

UTAH LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Weekly Legislative Session Newsletter of RRJ Consulting
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MAJOR LEAGUE SPORTS IN THE BEEHIVE STATE?

Over the past couple weeks, the Senate and House of Representatives have signaled Utah's overwhelming support for welcoming major league sports to the Beehive State. The Legislature welcomed MVP Dale Murphy and Big League Utah as they passed SCR 3 *Concurrent Resolution Supporting Major League Baseball in Utah* (Sen. Lincoln Fillmore & Rep. Sandra Hollins).



The Senate also passed SJR 12, which supports bringing the National Hockey League to Utah, days after Ryan Smith and Smith Entertainment Group announced their plans to seek out an NHL team. We're on the edge of our seats awaiting the day we can cheer for 2 more professional sports teams in Utah!



“Now, therefore be it resolved, that the Legislature of the state of Utah, with the Governor concurring therein, supports the efforts of Big League Utah in the pursuit of bringing Major League Baseball to the great state of Utah.”

A CLOSER LOOK

ENERGY WEEK ON CAPITOL HILL

Lawmakers coined this past week as “Energy Week,” as a slew of energy-related legislation made their way through the legislative process. The Utah Senate and House Majority Caucuses both included energy as one of their top priorities for this session, as federal regulations and policies have or will inevitably inhibit Utah’s ability to provide reliable, affordable, and sustainable power to the people of the state.

The Legislature wants to take an all-of-the-above approach to energy, meaning the utilization of both renewable and non-renewable sources. While the ultimate goal is to rely on clean, renewable energy sources, current demand cannot be sustained through these avenues, hence the need for non-renewable sources. The following bills are making their way through the legislative process and will be sure to have an impact on Utah’s energy future.

H.B. 48 Utah Energy Act Amendments (Rep. Colin Jack, Sen. David Hinkins)

- Builds on H.B. 426 from 2023 by implementing recommendations from the energy strike team to establish a long-term strategic plan for state energy resources.

H.B. 124 Energy Infrastructure Amendments (Rep. Carl Albrecht, Sen. Derrin Owens)

- Expands the high-cost infrastructure tax credit (post-performance) to apply to nuclear, geothermal, pumped storage, and carbon sequestration projects.

H.B. 191 Electrical Energy Amendments (Rep. Colin Jack, Sen. Ron Winterton)

- Protects Utah’s baseload power by requiring a regulated utility to replace any shut down power plant with a power plant of equal capacity.

H.B. 241 Clean Energy Amendments (Rep. Carl Albrecht, Sen. Derrin Owens)

- Redirects the state to invest in projects with clean energy sources such as nuclear, geothermal, pumped storage, and carbon sequestration projects.

H.B. 374 State Energy Policy Amendments (Rep. Colin Jack, Sen. Evan Vickers)

- Shifts the state energy policy to focus on improving the lives of Utahns. The new policy will be guided by the following principles: adequate, reliable, dispatchable, affordable, and clean.

H.B. 410 San Rafael State Energy Lab (Rep. Christine Watkins)

- Creates the State Energy Lab and establishes the San Rafael Energy Research Center.

