disorder Recovery and Companion Animals - Ruff Haven Crisis Sheltering: This funding will support individuals in substance use recovery and facing housing insecurity while addressing the trauma of separation from their animal companions. Funding will support individuals accessing substance use treatment with the assurance that their animal companions are cared for until reunification.



Housing Pathway to Recovery from Opioid Use Disorder - First Step House: This funding will support programming to make stable housing attainable for low-income people who have completed a residential treatment program for Opioid Use Disorder. There will be support of case managers and treatment engagement as individuals move into recovery housing and ultimately transition into permanent housing.



Youth Prevention Services - SpyHop: This funding will support SpyHop Media Productions statewide programming that integrates workforce development, media arts education, and youth development into its project-based and mentor-based curriculum. The goal is bolstering protective factors and mitigating risk factors associated with substance misuse among Utah's youth aged 12-19.



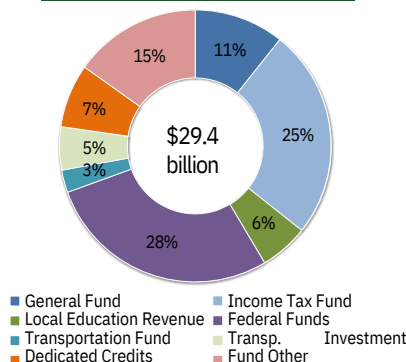
Utah Judicial Conduct Commission (JCC): This funding will increase the JCC's base funding to ensure they can continue to provide the core governmental service of judicial ethics oversight.



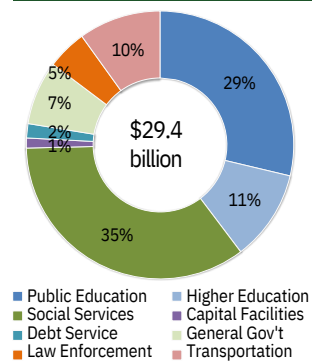
Expanding Care for Pregnant Patients with Substance Use Disorder - University of Utah SUPeRAD Clinic: This funding will provide funds for expansion of the Substance Use & Pregnancy - Recovery, Addiction Dependence (SUPeRAD) perinatal addiction program to increase the number of pregnant and postpartum patients receiving care and services.



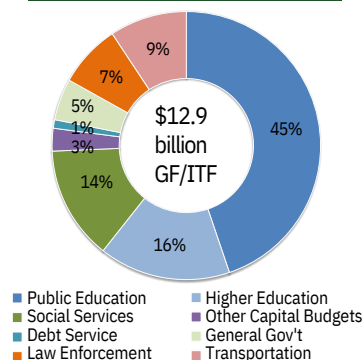
Where It Comes From: All Funds



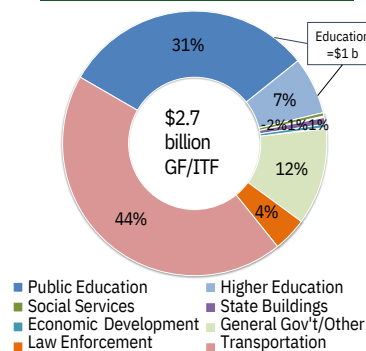
Where It Goes: All Funds



Where it Goes: State Funds Only



Where It Goes: New State Funds*



Key Appropriations

A complete list of appropriations can be found at le.utah.gov

Transportation:

- Allocations of \$330.0 million ongoing and \$775.0 million one-time for infrastructure and transportation projects

Homelessness:

- \$87.2 million funding in total to various efforts and programs addressing homelessness

Public Education:

- \$211.7 million allocation to increase in the Weighted Pupil Unit (WPU) value by 5.0%
- \$57.0 million for at-risk students and digital teaching tools
- \$40.0 million for scholarships
- \$440.0 million in one-time projects from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Account

Higher Education:

- \$20.0 million for university performance funding
- \$7.0 million ongoing and \$5.0 million one-time for technical colleges
- \$160.0 million one-time for new building construction

Affordable Housing:

- \$17.0 million to support subsidized loans under the Utah Homes Investment Program
- \$3.0 million for Shared Equity Revolving Loan Program
- \$3.0 million for the Law Enforcement First Time Home Buyer Program

Social Services:

- DSPD Waiting List -- \$5.0 million ongoing from the General Fund to provide services for individuals with disabilities waiting for services