

Legislation that Passed in 2022

[HB194 – Department of Corrections Education Services](#) by Rep. Melissa Ballard – Requires the Department of Corrections to ensure appropriate educational or career-readiness programs are made available to incarcerated women that are substantially equivalent to incarcerated men. Provide for reasonable access to resources needed to apply for grants and other financial aid for educational programs and to consider educational opportunities when making decisions regarding inmate transfers and disciplinary decisions.

[HB 226 – Higher Education and Corrections Council](#) by Rep. Lowry Snow — establishes a council to advise the Utah Board of Higher Education regarding postsecondary education in Utah’s prisons. The council is also responsible for analyzing the outcomes of prison education.

[HB 238 – State Holiday Modifications](#) by Rep. Sandra Hollins — establishes Juneteenth National Freedom Day on June 19 as a state holiday. In June 2021, the Utah Board of Higher Education [adopted a resolution](#) encouraging the observance of Juneteenth with “events that commemorate this historic time.”

[HB 355 \(1st Sub.\) – Higher Education Financial Aid Amendments](#) by Rep. Val Paterson — streamlines many of the state aid programs administered by the Utah Board of Higher Education. This legislation is in accordance with the Board’s strategic priority to streamline state scholarships for reporting consistency, accountability and – most importantly – best assist students. The legislation also proposes to formalize regional educational pathway coordination made possible through the consolidation of the previously separate governing boards.

[HB 449 - Bereavement Leave Modifications](#) by Rep. Rex Shipp – requires that bereavement leave be offered for employees who are affected by the miscarriage or stillbirth of child if the employee was to be the adoptive parent of the child.

[SB 42 – Higher Education Performance Funding Goals](#) by Sen. Ann Millner — codifies five-year performance goals for the Utah System of Higher Education and each institution of higher education.

[SB 63 – Bereavement Leave Amendments](#) – Sen. Wayne Harper - requires that bereavement leave be offered for employees who are affected by the miscarriage or stillbirth of child.

[SB 100 – Paid Leave Modifications](#) by Sen. Todd Weiler – requires parental leave for the birth of employee’s child, adoption of a minor child or appointment of legal guardianship of a minor child or incapacitated adult.

[SB 172 \(1st Sub.\) Higher Education Student Assistance](#) by Sen. Evan Vickers — In fall 2021, the Utah Board of Higher Education voted to exit the loan servicing business after analyzing whether UHEAA should retain and refinance its portfolio or sell the portfolio and exit the market. This legislation creates an endowment managed by the Utah Board of Higher Education, the proceeds of which would be used for scholarships and student success initiatives.

[SB 226 \(1st Sub.\) Higher Education Data Privacy and Governance Revisions](#) by Sen. Jacob Anderegg — requires the Board of Higher Education to establish a data governance plan for the Utah System of Higher Education. It also moves the Utah Data Research Center from the Utah Department of Workforce Services to the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education. The bill also appropriates funds for additional staff and equipment to enhance data services.

Legislative Outcomes

Public Education

\$124 million for a 6% Weighted Pupil increase

\$12 million for full-day kindergarten

Water

\$250 million to meter secondary water connections by 2030

\$40 million for the Great Salt Lake preservation

\$30 million for Utah Lake preservation

\$5 million for grants to remove turf from residential properties

\$20 million for making agricultural watering more efficient

Require new state buildings to have less than 20% turf

Transportation

\$1 billion for transportation projects

Tax Cuts

\$193 million cut in tax rates, social security income tax reduction and earned income tax credits