

Bill Sheet - 2011 General Session of the 59th Legislature

39 Items

sorted by: billNumber; then by... • grouped as sorted

SEARCH & FILTER:

PTA Commission

- 1 Community Involvement
- 18 Education
- 3 Family Life
- 9 Health
- 5 Safety & Welfare
- 2 Student

Position

- 11 Oppose
- 1 Oppose with Comment
- 2 Recommend Interim Study
- 21 Support
- 1 Support with

Sponsor

- 1 Adams, J. Stuart
- 2 Anderson, Johnny
- 1 Appropriation (no sponsor)
- 1 Arent, Patrice M.
- 1 Barrus, Roger E.

Bill Status

- 1 Appropriated in HB002
- 1 Failed in House 28-45-2
- 1 Failed in House 32-38-5
- 1 Failed in the Senate

1.

Appropriations | SCHOOL NURSE FUNDING

Sponsor: Appropriation (no sponsor)



Status: Appropriated in HB002

Description:
 \$1,000,000 was allocated for additional school nurse funding by Sen. Ed Mayne four years ago to hire more school nurses. Last year that amount was reduced to \$882,000. Now, that \$882,000 is in danger of being eliminated because it is on the options list for eliminating the structural deficit. If the money is eliminated, we could lose as many as 16 school nurses. Utah is currently next to last in the nation with the highest ratio of students to school nurses (4003 to 1). The state with the lowest ratio is Vermont, with 311 to 1.

Impact on Children:
 Utah parents place a high priority on their children, yet when it comes to providing for their needs, the ratio of school nurses to students paints a clear picture of the needs of children not being met. When a child is sick, if a school nurse is not present, the parents are required to leave their work or home to go to the school and pick up the child. The parents miss work, the child misses school. If a nurse is present, often they can keep the child at the school until the child is feeling better and they are able to return to the classroom. That is only one of many responsibilities of the school nurse. Most nurses are assigned to 4 or 5 schools, giving them only one day a week to spend in each school. That means four out of five days a week, a school has no nurse present. Losing possibly 16 school nurses would drive the ratio up even higher. Children would not receive the services they need with school nurses stretched so thin.

PTA Resolution: HEA 1992-3 Health Services for Children with Disabilities

Notes: Resolved #3, That Utah PTA support the hiring of school nurses or public health nurses for the schools

Health

2.



HB0013 S2 | IMMUNIZATIONS FOR TEEN MOTHERS

Sponsor: Seelig, Jennifer M.

Status: Governor Signed

Description:




Allows minors who are pregnant or who have custody of a child to consent to certain medical services and specifically immunizations and examinations. It also provides that a parent or guardian of a minor who consents to treatment is not responsible for the fees associated with the medical treatment unless the parent or guardian consented to the treatment.

Impact on Children:

This not only provides young children with the preventative health care they need but it allows young mothers to more easily care for their children. Once a young woman becomes a mother she has taken on the responsibility of caring for her child and should have that ability.

PTA Resolution: FAM 2007-1 Parenting

Notes: ". . . Utah PTA recognizes the importance of parental roles and encourages parental involvement in all aspects of their children's lives, and be it further Resolved, That Utah PTA provide resources to teach parenting skills and assist parents in being more effective parents, and . . ." and HEA 1992-4 Preventative Child Health Care -- Physical Exams ". . . Utah PTA and its local units educate parents about childhood disorders, the need for regular physical examinations". (see http://www.utahpta.org/docs/resolutions/health/HEA_1992-4_Preventive_Child_Health_Care-Physical_Exams.pdf)

Family Life

3.



HB0023 | CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE MODIFICATIONS

Sponsor: Froerer, Gage



Status: Governor Signed

Description:

This bill modifies provisions relating to the Utah Controlled Substances Act by creating a controlled class of listed synthetic cannabinoid substances found in products often referred to as

"spice."

Impact on Children:

Impact on Children: Research shows that the impact is similar to marijuana and it produces some of the same outcomes. The brain is underdeveloped in a youth, so these substances damage the developing brain. It damages the area that is responsible for impulse control and decision-making. Marijuana is a gateway drug and can lead to more dangerous drugs. Because of it's similarity to marijuana, spice could also be a gateway drug.

PTA Resolution: HEA 2007-1 Substance Abuse

Notes: Resolved #2 - That Utah PTA supports legislative action that institutes or appropriately increases criminal penalties for individuals or organizations promoting substance abuse of any kind (including the sale or distribution of alcohol and/or tobacco to underage persons) and and be it further

Safety & Welfare

4.

HB0051 S1 | SCHOOL AND INSTITUTIONAL TRUST LANDS

Sponsor: Barrus, Roger E.



Status: [Governor Signed](#)



Description:

This bill modifies provisions of the School and Institutional Trust Lands Management Act.

Impact on Children:

This bill effectively streamlines some business processes for the School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration and makes sure that the agency responsible for obtaining much-needed revenue for Utah's schools is as profitable as can be.

PTA Resolution: [EDU 2004-2 School Trust Lands](#)

Notes: Resolved, That Utah PTA encourage the Governor, Legislature, State Treasurer, Attorney General, Board of Trustees and Administration of the School and Institutional Trust Lands, other state and local officials to take all necessary steps to assure that management of the School Trust Lands is in accordance with trust duties and principles, including undivided loyalty to the beneficiaries, a duty to make trust property productive, a duty to keep and render accounts, and a duty to exercise prudence and skill in administering the trust, thereby obtaining much-needed revenue for Utah's schools.

Trust Lands

5.



HB0085 | ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL ACT - SALES TO MINORS

Sponsor: [Peterson, Val L.](#)



Status: [Failed/Held in Senate Rules Committee](#)

Description:

This prohibits the sale, offer for sale, and furnishing to a minor of a product that is used make an alcoholic product or cause a liquid to become an alcoholic product. There is a powder being sold to minors that is not under the alcohol control laws. When put in water or other non-alcoholic liquid, it turns it into an alcoholic drink. This would make the alcohol powder illegal to sell or give to minors.

Impact on Children:

This bill would help prevent underage drinking, making it illegal for underage youth to buy alcohol powder, and illegal for someone to give it to them.

PTA Resolution: [HEA 2007-1 Substance Abuse](#)

Notes: Resolved #2, That Utah PTA supports legislative action that institutes or appropriately increases criminal penalties for individuals or organizations promoting substance abuse of any kind (including the sale or distribution of alcohol and/or tobacco to underage persons) and

Safety & Welfare

6.

HB0089 S1 | PROTECTION OF CHILDREN RIDING IN A MOTOR VEHICLE

Sponsor: [Arent, Patrice M.](#)



Status: Failed in the Senate



Description:

This bill prohibits smoking in a vehicle when children age 15 and younger are passengers. The purpose of the bill is to protect children from a serious health hazard. Children, whose lungs are still developing, should have the right to ride in a vehicle without being exposed to dangerous secondhand smoke.

Impact on Children:

This bill is a Utah PTA Priority Bill. There is more and more evidence that second and thirdhand smoke is particularly damaging to the lungs of children. Children, especially infants, cannot choose whether or not they want to ride with a parent who smokes in the car, and cannot ask the parents to refrain from smoking. Children need to be protected from these harmful substances.

PTA Resolution: HEA 2010-3 Protection from Secondhand and Thirdhand Smoke

Notes: Resolved #4, That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies support legislative efforts to protect children and youth from second- and third-hand smoke.

Health

7.



HB0111 | FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN

Sponsor: Anderson, Johnny



Status: Failed/Held in House Rules Committee

Description:

This bill allows a school district or charter school to apply for funding to enroll a kindergarten student in two part-time kindergarten classes during the same day and prohibits school districts and charter schools from using certain state money to fund extended-day kindergarten.

Impact on Children:

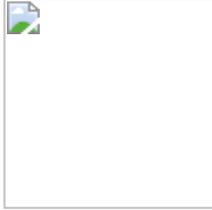
This bill would discontinue the current Optional Extended-Day Kindergarten program that has been so successful in Utah for at-risk students, in favor of having at-risk students attend two sessions of regular kindergarten. The current curriculum used in the extended-day model is not simply a repetition but rather than an integrated curriculum using different methods to teach students literacy and numeracy. Having kindergarten students attend two sessions per day of the same kindergarten class would result in a repeat of the same half-day curriculum and would not show the same gains as the extended-day model.

PTA Resolution: EDU 2007-1 Full-Day Kindergarten

Notes: Resolved #1-That Utah PTA supports the expansion of optional full-day kindergarten programs for students in need of support to achieve minimal learning standards and requests increased funding to support such expansion. (NOTE: The terminology used in our 2007 resolution of "full-day" was the common practice at the time. Since then the terminology has changed to "extended-day". The intent of our resolution has always been an integrated curriculum encompassing the same school hours as first grade).

Education

8.



HB0123 | K-12 EDUCATION AMENDMENTS



Sponsor: Sumsion, Kenneth W.

Status: Failed/Held in House Rules Committee

Description:

This bill reduces the term of local school board members from four years to two years, modifies how money appropriated for the basic state-supported school program is distributed to school districts and charter schools, eliminates programs that provide funds for specific purposes, and and makes technical amendments.

Impact on Children:

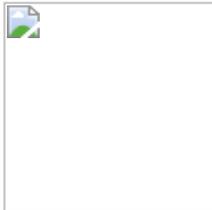
This bill is a major restructuring of the entire public education funding structure and needs to be studied over the interim.

PTA Resolution: EDU 2010-2 Education Funding

Notes: Resolved #1 That Utah PTA continue to urge the legislature to make public education revenue allocations and funding effort a high priority.

Education

9.



HB0152 S1 | SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCILS AMENDMENTS

Sponsor: Wright, Bill

Status: Governor Signed



Description:

This bill modifies qualifications for a parent or guardian member of a school community council, modifies duties of a school community council, requires an election for the parent or guardian members of a school community council to: extend for a period of at least three consecutive school days, and commence no later than 30 days after the first day of the school year, requires a principal to provide notification of a school community council election at least 21 days before the commencement of an election, modifies the officer positions of a school community council, requires a school's principal, in order for the school to receive an allotment of School LAND Trust Program money, to provide a signed, written assurance that: the school community council membership is consistent with requirements specified in law, and the selection of school community council members is consistent with requirements specified in law, directs the Legislative Auditor General, at the direction of the Legislative Audit Subcommittee, to audit a sample of schools for compliance with requirements pertaining to school community council membership and the selection of school community council members, provides for a reduction or an elimination of a school's allocation of School LAND Trust money for failure to comply with requirements pertaining to school community council membership or the selection of school community council members, and and makes technical amendments.

Impact on Children:

This bill increases the accountability of School Community Councils and provides for a legislative audit that could disqualify a school from receiving funds if it is found to not be in compliance with the law. Accountability and transparency are important principals associated with the disbursement and spending of funds from the School LAND Trust program.

PTA Resolution: National PTA Resolution on Parent Involvement in Site-Based Shared Decision-Making

Notes: Resolved #1 - That the National PTA and its constituent organizations advocate for legislation, policies, and bargaining agreements that protect the right of parental involvement in site-based shared decision making. Resolved #2 - That National PTA and its constituent organizations advocate for models of site-based decision making which provide for equitable participation among parents, students, community members, principals, teachers, and other staff and which promote an environment in which parents are valued as essential partners in their children's education and development.

Education

10.



HB0170 S1 | TOBACCO AND NICOTINE PRODUCT AMENDMENTS

Sponsor: Ray, Paul



Status: Failed/Held on House Second Reading Calendar

Description:

This bill would prohibit: a. All flavored smokeless products—snuff, tobacco candy, etc. b. All flavored cigars. c. All e-cigarettes except those with a switch (there aren't any with a switch so it bans all of them) d. All nicotine products except those approved by the FDA. e. It sets an age limit for clerks who sell tobacco. Clerks have to be a least 19 years old.

Impact on Children:

Children will be attracted to the brightly packaged nicotine candy products and will not be able to tell the difference between them and candy or gum packages which they closely resemble. Nicotine is the #1 most addictive drug in the world. Overdoses and death and addiction could occur if these products are allowed to be sold in Utah. This is clearly Big Tobacco marketing to children and youth. E-cigarettes are a battery-operated cigarette-looking device that delivers pure nicotine to the lungs. Although research is not complete on the secondhand effects of the nicotine, it does come out in the secondhand vapors. Clean air laws do not apply to e-cigarettes. If the E-cigarette does not have an on-off switch, a child could pick it up and suck on it and it would deliver a dose of nicotine which is not meant for child-size lungs.

PTA Resolution: HEA 2007-1 Substance Abuse

Notes: Resolved #2, That Utah PTA supports legislative action that institutes or appropriately increases criminal penalties for individuals or organizations promoting substance abuse of any kind (including the sale or distribution of alcohol and/or tobacco to underage persons).

Health

11.

HB0205 | DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND DATING VIOLENCE AMENDMENTS

Sponsor: Ray, Paul

Status: Failed/Sent to Interim Study

Description:



This bill provides for the issuance, modification, and enforcement of protective orders between certain individuals who are, or have been, in a dating relationship.



Impact on Children:

Teens would be able to get a protective orders against individuals who have been in a abusive dating relation. It should reduce truancy, dating abuse, suicide. It is already a bill in 37 states it will make our schools a safer place

PTA Resolution: STU-2009-1 Teen Dating Violence

Notes: Resolved #4 - That Utah PTA supports adequate legislation that applies legal consequences for violence in dating relationships.

Student Involvement

12.



HB0234 | ASSERTIVE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT

Sponsor: Moss, Carol Spackman



Status: Failed/Held in Senate Rules Committee

Description:

This bill establishes a pilot program within the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Act for the provision of assertive community treatment services to people with a severe mental disorder, who are not receiving or are transitioning out of other mental health care services.

Impact on Children:

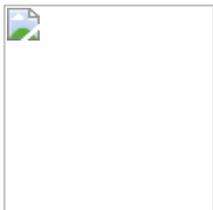
Many children and youth are suffering from mental illness, some have been diagnosed, some have not. It is important for children and youth who have been treated for a severe mental disorder, to continue to receive mental health care from professionals after their treatment has ended. The challenges for parents who do not receive this help can be overwhelming and have a devastating affect on the family. Youth who do not receive proper services often choose to solve their problems with suicide.

PTA Resolution: HEA 2000-1 Mental Illness

Notes: Resolved #3 - Utah PTA support prevention and intervention initiatives and appropriate state funding for collaborative efforts between the home, school, private physicians, and community resource agencies to create support networks for families

Health

13.



HB0241 | CLEAN OUT THE CABINETS MONTH DESIGNATION

Sponsor: Morley, Michael



Status: [Governor Signed](#)

Description:

This bill designates the month of April as Clean Out the Medicine Cabinets Month in Utah.

Impact on Children:

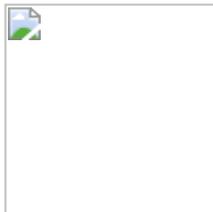
Children have access to pharmaceutical drugs through un-locked medicine cabinets that create addictive behavior and for some children can lead to overdose. Sometimes children will collect the pills for Pharm parties, to sell them, or use them themselves. By cleaning out the medicine cabinets at least annually, parents and caregivers should empty out medicines that they no longer use and dispose of them properly so children will not be able to access them.

PTA Resolution: [HEA 2007-1 Substance Abuse](#)

Notes: Resolved #1, That Utah PTA supports legislative action that promotes education or cessation programs regarding substance abuse. Resolved #3 That Utah PTA supports the age-appropriate education of all children and families regarding the dangers and consequences of substance abuse.

Safety & Welfare

14.



HB0242 | CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE AMENDMENTS

Sponsor: [Herrod,
Christopher N.](#)



Status: [Failed/Held in
House Rules Committee](#)

Description:

Kratom is a leaf from a tree that grows in Asia. It contains several pharmacologically active compounds, but the main effect is to kill pain by acting on opiate receptors in the brain. It also has stimulant properties. Bottom line: it's pharmacology is similar to opiates (morphine). It is reported to be illegal in some Asian countries already. This bill makes it a controlled substance, so it is illegal to possess or sell the substance unless the person is engaged in medical research and and is a holder of a license to possess controlled substances for research. It adds kratom to the driver license provisions regarding driving under the influence.

Impact on Children:

More and more substances are being used to mimic the effects of illegal drugs, and are being sold legally to youth and adults. This bill would stop one specific substance, Kratom, and put it on the controlled substance list so youth will not have easy access to it. Although we can support this bill, we would prefer to see a more all-encompassing bill that would cover a wider variety of substances instead of just one.

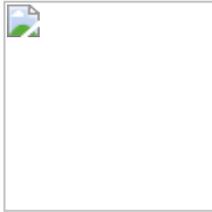
PTA Resolution: [HEA 2007-1 Substance Abuse](#)

Notes: Resolved #1 That Utah PTA supports legislative action that promotes education or cessation programs regarding substance abuse, Resolved #2, That Utah PTA supports legislative action that institutes or appropriately increases criminal penalties for individuals or organizations promoting substance abuse of any kind (including the sale or distribution of alcohol and/or tobacco to underage persons), and

Safety & Welfare

15.

HB0258 | CHILD RESTRAINT DEVICE AMENDMENTS



Sponsor: Herrod, Christopher N.



Status: Failed/Held in House Rules Committee

Description:

This bill provides that an operator of a motor vehicle is exempt from the requirement to use a child restraint device to restrain a person who is five years of age or older but younger than eight years of age if the operator of the motor vehicle is operating a motor vehicle on a road that has a posted speed limit of 45 miles per hour or less and provides that an operator of a vehicle shall provide for the protection of the person who is five years of age or older but younger than eight years of age by securing the person in a properly adjusted and fastened safety belt.

Impact on Children:

As stated in the resolution, the effective use of seatbelts is very important. The booster seat law states that all children under 8 years of age must be properly restrained in a child restraint or booster seat. There is an exception to the law that states that children younger than 8 are not required to be in a booster seat if they are at least 57 inches tall. At that point, they should use the lap and shoulder belt without a booster. Children under 8 years and smaller than 57 inches are not safe if a seatbelt no matter how fast a parent is driving.

PTA Resolution: SAF 1998-2 STANDARD SEAT BELT LEGISLATION

Notes: Resolved #3 That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies encourage and support passage of legislation that will endorse standard seat belt law that will increase the effective use of seat belts in the state of Utah.

Safety & Welfare

16.



HB0264 | STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER ELECTION PROCESS AMENDMENTS

Sponsor: Moss, Carol Spackman



Status: Failed in House 28-45-2

Description:

This bill requires the direct, nonpartisan election of members of the State Board of Education and repeals the involvement of the governor and the nominating and recruiting committee for the State Board of Education in the selection process.

Impact on Children:

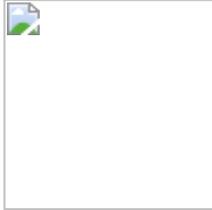
"This bill is a Utah PTA Priority Bill". The State Board of Education is designed to be a body representative of a geographic area and thus responsive, foremost, to the voters. Changes enacted by the State Legislature to the State School Board nomination process has empowered representatives of special interest groups who are not accountable to the voters to make decisions concerning which candidates are on the ballot. The education of our children is best served by board members directly elected by their constituents.

PTA Resolution: EDU 2004-1 State Board of Education

Notes: Resolved #1 - That Utah PTA recognizes the State Board of Education as the body elected to establish policy and curriculum for education in the State of Utah
Resolved #2 - That Utah PTA support legislation to restore nomination to, and election of, members of the State Board of Education in a way that is more responsive to the constituency of each State School Board district

Education

17.



HB0313 | CHARTER SCHOOL FUNDING AMENDMENTS



Sponsor: Newbold, Merlynn T.

Status: Failed/Held in House Rules Committee

Description:

This bill modifies funding provided to a charter school to replace local property taxes that are not available to charter schools by, over a period of 13 years: increasing the portion of school district revenues that a school district allocates for a resident student enrolled in a charter school, and decreasing state revenues allocated to a charter school, provides an allocation of state funds for a charter school student in the amount of school districts' average per pupil revenues from the voted and board leeway guarantee programs, Capital Outlay Foundation Program, and Capital Outlay Enrollment Growth Program, eliminates a requirement that a charter school spend at least 10% of money received to replace local property tax revenue for capital facilities, and and makes technical amendments.

Impact on Children:

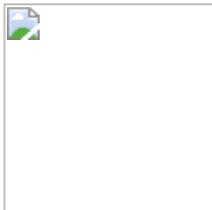
This bill would change the way property taxes are distributed and the thirteen year phase-in would remove the oversight of the Truth in Taxation hearings held by local school boards.

PTA Resolution: EDU 2010-2 Education Funding

Notes: Resolved #1 That Utah PTA continue to urge the legislature to make public education revenue allocations and funding effort a high priority.

Education

18.



HB0322 | RESTORATION OF AMERICAN HERITAGE CURRICULUM ACT

Sponsor: Sandstrom, Stephen E.



Status: Failed/Held in House

Rules Committee

Description:

This bill creates a seven-member advisory board under the State Board of Education to prepare a constitutional studies curriculum for use in public schools, outlines required topics to be included in the constitutional studies curriculum described in the previous paragraph, creates guidelines for teaching the constitutional studies curriculum created by the seven-member advisory board, and and makes technical changes.

Impact on Children:

The USBE has the constitutional authority to oversee curriculum for Utah's public schools.

PTA Resolution: EDU 2004-1 State Board of Education

Notes: Resolved #1 That Utah PTA recognizes the State Board of Education as the body elected to establish policy and curriculum for education in the State of Utah.

Education

19.



HB0447 | KINDERGARTEN LITERACY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Sponsor: Anderson, Johnny



Status: Failed/Held in House Rules Committee

Description:

This bill eliminates funding for Optional Extended Day Kindergarten (OEK) which targets at-risk students and instead funds computer based literacy software program available for all Kindergarten students. Schools would apply for grant funds for the technology, then must comply with a list of requirements, such as ensuring those with the greatest need have priority in using the program and that kindergarteners are using the software, on average, for at least 80 minutes each week.

Impact on Children:

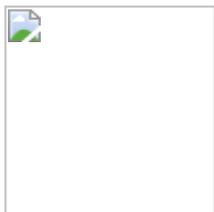
This bill would discontinue the highly successful Optional Extended-Day Kindergarten (OEK) program in favor of an unproven software technology program. OEK is able to target at-risk students with an integrated curriculum using different methods to teach students literacy as well as numeracy. This software only addresses literacy. Students will not show the same gains they have achieved with the OEK program.

PTA Resolution: EDU 2007-1 Full-Day Kindergarten

Notes: Resolved #1-That Utah PTA supports the expansion of optional full-day kindergarten programs for students in need of support to achieve minimal learning standards and requests increased funding to support such expansion. (NOTE: The terminology used in our 2007 resolution of "full-day" was the common practice at the time. Since then the terminology has changed to "extended-day". The intent of our resolution has always been an integrated curriculum encompassing the same school hours as first grade).

Education

20.



HJR0015 | JOINT RESOLUTION AMENDING STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PROVISIONS

Sponsor: Herrod, Christopher N.



Status: Failed/Held in House Rules Committee

Description:

This resolution proposes to amend the Utah Constitution to repeal language providing that membership of the State Board of Education is to be established and elected as provided by statute, provide that members of the State Board of Education shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, provide that the number and terms of State Board of Education members shall be as provided by statute,

and and require the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, rather than by the State Board of Education.

Impact on Children:

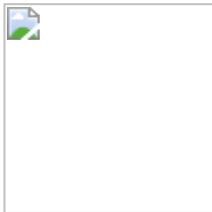
"This is a Utah PTA Priority Bill." Locally elected members of the Utah State Board of Education are responsive to their constituents through the ballot box and the "general control and supervision" of education, as provided by the Constitution, needs to remain with elected USBE members. Giving the Governor the responsibility to appoint members flies in the face of our basic separation of powers principle in the Utah Constitution.

PTA Resolution: [EDU 2004-1 State Board of Education](#)

Notes: Resolved #1-That Utah PTA recognizes the State Board of Education as the body elected to establish policy and curriculum for education in the State of Utah.

Education

21.



SB0001 S1 | PUBLIC EDUCATION BASE BUDGET

Sponsor:
Buttars,
Chris D.



Status: [Governor Signed](#)

Description:

This bill appropriates funds for the support and operation of public education for the 12 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011, and ending June 30, 2012. **This will be amended during the session.**

Impact on Children:

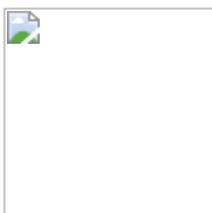
This bill is a Utah PTA Priority Bill. This bill establishes the base budget as a beginning point for appropriations discussions throughout the session. It will be amended, and as revenue projections become available in early February, hopefully, more allocations will be added to the final budget bill passed during the last week of the session. Needing to be added to the base budget are the following: funding for additional student growth, continued funding of Optional Extended-Day Kindergarten, and and restoration of one-time funding for school transportation

PTA Resolution: [EDU 2010-2 Education Funding](#)

Notes: #1 Resolved, That Utah PTA continue to urge the legislature to make public education revenue allocations and funding effort a high priority, and be it further #2 Resolved, That Utah PTA encourage the legislature to adequately fund critical educational needs, including but not limited to, class size reduction, teacher salaries, technology, textbooks and supplies, and

Education

22.



SB0041 | HEALTH AMENDMENTS FOR LEGAL IMMIGRANT CHILDREN

Sponsor: [Robles, Luz](#)



Status: [Failed/Held in Senate Rules Committee](#)

Description:

This bill amends the Medical Assistance Act and the Utah Children's Health Insurance Act to provide Medicaid coverage and health insurance coverage to a legal immigrant child, regardless of the length of time that the child has been in the United States. This bill exercises the option to remove the five-year residency requirement for a legal immigrant child to be eligible for coverage under Medicaid or the Utah Children's Health Insurance Program and directs the Department of Health to amend the state Medicaid plan and the Utah Children's Health Insurance Program to provide coverage to an eligible legal immigrant child, regardless of the length of time that the child has been in the United States. FISCAL NOTE: Beginning in FY 2014, this legislation will cost the Department of Workforce Services \$26,600 ongoing from the General Fund for 1.25 FTEs and the Department of Health \$444,500 ongoing from the General Fund to pay for Medicaid and CHIP services. Beginning in FY 2014 the State will receive \$1,384,200 federal matching funds for the \$471,100 spent from the General Fund. Enactment of this bill likely will not result in direct, measurable costs and/or benefits for local governments, or by Utah residents or businesses.

Impact on Children:

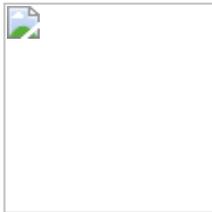
An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Allowing more children to be covered by insurance, assures that they will receive their check-ups and care that they need. This will cost less than emergency room care after their health problems have become acute.

PTA Resolution: [HEA 1992-4 Preventive Child Health Care--Physical Exams](#)

Notes: Resolved #5 That Utah PTA and its local units work with state and local health departments to ensure that resources are available within the various communities in Utah to provide the services sought under this resolution.

Health

23.



SB0045 | WIRELESS TELEPHONE USE RESTRICTION FOR MINORS

Sponsor: Romero, Ross
I.



Status: Failed in House 32-

38-5

Description:

This bill modifies the Motor Vehicles Code by amending provisions relating to a person younger than 18 years of age using a wireless telephone while operating a motor vehicle.

Impact on Children:

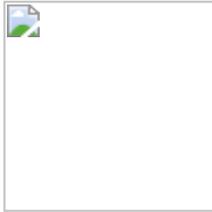
This bill prohibits a person younger than 18 years of age from using a wireless telephone while operating a motor vehicle, provides affirmative defenses to the wireless telephone prohibition, specifies a penalty for violating the wireless telephone prohibition, and prohibits the Driver License Division from assessing points against a person's driving record for being convicted of violating the wireless telephone prohibition.

PTA Resolution: [National PTA Teen Driving Safety](#)

Notes: Click on the resolution link for more information about the resolution that PTA membership has voted on in order to take a position on this bill or visit <http://www.utahpta.org/advocacy/resolutions/> to see all PTA resolutions.

Student Involvement

24.



SB0059 S1 | SCHOOL GRADING SYSTEM

Sponsor: Niederhauser, Wayne L.



Status: Governor Signed

Description:

This bill requires the State Board of Education to establish a school grading system in which a school receives a grade of A, B, C, D, or F based on the performance of the school's students on statewide assessments, and for a high school, the graduation rate, specifies the criteria upon which a school grade is based and procedures for determining a school's grade, imposes requirements for the reporting of a school's grade, and directs the State Board of Education to make rules, as necessary, to implement the school grading system.

Impact on Children:

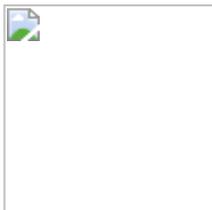
The bill's existing language intends to assign one single letter grade to a school based upon a complex formula combining achievement, growth, and graduation rates. The concept of one single grade for a school simplifies the complex nature of schools and contributes to a lack of transparency for parents. If a child brought home from school one grade - a C for example, that does not help parents understanding. It could mean the child is getting an A in reading, and an F in math. That grade would not reflect how the child is doing socially or if he was excelling in athletics or music. It would label the child a C student, even though he was really an A student in many areas. Progress would be difficult to ascertain from a single grade.

PTA Resolution: National PTA Position Statement - Education Emphasis

Notes: School Report Cards --School report cards should be a part of a school system's overall plan for comprehensive school reform and accountability and should contain information that is clear and provided in languages understandable to all parents. --Data from school report cards must be put in context with other factors that can affect student performance and should evaluate a school's performance on more than just student achievement, including factors such as teacher qualifications, class size, school safety, and dropout rates.

Education

25.



SB0063 | K-3 READING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY

Sponsor: Morgan, Karen W.



Status: Governor Signed

Description:

This bill provides allowable uses for K-3 Reading Improvement Program money, requires the State Board of Education to report school district and charter school expenditures of K-3 Reading Improvement Program money. Allowable uses include: reading assessments, and focused reading remediations that may include: the use of reading specialists, tutoring, before or after school programs, summer school programs, and or the use of reading software.

Impact on Children:

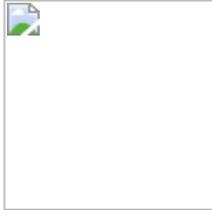
The K-3 Reading money has been effective in decreasing the achievement gap in the early grades so that students can be more successful throughout their school careers and are more likely to graduate from high school. This bill tightens up what the money can be used for so that it is completely targeted to increasing reading scores.

PTA Resolution: EDU 1997-1 Literacy

Notes: Resolved #4: That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies encourage the Governor and the State Legislature to make literacy a priority for all Utah students.

Education

26.



SB0065 S1 | STATEWIDE ONLINE EDUCATION PROGRAM

Sponsor: Stephenson,
Howard A.



Status: Governor Signed

Description:

This bill establishes the purposes of the Statewide Online Education Program, allows an eligible student to enroll in an online course offered through the Statewide Online Education Program, identifies entities that may offer online courses through the Statewide Online Education Program, prescribes requirements for an online course provider, provides for the payment of online courses, requires reporting on the performance of online course providers, requires the dissemination of information on the Statewide Online Education Program, requires the State Board of Education to make rules, requires the legislative auditor general to conduct a review and issue a report on the Statewide Online Education Program, and directs the Education Interim Committee to study how to provide course selection advisement and a high school diploma to students who take a majority of courses through the Statewide Online Education Program.

Impact on Children:

Utah's Electronic High School is in existence which allows for the opportunity for Utah students to take online courses. We are not opposed to online learning and technology but to expand a program in lean budget years where the state is having difficulty adequately funding the basic program is difficult. It also diverts public funding to private companies. Other specific issues: statewide assessment proctors require another layer of funding, high-quality learning options may not be available to all students because of access issues, and LEA's may pay twice because the online provider is paid for a course, a student doesn't finish the online class and the student returns to the LEA, then the LEA pays for the class again.

PTA Resolution: EDU 2010-2 Education Funding

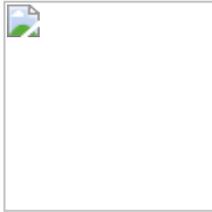
Notes: Resolved, That Utah PTA continue to urge the legislature to make public education revenue allocations and funding effort a high priority, and be it further Resolved, That Utah PTA encourage the legislature to adequately fund critical educational needs, including but not limited to, class size reduction, teacher salaries, technology, textbooks and supplies, and and be it further Resolved, That Utah PTA oppose vouchers, tax credits and deductions and other similar funding sources for public and private preschool, elementary and secondary school tuition and other education-related expenses for students.

Education

27.

SB0067 S1 | ANNUAL EYE EXAMINATION FOR CHILDREN IN GRADES K-3

Sponsor: Robles, Luz



Status: [Governor Signed](#)



Description:

This bill amends the health examinations required in public schools. It extends the public school vision screening from age seven to age eight and requires a public school that performs vision screening to develop a process to notify a parent or guardian if a child fails the vision screening or needs follow-up care.

Impact on Children:

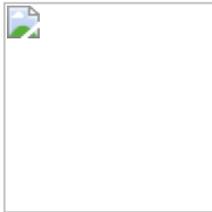
Adding children age 8 to the required ages for vision screening helps more children who may have been missed, or who have had their vision change in the last year. Requiring schools to develop a process to notify parents or guardians if a child fails vision screening assures that that parents/guardians receive this information. When the written notification is sent home with the child, a child who doesn't want glasses could decide to destroy the note.

PTA Resolution: [HEA 1992-4 PREVENTIVE CHILD HEALTH CARE - PHYSICAL EXAMS](#)

Notes: Resolved # 2 - That Utah PTA recommend that these exams include screenings for disorders such as eye and hearing impairment, scoliosis, and growth hormone disorders in addition to testing normally included in these exams.

Health

28.



SB0124 | LEAVING A CHILD UNATTENDED IN A MOTOR VEHICLE

Sponsor: [McAdams, Benjamin M.](#)



Status: [Governor Signed](#)

Description:

This bill makes it a class C misdemeanor for a person who is responsible for a child under the age of nine to intentionally leave the child unsupervised closed inside a car.

Impact on Children:

Each year children are left unattended in and around vehicles that can lead to deadly consequences. This bill sends the message to parents that leaving children unattended in cars is dangerous.

PTA Resolution: [National PTA 2008-1 Children Left Unattended In or Around Vehicles](#)

Notes: Resolved #1: Resolved, That the National PTA and its constituent organizations advocate for and support legislation that prevents children from being injured or killed in non-traffic automobile accidents, including being left unattended in or around vehicles,

Family Life

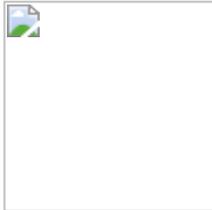
29.

SB0142 | PUBLIC OFFICIAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Sponsor: [Stephenson, Howard A.](#)

Status: [Governor Signed](#)

Description:



This bill requires elected officials and school community council members to have contact information and accordingly amends the Government Records Access and Management Act.



Impact on Children:

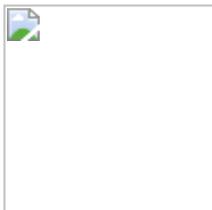
Many parents who volunteer for election to a SCC do not have the personal resources for personal email accounts or phones. By requiring elected parents to have phones and emails, some parents will be automatically disqualified from serving on their SCC.

PTA Resolution: National PTA Resolution on Parent Involvement in Site-Based Shared Decision-Making

Notes: Resolved #1 That the National PTA and its constituent organizations advocate for legislation, policies, and bargaining agreements that protect the right of parental involvement in site-based shared decision making.

Education

30.



SB0165 S2 | ELECTION LAW AMENDMENTS

Sponsor: Bramble, Curtis S.



Status: Governor Signed

Description:

This bill allows online voter registration up to 15 days prior to an election. Although a person may register to vote electronically, this bill states that electronic signatures are not allowed for signing a petition for an initiative, referendum, or to qualify a candidate. Currently the law states that the number of signatures necessary to place a citizen's initiative or referendum on the ballot is based on the number of votes cast in an election for the Governor. This bill specifies that the number of signatures is based on the Presidential election.

Impact on Children:

Two of the purposes of PTA are: to promote the welfare of children and youth in the home, school, community, and place of worship and and, to secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth.

PTA Resolution: COM 2008-1 Protecting Utahns Right to Direct Democracy Through Initiatives and Popular Referenda

Notes: Resolved #1 That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies support the right of the people to participate in direct democracy through initiatives and referenda and oppose any legislation that weakens their ability to do so

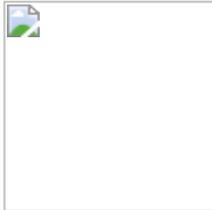
Community Involvement

31.

SB0224 | PARTISAN SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

Sponsor: Stephenson, Howard S.

Status: Failed/Held in House Rules Committee



Description:

This bill repeals the involvement of the Governor and nominating and recruiting committee in the election of State Board of Education members. It replaces that process with partisan elections for State Board of Education members.



Impact on Children:

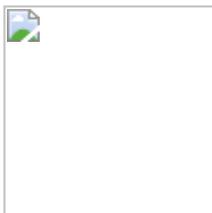
Children in Utah are best served when members of the State Board of Education are free to make decisions based on the best interest of students, rather than in response to pressures from political parties or platforms.

PTA Resolution: EDU 2004-1 State Board of Education

Notes: Resolved #1 That Utah PTA recognizes the State Board of Education as the body elected to establish policy and curriculum for education in the State of Utah. Resolved #2 - That Utah PTA support legislation to restore nomination to, and election of, members of the State Board of Education in a way that is more responsive to the constituency of each State School Board district.

Education

32.



SB0256 S2 | TEACHER EFFECTIVENESS EVALUATION PROCESS

Sponsor:
Adams,
J. Stuart



Status: Governor Signed

Description:

This bill provides components that may be included in a career ladder, provides that annual evaluations for all teachers may be a component of a career ladder, establishes membership for a school joint committee to develop the school's educator evaluation program, requires a school's joint committee to develop an educator evaluation program, specifies the components that must be included in a school's educator evaluation program, including the annual evaluation of all educators, reduces the time in which an educator may request review of a summative evaluation, removes requirements for districts to provide educators with reasonable assistance for improving performance, requires the Education Interim Committee, in consultation with the State Board of Education, to study how teachers may be evaluated on certain performance measures, and and makes technical changes.

Impact on Children:

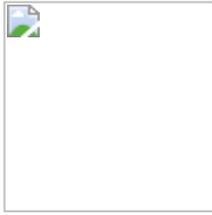
If parents are open to law suits there may be action taken to limit all parent involvement, or other unintended consequences which would be detrimental to children. COMMENT: Site-based decision making shouldn't put parent members of the School Community Council members at risk of a law-suit.

PTA Resolution: National PTA Resolution on Parent Involvement in Site-Based Shared Decision-Making

Notes: Resolved #1 - That the National PTA and its constituent organizations advocate for legislation, policies, and bargaining agreements that protect the right of parental involvement in site-based shared decision making. Resolved #2 - That National PTA and its constituent organizations advocate for models of site-based decision making which provide for equitable participation among parents, students, community members, principals, teachers, and other staff and which promote an environment in which parents are valued as essential partners in their children's education and development.

Education

33.



SB0262 | TOBACCO PRODUCTS AMENDMENTS

Sponsor: Bramble, Curtis

Status: Governor Signed



Description:

This bill provides a definition for little cigars. Makes the tax rate for little cigars equal to cigarettes (per unit instead of percent of price). It raises the tax, and therefore the price, of products that are defined as "little cigars.", which are being sold very cheaply, about \$2 a pack and are becoming popular because they are so cheap. That part of the bill is good. However, it will lower tobacco product prices in general and result in higher tobacco initiation and consumption. It creates an opportunity for more types of tobacco products to qualify as little cigars.

Impact on Children:

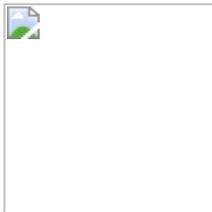
Little cigars are allowed to be sold singly and contain flavors, increasing the appeal to youth. The bill will result in negative health consequences and revenue losses to the State.

PTA Resolution: HEA 2007-1 Substance Abuse

Notes: Resolved #1: That Utah PTA supports legislative action that promotes education or cessation programs regarding substance abuse

Health

34.



SB0304 | PREVENTING BULLYING AND HAZING IN ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Sponsor: Okerlund, Ralph



Status: Governor Signed

Description:

This bill prohibits students and school employees from engaging in bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment, hazing, retaliation, and making false claims regarding this conduct. It also requires schools, local school districts, and the State Board of Education to implement anti-bullying and hazing policies.

Impact on Children:

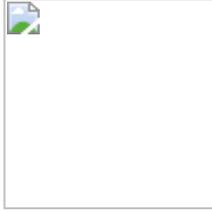
Bullying, including cyber-bullying, can have negative consequences for the general school climate and for the rights of students to learn in a safe environment without fear. Having a school policy in place that tells students, parents, and school employees that bullying, hazing, and cyber-bullying will not be tolerated, helps to create that safe environment.

PTA Resolution: SAF 1997-1 Safe Schools and Safe Schools Policies

Notes: Resolved, that Utah PTA and its constituent bodies work with their respective state education specialists, in there districts, schools, and communities to encourage the development and implementation of safe school policies and and be it further Resolved, That Utah PTA continues to work for enhanced legislation that promotes safe schools.

Family Life

35.



SB0305 S2 | ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH EDUCATION/CAREER ALIGNMENT

Sponsor: Stephenson, Howard A.



Status: Governor Vetoes

Description:

This bill creates the Utah Futures Steering Committee, and requires them to more dynamically present and push the Utah Futures database and information to portfolio users, strategically engage industry and business entities more fully within the Utah Futures system, and create a more enticing interface for the portfolio user in Utah Futures. It also requires the Utah Futures web-based online education and career counseling program to include analytics that measure the effectiveness of the site, include dashboard analytics to measure the key performance indicators of economic development and education achievement, provide multiple assessments of a program user to determine the best education and career options for the user, and requires the Utah Futures Steering Committee to report program results three times each year to either the Education Interim Committee or the Public Education Appropriations Committee.

Impact on Children:

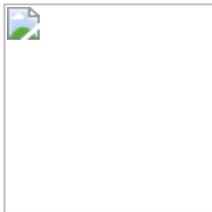
UtahFutures.org has been proven to be a great help to students in secondary schools as they prepare for their postsecondary education. It is a collaborative effort among many groups to enhance the counseling experience for secondary students. Because our student/counselor ratio is so high in Utah, this web portal can give additional information it is difficult for counselors to give in SEOPs. This additional information supports traditional SEOPs and as it adds more information and engages business it will help students with their career paths.

PTA Resolution: EDU 1995-4 Increased Support for SEOPs in Secondary Schools

Notes: Resolved #2: That, where necessary, Utah PTA and its constituent bodies seek funding and support from appropriate sources (Local School Boards, local schools, community business, Utah State Legislature) to ensure quality SEOPs for all secondary students in Utah schools.

Education

36.



SB0314 S1 | ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSING

Sponsor: Valentine, John

Status: Governor Signed



Supports increased enforcement and decreased availability of alcohol for minors

Description:

This bill modifies the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act and related provisions to address various issues concerning the regulation of alcoholic products. It is designed to curtail availability of alcohol to underage youth. It closes loopholes where underage youth are not required to show ID and alcohol is available to them. Bars serve very little food, and cannot admit anyone under 21. Taverns that don't have 70% of sales in food would have to have the same electronic verification of age. To discourage bars and taverns, there would be no increase in the number of liquor licenses for them. Restaurants have to have at least 70% of their sales in food. People who drink in a restaurant usually drink less because they consume food along with it. The alcohol is absorbed more slowly and there is less drunkenness. To encourage restaurants, liquor licenses would be much more available. Reception centers are a large loophole. Often the family of the bride or groom buy copious amounts of liquor and have it sitting out for anyone. This is where many youth are getting their first exposure to alcohol. Reception centers would have to have a license and check ID, the same requirements as a restaurant. Enforcement is also a problem. Because of budget cuts, the number of enforcement officers has declined while the number of liquor licenses issued has increased. This bill would require a specific ratio of alcohol-related enforcement officers per license. Fees from the licenses fund the hiring of enforcement officers, so fees would probably increase. The fees haven't gone up since 2003. It will amount to the equivalent of 2.1% fee increase per year.

Impact on Children:

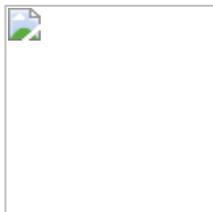
Sen. Valentine asked for the support of PTA and is also working with MADD. Lowering underage drinking is one of the four main goals of all of Sen. Valentine's alcohol bills. The establishments, like dinner clubs, taverns, reception centers that do not have to check ID's are well know to youth and very often that is where they will get their first exposure to alcohol if it isn't available in their home. Alcohol damages the developing brains of youth. Youth often make other bad choices when under the influence of alcohol that can affect them the rest of their lives.

PTA Resolution: HEA 2007-1 Substance Abuse

Notes: Resolved #2 That Utah PTA supports legislative action that institutes or appropriately increases criminal penalties for individuals or organizations promoting substance abuse of any kind (including the sale or distribution of alcohol and/or tobacco to underage persons).

Health

37.



SCR001 | CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM PROGRAM CONCURRENT RESOLUTION



Sponsor: Jones, Patricia W.



Status: Governor Signed

Description:

This resolution recognizes the Crisis Intervention Team Training Program as the model of best practice for law enforcement intervention with persons who have a mental illness, and encourages law enforcement agencies and community mental health centers to work together in conjunction with other community partners to: have a cadre of certified Crisis Intervention Team-trained officers in all jurisdictions, and and develop and maintain active crisis intervention team programs regionally throughout the state.

Impact on Children:

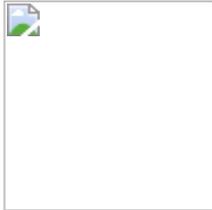
This will benefit youth who have or have not been diagnosed with a mental illness in crisis situations where law enforcement is involved. Law enforcement officers properly trained will be able to determine the best way to handle situations involving youth who are acting out of control.

PTA Resolution: Mental Illness HEA 2000-1

Notes: Resolved #3 That Utah PTA support prevention and intervention initiatives and appropriate state funding for: (1) collaborative efforts between the home, school, private physicians, and community resource agencies to create support networks for families, (2) developing uniform methods for screening and referral, (3) increasing the number of school psychologists and social workers, and (4) improving training of primary care physicians in mental illness assessment and treatment and

Health

38.



SJR001 | JOINT RESOLUTION ON STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AUTHORITY

Sponsor: Buttars, Chris D.



Status: Failed/Held in
Senate Rules Committee

Description:

This resolution proposes to amend the Utah Constitution to specify that the State Board of Education's general control and supervision of the public education system is as provided by statute. The voters will be asked to approve this amendment in general election which gives the Legislature ultimate control over the Utah State Board of Education by amending Article X, Section 3.

Impact on Children:

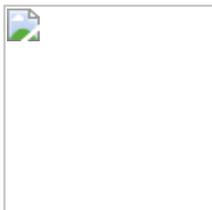
"This bill is a Utah PTA Priority Bill". The locally elected members of the Utah State Board of Education have "general control and supervision of the public education system". They are subject to laws passed by the Legislature, but the addition of the words "by statute" after the general control and supervision language gives them no autonomy or control, but makes them subject to the Legislature, rather than their constituents who elected them. Public education students are best served by a separately elected body whose sole focus is education.

PTA Resolution: EDU 2004-1 State Board of Education

Notes: Resolved #1 That Utah PTA recognizes the State Board of Education as the body elected to establish policy and curriculum for education in the State of Utah.

Education

39.



SJR009 | JOINT RESOLUTION - GOVERNANCE OF PUBLIC AND HIGHER EDUCATION

Sponsor: Reid, Stuart C.



Status: Failed/Held in House
Rules Committee

Description:

This resolution proposes to amend the Utah Constitution to: move the general control and supervision of the public education system from the State Board of Education to the Governor, as provided by statute, and make conforming changes and provide that the Governor has general control and supervision of the higher education system, as provided by statute.

Impact on Children:

"This bill is a Utah PTA Priority Bill". The Executive and Legislative branches created SITLA and the Board of Trustees to assist them in their role as the trustee of the school trust lands. The trustees are responsible for managing the trust in the best interest of the beneficiary, with trust assets being used for no other public purpose than to benefit the beneficiaries. The beneficiaries act as a check on the trustees, watching to ensure that the trust assets are being managed without conflicts of interest and in their best interest. Trust assets may not be used for any other purpose. Even though the Legislature created SITLA to carry out the day to day responsibilities of the trust, the Legislature and Governor still maintain control because the Legislature appropriates the SITLA operating budget and has the ability to change the code affecting the SITLA Board and administration and the Governor appoints the Board of Trustees. If the Legislature or the Governor assumes control of public education, they would be acting as both trustee and beneficiary. Oversight of the trustee's actions would end, and there would be a conflict of interest that could not be overcome.

PTA Resolution: [EDU 2004-1 State Board of Education](#)

Notes: Resolved #1 That Utah PTA recognizes the State Board of Education as the body elected to establish policy and curriculum for education in the State of Utah.

Education

Show only the first 10 results