

June 2023

# UTAH LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Monthly Newsletter of RRJ Consulting  
*Utah's Leading Lobbying Firm*



## BRYCE CANYON

Happy 100 years to Bryce Canyon National Park! In 1923, President Harding established Bryce Canyon National Monument because of its “unusual scenic beauty, scientific interest, and importance.” Today, visitors from across the world visit Utah to see the stunning landscapes for themselves. We love living in Utah and celebrating its diverse and breathtaking wonders.

## GREAT SALT LAKE UPDATE

We've talked a lot about the Great Salt Lake and Utah's water challenges in recent years. Well, we're happy to report that the Great Salt Lake has risen 5 feet since last fall's record low! This does not mean we can stop proactively working on securing a better water future for Utah, but it does give us great hope that we can continue on an upward trend. Although we've had a wet winter and received plenty of moisture, we must continue to be good stewards of our resources and conserve in year's of plenty to prepare for years of drought.

## BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

During the 2023 General Legislative Session, lawmakers passed S.B. 146, which condensed the Utah Board of Higher Education to a 10 member board. Governor Spencer Cox nominated 10 new members to fill the seats on the board. The Utah State Senate confirmed each of those members during June interim meetings. More information can be found [here](#).

## GUIDING OUR GROWTH

As one of the fastest-growing states in the nation, Utah is at the precipice of great opportunity. State leaders want you to share your views on how Utah grows. Take the survey at [guidingourgrowth.utah.gov](http://guidingourgrowth.utah.gov). Survey results will be shared with state and local officials to inform decisions about Utah's future.

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*You can find us on Twitter, Facebook, and  
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# A CLOSER LOOK

## A SPECIAL ELECTION COMING SOON

Congressman Chris Stewart submitted his resignation from the U.S. House of Representatives late last month.

He wrote, "It has been one of the great honors of my life to serve the good people of Utah in Congress. My wife and I have made so many dear friends and memories throughout our journey. I can say with pride that I have been an effective leader for my beloved home state, and I'm honored to have played an important role in guiding our nation through some troubled times. But my wife's health concerns have made it necessary that I retire from Congress after an orderly transition can be ensured. My family and I have been very blessed by this experience. Thank you to all those who have supported and sacrificed to help us. The fight goes on. God bless all of you, and God bless our nation."



Congressman Chris Stewart and his family. We thank Congressman Stewart for his service to our state and nation.



The U.S. Capitol. Utah will hold a special election to elect a new congressman on Sept. 5 (primary) and Nov. 21 (general).

### SPECIAL ELECTION

To fill Congressman Stewart's seat as quickly and efficiently as possible, the Governor, Lt. Governor and Legislature have agreed to hold a special election in Congressional District 2 (CD2). In order to ensure a safe and secure election, and avoid voter confusion, municipal elections will be slightly moved and held on the same date as the special election. The municipal primary election will be held on September 5 and the general election will be held on November 21.

More information can be found at [vote.utah.gov](http://vote.utah.gov).

### MEET THE CANDIDATES

Twenty-two candidates filed to run to fill Congressman Stewart's seat, including: Greg Hughes (R), Bruce Hough (R), Becky Edwards (R), Scott Allen Hatfield (R), Remy Bubba Kush (R), R Quin Denning (R), Jordan Hess (R), Kathleen Anderson (R), Ty Jensen (R), Celeste Maloy (R), Scott Reber (R), Bill Hoster (R), Henry Christian Eyring (R), Cassie Easley (Constitution), Kathleen Riebe (D), Guy D Warner (D), Archie A Williams III (D), Bradley Garth Green (LIB), Perry T. Myers (Unaffiliated), Joe Buchman (Unaffiliated), January Walker (United Utah), and Stone Fonua (United Utah).