

Senate Transportation, Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology Committee

2/27/2025

Bill: 1st Substitute HB 471 – Transportation Procurement Amendments

Sponsor: Representative Calvin Roberts

Floor Sponsor: Senator Wayne A. Harper

UASD Position: Tracking

This Bill addresses procurement of transit vehicles.

Discussion: Representative Roberts stated that HB 471 streamlines the Utah Department of Transportation's ("UDOT") vehicle procurement process by allowing UDOT to leverage existing contracts between vehicle manufacturers and other transit organizations nationwide. This provision enables UDOT to collaborate with these transit organizations and utilize portions of contracts that have not been fully executed.

The primary objective of the Bill is to accelerate UDOT's efforts to implement "double tracking" for the Utah Transit Authority's ("UTA") Frontrunner. UDOT has expressed its support for the Bill, and the agency's Deputy Director of Planning and Investment emphasized the necessity of an efficient procurement process.

The 1st substitute, adopted by the Committee, relocates certain language within the Procurement Code at the request of the Division of Purchasing and General Services. The Committee formally adopted the substitute. The Bill's sponsor intends to align the procurement process with models used by other states and entities.

During the discussion, Senator Kwan inquired whether any state or public entity follows a significantly different procurement process that the Committee should be aware of. The Deputy Director clarified that federal procurement guidelines establish overarching parameters, ensuring compliance. No public comments were made.

Yeas: 6

Nays: 0

N/V: 2

Outcome: 1st Substitute HB 471 passed out of the Committee with a favorable recommendation.
