



Winter 2018

LEGISLATIVE NEWSLETTER

Page 2
Medicaid

Page 3
Highlights

Page 5
Recap

Page 7
House Bills Passed

Page 8
Upcoming Events

Representative Jim Dunnigan
District 39

Contact at:
jdunnigan@le.utah.gov
801-840-1800





The Utah Legislature passed a bill that would expand Medicaid in Utah. Three years ago, a financially unstable bill was brought to the table, which had no ability to control costs. In contrast, HB 472 – Medicaid Expansion Revisions, allows an enrollment cap, which limits the state's liability while still offering coverage to people who do not have access to employer-based health insurance.

HB 472, Medicaid Expansion Revisions, expands coverage to about 60,000 Utahns and cover Medicaid for individuals up to 100 percent of the federal poverty line, which is \$12,060 a year for individuals and \$24,600 for a family of four. It also uses the federal match rate of 90 percent federal funding to 10 percent state funding.

This legislation provides health care through a managed-care model and focuses on the health of the patient rather than the number of services provided, thereby delivering better overall health care. Since this legislation has a zero-fiscal note, no new funds will be required for this program. Instead, this program will repurpose the existing funds of Medicaid including the Primary Care Network, behavioral health and funds from HB 437, which was passed in 2016.

HB 472 has a safeguard measure that the expansion program automatically sunsets without additional action from the legislature if the federal funding drops below 90 percent match. This is to ensure the state has adequate funds.



• STATE OF UTAH •

Highlights

Motorhomes

The Utah Legislature passed a bill that simplifies the fee for motorhomes by creating an age-of-vehicle-based system. Currently, the fee is expensive, and the process is confusing. The complex value-based system has some Utahns registering their motorhomes out of state even though they still reside in Utah. Addressing the complicated process, the bill creates a flat fee based on the age of the motorhome. For example, motorhomes 15 years and older would pay a \$90 yearly fee. Those homes less than three years old would pay an annual fee of \$690. This age-based system will simplify the registration process and increase Utah's tax revenue while lowering the expense for most who own a motorhome. Read the bill [here](#).

Acts of Kindness

HCR 22, Concurrent Resolution Designating April as #MSDkindness Month, aims to pay tribute to the victims who lost their lives in the senseless act of violence that was committed against students and staff at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on February 14, 2018.

Utahns are encouraged to perform and report random acts of kindness during April on the SafeUT app, which has been designed to improve school safety and help students access critical mental health resources. These acts of kindness will highlight the good of the community while engaging students in using an app that aims to help prevent future acts of violence.

The resolution also challenges other states to claim the remaining months in the year to carry on the legacy of kindness, love and service left by those who lost their lives in this tragic incident.

Highlights Cont.

Law Enforcement Quotas

The Utah Legislature is considering a bill that would prohibit law enforcement agencies from imposing an arrest, citation or similar quotas on a peace officer. Some local law enforcement agencies require a peace officer to write a certain amount of tickets, citations and arrests each day to help bring in income for the agency.

If it passes, this bill requires the peace officers' standards and training council to develop model criteria, which are unrelated to quotas, to evaluate performances. The bill's purpose is to ensure peace officers are not required to help fund the budget. Track this bill [here](#).

Utah School Safety Commission

Keeping children safe is a high priority. With the rise of school threats, now is the time to rally together to come up with solutions. An uncompensated commission, Utah School Safety (USS), was announced on March 2. The commission will review policies directed at increasing safety in our schools. Robust dialog amongst elected officials, stakeholders, doctors, professors, parents, teachers and community members will help Utah develop solutions and increase measures to protect the safety of children across the state. Watch the press conference [here](#).



Jon Huntsman Sr.

The House passed a proclamation honoring Jon Huntsman Sr. for his philanthropic work in Utah and for his efforts to combat cancer through establishing the Huntsman Cancer Institute. He will be remembered for his legacy of kindness, generosity and hard work. Our heartfelt condolences go out to his family. Listen to Utah lawmakers share their personal stories [here](#).

CTE Day on the Hill

March 2 was Career and Technical Education Day on the Hill. Groups that sponsored technical and educational programs for high school students came to the Capitol to talk about their programs. Participating high school students proudly displayed their accomplishments in the Rotunda.



Stay Connected

The Utah House of Representatives offers access to live and previous coverage of House floor proceedings and committee hearings from the [legislative website](#). You can view the current session, search the archive of past sessions, track bills, read proposed legislation and more at le.utah.gov.

Follow the Utah Reps on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) to stay connected to what is happening, get a behind-the-scenes look, and receive daily updates. You can also contact your representative at house.utah.gov.

Recap

Rep. Dunnigan standing in support of Rep. Spendlove's bill HB472: Medicaid Expansion Revisions.



Rep. Dunnigan is in his last Political Subdivisions Standing Committee meeting. Topics on the agenda were: election law changes and ballot initiatives.

Rep. Dunnigan had a group of cub scouts from Taylorsville come visit the Capitol tonight. We did a mock debate for them, and they unanimously voted to have ice cream for lunch everyday at school!



Bills Passed:

HB 39 S.5: Department of Insurance Amendments

This bill provides additional consumer protection when byuers purchase a theif protection plan with their vehicle.

Link:<https://le.utah.gov/~2018/bills/static/HB0039.html>

- *HB0021S03: Changes to Property Tax*
Link: <https://le.utah.gov/~2018/bills/static/HB0021.html>
- *HB0373S01: Waste Management Amendments*
Link: <https://le.utah.gov/~2018/bills/static/HB0373.html>
- *HB0399S03: Opioid Abuse Prevention and Treatment Amendments*
Link: <https://le.utah.gov/~2018/bills/static/HB0399.html>
- *HB0430S02: Affordable Housing Amendments*
Link: <https://le.utah.gov/~2018/bills/static/HB0430.html>
- *HB0472: Medicaid Expansion Revisions*
Link: <https://le.utah.gov/~2018/bills/static/HB0472.html>
- *HB0313S03: Public School Revisions*
Link: <https://le.utah.gov/~2018/bills/static/HB0313.html>
- *HB0252S01: DUI Program Amendments*
Link: <https://le.utah.gov/~2018/bills/static/HB0252.html>
- *HB0181S02: Home Consumption and Homemade Food Act*
Link: <https://le.utah.gov/~2018/bills/static/HB0181.html>
- *HB0178S01: Power of Attorney Amendments*
Link: <https://le.utah.gov/~2018/bills/static/HB0178.html>

March

17

**St. Patrick's
Day**

March

11

**Daylight
Savings Time**

Upcoming

EVENTS

April

1

**April Fool's
Day**

To read

previous

Newsletters,

visit my

website .

**Last
Day
Of
The
Session**

March

8