

## House Business, Labor, and Commerce Committee

1/31/2025

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### **Bill: 2<sup>nd</sup> substitute HB 48 – Wildland Urban Interface Modifications**

Sponsor: Representative Casey Snider

Floor Sponsor:

**UASD Position: Track and amend**

This Bill addresses efforts to oversee wildfire risks associated with wildland urban interface property.

Discussion: HB 48 addresses efforts to oversee wildfire risks associated with wildland urban interface property. The 2<sup>nd</sup> substitute includes tweaking, such as requiring that the annual fees assessed against the owners of high risk wildland urban interface property will be transmitted to the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands (“the Division”), rather than the Division of Finance, for deposit into the Wildland Urban Interface, Preparedness, and Mitigation Fund. The Division may tier the amount of the fee to account for what level on the triage scale a property is assigned to by a wildland urban interface coordinator.

Yeas: 10

Nays: 0

N/V: 6

**Outcome: 2<sup>nd</sup> substitute HB 48 passed out of the Committee with a favorable recommendation.**

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### **Bill: 2<sup>nd</sup> substitute HB 160 – Professional License Degree Amendments**

Sponsor: Representative Stephanie Gricius

Floor Sponsor:

**UASD Position: Track with Concern**

This Bill modifies licensure requirements for architects, environmental health scientists, geologists, and land surveyors.

Discussion: Originally, HB 160 would have reduced licensure requirements for accountants, architects, engineers, environmental health scientists, geologists, and land surveyors. The 2<sup>nd</sup> substitute, which was adopted by the Committee, eliminates engineers and accountants from that list. The American Institute of Architects and the Libertas Institute spoke in support of the Bill.

Yeas: 11

Nays: 0

N/V: 5

**Outcome: 2<sup>nd</sup> substitute HB 160 passed out of the Committee with a favorable recommendation.**

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**Bill: HB 68 – Public Agency Insurance Mutuals Amendments**

Sponsor: Representative James A. Dunnigan

Floor Sponsor: Senator Evan J. Vickers

**UASD Position: Tracking**

This Bill amends provisions related to public agency insurance mutuals.

Discussion: No discussion.

Yeas:

Nays:

N/V:

**Outcome: HB 68 was not heard in the Committee on 1/31/2025.**

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**Bill: 1<sup>st</sup> substitute HB 23 – Insurance Modifications**

Sponsor: Representative James A. Dunnigan

Floor Sponsor: Senator Evan J. Vickers

**UASD Position: Tracking**

This Bill amends provisions relating to insurance.

Discussion: HB 23 amends provisions relating to insurance. Of particular interest to UASD is that it in part applies to a public agency insurance mutual formed under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, such as the Utah Local Governments Trust. The 1<sup>st</sup> substitute, which was adopted by the Committee, provides that a public agency insurance mutual that issues an insurance policy or provides risk management to a political subdivision or public agency may establish a reserve fund to fund a loss to the political subdivision's assets and by one or more political subdivisions. The reserve fund may be used for the payment of claims or the purchase of insurance. It also defines "pooling captive" and "agency captive", and expands the definition of "captive insurance company". The 1<sup>st</sup> sub also modifies the requirement for a small employer stop-loss insurance contract; regulates which small employers stop-loss insurer or re-insurer may enter into stop-loss insurance contracts (the employer must have 15 or more enrolled employees) and provides a transition period to July 1, 2027, for existing small employer stop-loss insurance contracts. The Utah Local Governments Trust spoke in support of the Bill.

Yeas: 10

Nays: 1

N/V: 5

**Outcome: 1<sup>st</sup> substitute HB 23 passed out of the Committee with a favorable recommendation.**

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