Feb. 2022

# UTAH LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

#### The Weekly Newsletter of RRJ Consulting Utah's Leading Lobbying Firm



### WEEK 4 OF THE 2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

We've officially hit the halfway mark of the session! With appropriations subcommittees wrapping up, the Senate and House will now focus on standing committee meetings and spend more time debating bills on the floor.



### TAX CUT UPDATE

<u>S.B. 59</u> *Tax Amendments* passed the House this week and was signed by Governor Cox. The \$190 million tax cut includes:

- \$158 million income tax cut. The rate will be reduced from 4.95% to 4.85%.
- \$16 million to an Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). Utahns earning less than \$57,414 annually will be eligible to receive credit.
- \$15 million to expand the Social Security tax credit.

#### UTAH RANKS #1 FOR BEST ECONOMY

This week, U.S. News and World Report gave Utah the top ranking for our economy. The report uses business environment, employment, and growth as its guiding metrics. Read more here.



## EXECUTIVE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

This week, each appropriations subcommittee presented their top priorities to the Executive Appropriations Committee (EAC). This committee is made up of members of leadership from both the House and Senate and the Majority and Minority Caucuses. EAC will now sift through the numerous requests and work to compile a final state budget by the close of the session.

#### **STATE BIRD OF PREY**

The Senate passed SB 116 State Bird of Prey Designation (Sen. McKell). This bill designates the golden eagle as Utah's state bird of prey. To help with his bill presentation, Sen. McKell brought a golden eagle to the Senate floor!

# PERIOD PRODUCTS IN SCHOOLS

HB 162 officially passed the Legislature this week! As part of a public-private partnership, this legislation will provide period products in every junior high and high school in Utah. This will be a great resource for girls across the state and we appreciate all the hard work that's gone into making this happen.

#### HONORING UTAH'S FALLEN SOLIDERS

This week, the Senate and House honored Utah's fallen soldiers who sacrificed their lives protecting our freedoms. This is always a humbling moment and reminds us of how lucky we are to live in our country.



#### SUPER BOWL SUNDAY

On Friday, the House of Representatives took a vote on who will win the Super Bowl. The Rams took the lead by a small margin. We hope you enjoy a Super Bowl Sunday filled with family, food, and football!

#### Looking Ahead

**NEXT WEEK** – THE SENATE AND HOUSE WILL SPEND MOST OF THEIR TIME IN STANDING COMMITTEES AND DEBATING BILLS ON THE FLOOR

MARCH 4 – FINAL DAY OF THE 2022 GENERAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION

