



# 2020 Legislative Newsletter

**REPRESENTATIVE JIM DUNNIGAN**  
**DISTRICT 39**



**WEEK 5 OF THE  
2020 GENERAL  
SESSION**

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# Week 5 Update

## Decriminalization of Bigamy

As you may have heard, this week we voted to decriminalize bigamy in our state. With this bill, polygamy is no longer a felony but rather an infraction. Many women and children are being abused in polygamous relationships, due to the previous criminal status of polygamy they were afraid to reach out to law enforcement out of fear of being charged with a felony. This bill will help approximately 30,000-50,000 people living in polygamy but also aids victims of abuse that are living in traditional homes.



## Daylight Savings Time Amendments - SB 59

### The vote and what it means:

On February 26th, the House voted to stay on Daylight Savings time year round, meaning no time change during the year.

Before this is implemented two requirements need to be met. First, four other western states must adopt year round Daylight Savings Time (DST). Second, congress must pass a law allowing states to stay on DST year round. So even though Utah has now passed legislation, come March 8th there will still be a time change.



# My Legislation-HB 319

## HB- 319 Litigation Funding

This bill works to protect individuals that become injured, and are unable to afford everyday living expenses while waiting for their legal settlement.

The issue arises when these injured persons use lenders to pay their bills and are then hit with enormous costs, sometimes paying more money than they would have received from the settlement.

This bill seeks to protect these persons.

**This bill passed the House on  
February 25th.**



## AT THE CAPITOL



### Students at the Capitol

This week Kearns Jr. High was recognized by the program "Utah Schools to Watch." Their principal sat with me on the House floor and I was able to talk with their leadership council made up of outstanding students.

### Favorite Little Visitors

It's always great to have students from our district visit the Capitol. Being able to take a second out of my day to talk with these young students is one of the best parts of the job as I am able to see the potential in their eyes.



# About my intern & assistant

## ADDIE

### Why I Love Being an Intern

The legislative process is complicated, difficult and beautiful. It is an honor to work with Rep. Dunnigan, he's very hard working and is willing to teach me as he goes. Working at the Capitol has been one of the best academic experiences I have had.

### Quick Facts

**School:** BYU

**Studying:** Political Science

**Hobbies:** Zumba, Movies, Hiking

**Career Goals:** Attend law school and become a drafting attorney

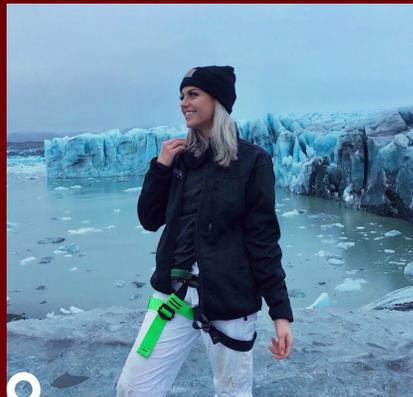


## HANNAH

As time has gone on, I have realized how relevant politics are; it affects everyone! I'm so thankful to have the opportunity to learn about politics and experience the legislative process up close this session. Rep. Dunnigan is great at keeping his interns involved in all that goes on, which helps us gain a great perspective. I encourage everyone to get involved with their local politics!



Tokyo



Iceland

- I'm from Taylorsville
- I go to the University of Utah with a double major in Strategic Communication & Gender Studies
- My hobbies include traveling, going to concerts, & modeling!

**Lastly, thank you to all the loyal constituents that faithfully read our weekly emails. We appreciate you taking interest in your local government.**



**Come join me on the House floor during the session email or call my intern at [agarside@le.utah.gov](mailto:agarside@le.utah.gov) or (385) 479-5062 to schedule a day.**



## **Contact Information**

**Please feel free to contact me, come join me on the House Floor, email or call me  
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