

# THE UTAH STATE LEGISLATURE WEB SITE

<http://le.utah.gov>

## A Basic Guide for Current and Historical Online Legislative Information

### Where can I find Senator/Representative votes?

Votes are found on the bill document page under "Bill Status." Click on the vote to see the House or Senate Journal page that lists a legislator's yea or nay vote and a legislator's name if absent for a vote.

### How do I find a bill?

The "Quick Bill Search" feature (top right side of page) allows you to enter key words, a bill number, or sponsor's name after selecting the appropriate session from the pull down menu.

Use the "Keyword Search" feature (top left side of page) if you know words used in the bill text.

Use "Quick Links" to search "Past Sessions." This link takes you to a numbered bills for each session.

Search under "Bills" where you can "Search Bills/Bill Requests" by year, subject, sponsor, committee, bills introduced and passed. This is a good tool to use for years 1997-current.

Another option under "Bills" is "Passed Bills" that provides a list of bills passed for each year back to 1998, along with chapter numbers, effective dates, sponsors, etc.

### How do I track a bill during session?

Use the "Reading Calendars" link, a real time tool that provides detailed information about each bill.

Subscribe to WebWatch for updates to bill status, bill text, the bill document page, and fiscal notes. To subscribe, go to the bill document page of each bill for these email updates.

"Tracking Service" under the "Bills" heading is an excellent way to track bills if you use the same computer on a daily basis. This option allows you to add or delete bills to your list and provides the bill's current location in the legislative process.

### Where can I listen to floor debates?

Click on the desired link to watch or listen to live streaming of committee meetings and floor debates on the home page under "2012 Proceedings."

Archived House and Senate floor debates up to 2011 are found under "Quick Links" (right side of page) or under "Legislative Histories" (left side of page). They are also accessible under "Bill Drafting & Research Files." As of 2012, archived media may be found on our home page under "Archived Proceedings."

### Where can I listen to committee hearings?

Real time audio of committee hearings is accessible on each committee page and on the home page and archived audio is accessible on each committee page, July 2005-2011. As of 2012, audio may be found on our home page under "2012 Proceedings."

### Where are notices and agendas to legislative committee meetings?

From 2012-forward, they may be found on our home page under "2012 Proceedings." Prior to 2012 the information may be found on committee pages or on the Interim Committee Histories page.

### How can I find summaries of legislative actions for interim committees?

Create your own customized report of any interim committee on any committee page by clicking on

"Reports" in the left column. You have the option to select a committee, year (2009-2011), study item, committee overview, study item background, meeting actions, and recommended legislation.

**How can I find legislators for specific legislative districts?**

Find legislators for specific districts by entering an address or using map tools. A link to county clerks (the official custodial office) provides accurate voting district data for elected officials.

Click on "Legislators" and search House and Senate rosters, district maps, and seating charts. From there, links lead to legislator biographies and contact information.

**How do I find a specific law?**

Click on "*Utah Code*" and use the "Keyword Search" or "Title/Chapter/Section." Future laws not yet in effect, but that have passed the legislature, are listed as a "Future Title" and provide an effective date.

Old versions and supplements of the *Utah Code* are not accessible online, but are found in hard copy in the Legislative Research Library in the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, at the Utah Law Library, and the Research Center of the Utah State Archives and Utah State History.

**Where can I find legislative history on a bill?**

All legislative histories back to 1990 are online. Click on "Legislative Histories." For information prior to 1990, a trip to the Research Center of the Utah State Archives and Utah State History is necessary. The "Legislative History Resources" is helpful in determining where to find specific historical information.

**Where can I find sections affected for each legislative session?**

Under "Bills" select "Passed Bills" and then select any year 1998-ongoing to view "Sections Affected."

**Where can I find audits, briefing papers, and budget reports?**

See "Publications" on the left side of home page. A comprehensive database is in the process of being created to allow for multiple search options.

**How can I learn more about the Utah State Legislature?**

Click on "Citizen's Guide" on the left side of the home page. It is broken into several categories that provide basic information about the legislature. A more comprehensive description of the legislature, executive, and judicial branches of government is found in *Utah State Government — A Citizen's Guide*, produced by the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel and available in Legislative Printing.

**What is RSS? What is XML?**

RSS is a way to let you know about new content available on our Web site. XML is the technology used to syndicate and aggregate the content. Click on "What is this?" next to "Featured Links" for detailed information.

*The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel is charged by the Utah State Legislature to design, update, and maintain the Utah State Legislature website. For assistance in navigating this website or to make suggestions, please contact Shelley Day at 801-326-1600 or [shelleyday@le.utah.gov](mailto:shelleyday@le.utah.gov).*

