

The Legislative Environment

SIERRA CLUB UTAH CHAPTER

JANUARY 13TH 2018



Protect and promote Utah's outdoors and natural landscapes

Educate and advocate for the responsible preservation of clean air, water and habitats

Support the development of sustainable renewable energy for the benefit of present and future generations

<http://utah.sierraclub.org/>

2018 Session - Important dates

January 22nd

March 8th

Last Priority Bill Date: First Thursday of General Session
(January 25th)



 Search le.utah.gov

Where to find the bills?

<http://le.utah.gov>

Environmental Bills in 2018 (so far)

CLEAN AIR, PUBLIC LANDS, WATER AND RENEWABLE ENERGY



Clean Air

H.B. 101 -- Air Quality Emissions Testing Amendments (*Rep. Arent, D, UT-36*)

- Increases quality-control measure on Diesel vehicles for non-attainment counties
- Instead of emissions testing county-by-county make it Wasatch Front
- Farm equipment exempt

H.B. ?? – Zero Emission Vehicle Program (*Rep. Eliason, R, UT-45*)

- Dealerships would have to sell a % of ZEV

S.B. ?? – Increase of Fees for electric vehicles (*Sen. Okerlund, R, District 24*)

- Might be included in tax bill instead

H.B. 38 – Fireworks Restrictions (*Rep. Dunnigan, R, UT-39*)

- Reduces the window for fireworks
- Increases fines
- 2 weeks of horrible air quality in the summer

H.B. ?? – Motor Vehicles Emission Amendments (*Rep. Romero, D, UT-26*)

- Increases fines for tampering with emissions (rolling coal)

Fuel & Traffic Regulations

Unnumbered – Freight Switcher Emissions Mitigation (Rep. Handy, R, UT-16)

- *Not super exciting, but very dirty vehicles!*

H.B. 74 -- Emissions Inspection Modifications (Rep. Sandall, R, UT-1)

- *Exempts certain aquatic vehicles with diesel engines from emissions testing*

H.B. 114 -- Street-legal ATV Amendments (Rep. Noel, R, UT-73)

H.B. 143 -- Off-highway Vehicle Amendments (Rep. Noel...again)

- *ATVs allowed on nearly all roads, except on freeways, and highways in 1st Class Counties (Cache, Salt Lake, Weber)*
- *ATVs are also dirty*

Energy Extraction

H.B. 33 -- Energy Producer States' Agreement Amendments (*Rep. Albrecht, R, UT-70*)

- *There is a panel of 4 Legislators (2 Reps, 2 Sen) to work with other “energy producing states” to encourage domestic energy development – this adds a bit more oversight, kicks out decision to join CAISO?*

S.B. 22 -- Mineral Lease Distribution Amendments (*Sen. Van Tassell, R, UT-26*)

- *Changes where money can be distributed, from Transportation to Finance Division*

Public Lands

H.J.R. 1 -- **Joint Resolution Urging Exemption from the Antiquities Act** (*Rep. Albrecht, R, UT-70*)

- *Urges Congress to exempt Utah from the Antiquities Act of 1906.*
- *Wyoming and Alaska are currently exempt*

S.B. 52 -- **Sale of State Land Act** (*Sen. Davis, D, District 3*)

- *Prioritizes leasing over selling public State land*
- *Codifies procedures for the sale of public State land.*

S.B. 69 -- **State Sovereign Lands Amendments** (*Sen. Dayton, R, District 15*)

- *Changes some fees and punishments for various activities on State lands*
- *Repeals Leaf-It-To-Us Children's Crusade for Trees*

Water issues

H.B. 124 – Water Holdings Accountability and Transparency Amendments (*Rep. Coleman, R, UT-42*)

- *Collects, organizes water data usage through state*

H.B. 135 -- Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Amendments (*Rep. Noel*)

- *Remove's Salt Lake City's regulatory control of watershed areas.*

Bear River Development

- *Need to define minimum level of the Great Salt Lake*
- *Nothing filed yet but Sen. Adams, R, District 22 may*

Lake Powell Pipeline

- *Taking water out of Colorado for St. George development*

Climate Change

HCR –1 Concurrent Resolution on Global Warming and Climate Change (R. Ward, R, UT-19)

Another Climate Change Resolution (Rep. Edwards, R, UT-20)

- TWO! Climate Change resolutions...

Carbon Tax Bill (Rep. Briscoe, D, UT-25)

- Aiming to be revenue neutral
- Could add revenue, still in the works
- Amazing something with teeth coming to Utah to address carbon

Solar Tax Credit Phase Out

- Many states have already done this
- Shouldn't affect market

What can you do?

Find your legislators: **le.utah.gov**

Learn about the bills and Legislative process

Sign up for our legislative update mailing list!

Follow these bills at our bill tracker:
<https://utah.sierraclub.org/priority-bills>

Citizen Lobbyist training (Sierra Club + Utah Rivers Council)

1. February 1st – SLC Public Library
2. February 7th – State Capitol Rotunda