

## GENERAL SESSION SUMMARY



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## WORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### Dear Stakeholders,

The 2023 General Session has underscored the importance of open communication and cross agency collaboration to ensure criminal and juvenile justice policy are based on sound research, data, and perspectives from experts from the field.

We at the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice are committed to working with the Governor, Legislature, and key partners to ensure the policies enacted from this 2023 General Session are carried out with diligence. We are also committed to continue working collaboratively on future legislation during the interim.

Best Regards,

Tom Ross

## **BACKGROUND**

During the General Legislative Session, the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice, as well as the Sentencing Commission, Substance Use and Mental Health Advisory Council, Board of Juvenile Justice, Council on Victims of Crime, and Law Enforcement Legislative Committee meets with their respective groups on a weekly basis to discuss potential legislation that may impact the population they serve.

Because of the diverse composition of expertise across members, discussion on potential legislation may not always be harmonious but they are always informative. Positions are decided by a majority vote and depending on the specific legislation, some may result in an unanimous vote or a very close split vote. These positions are then communicated to the legislator as a means to provide information and support as well as to work together on any areas that may be of concern.

#### **KEY TERMS**

- · Support: Support to the bill
- Support In Concept: Support but there's an area of concern
- Oppose: Opposition to the bill
- No Position: Neutral
- Hold: Hold the bill for further information
- Priority Support: Priority for passage
- Beyond Scope: Not within the scope of the group's purview

## What a Session!

#### Introduction

Out of the 929 bills that were introduced in the 2023 General Legislative Session, the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice (CCJJ) tracked over 400 bills across all of the various groups.

This report serves to provide a general overview of legislation that may have a direct or ancillary impact on the criminal and juvenile justice system. Each section will have a brief background, a summary of the positions taken, and a highlight of the major topics that arose from the session for each respective group. A complete list of all official legislative positions can be found <u>here.</u>

This report will only focus on the groups that are under the CCJJ organizational umbrella which includes: The Sentencing Commission, Substance Use and Mental Health Advisory Council, and Board of Juvenile Justice.

While the report will provide general numbers of positions taken, we strive to place emphasis on major legislation and overarching themes, as this information may provide direction of focus as we enter the interim.

Contact information for each respective group will be provided to ensure there is an opportunity for collaboration on future legislation.

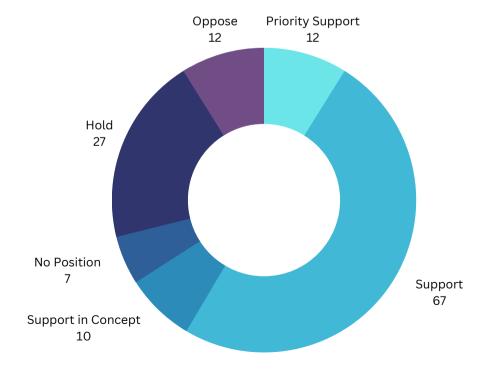
## CCJJ

#### Background

Utah's Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice (CCJJ) serves as the hub for criminal and juvenile justice issues for the State of Utah while acting as a coordinating body for policy development. CCJJ consists of twenty-six statutorily delegated and appointed members representing all facets of the criminal and juvenile justice system including judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, legislators, victim representatives, law enforcement, treatment specialists, corrections, parole authorities, education, and community partners.

#### **Voting Summary**

Overall, CCJJ took a position on 125 bills which included 58 substituted bills. Below you will find that the majority of those bills had a position of support, priority support, and support in concept. There were 12 oppositions.



## **CCJJ MAJOR THEMES**

Following a review of all legislation that were discussed in CCJJ, we found five major themes. Please note the following information is not an all inclusive list.



### 01 — Expansion of Victim Services

There were at least five bills directly focused on providing, expanding and coordinating services for victims of crime.



#### 02 — Juvenile Justice

There were ten bills that broadly focused on the intersection of kids in school and the juvenile justice system.



### 03 — Data and Transparency

There were six bills that included requirements for CCJJ to report on data collected from various education, criminal and juvenile justice agencies.



#### 04 — Justice System Processes

There were ten bills focused on justice system processes ranging from how the judicial bench is selected to county jail contracting.



#### 05 — Incarcerated Individuals

There were at least seven bills focused on impacts of individuals who are or have experienced incarceration.

## EXPANSION OF VICTIM SERVICES



CCJJ recognizes the continued need to provide, expand, and coordinate services for victims of crime especially considering the decrease in federal funding over the years for victim services. CCJJ supports prevention and intervention efforts to support victims of crime.

Below you will find a general overview of some of the major legislation that relates to victim services, CCJJ's position and the outcome.

BILL	DESCRIPTION	VOTE/OUTCOME
1. HB 19: Rape Crisis Center Modifications	Clarifies a Rape Crisis Center and its corresponding services shall be considered a non-profit entity.	Priority Support: Passed
2. HB 43: Domestic Violence Modifications	Creates the Domestic Violence Data Task Force to gather information on type of lethality assessments conducted in the state.	Support in Concept: Passed
3. HB 244: Utah Victim Services Commission	Creates a new commission within CCJJ that focuses on coordination efforts and will allow all stakeholders a voice in the development and implementation of victim services.	Priority Support: Passed
4. HB 509: Criminal Protective Order Amendments	Allows a victim to request a hearing regarding a continuous protective order for domestic violence.	Support: Passed
5. SB 117: Domestic Violence Amendments	Requires a law enforcement officer to conduct a lethality assessment when responding to a report of domestic violence between intimate partners.	Support: Passed



## **JUVENILE JUSTICE**

CCJJ supports legislation that finds balance in the science of adolescent brain development, appropriate system responses to delinquency, and measures of school and community safety. As CCJJ is the agency that oversee and monitors the impact of juvenile justice reform policies passed in 2017 and subsequent years, discussions on potential legislation are guided by national and local data which can be found on our website <a href="here.">here.</a> Below you will find a general overview of some of the major legislation that relates to juvenile justice, CCJJ's position and the outcome.

BILL	DESCRIPTION	VOTE/OUTCOME
1. HB 60: Juvenile Justice Modifications	Addresses the use of juvenile delinquency records by public and private employers.	Support in Concept: Passed
2. HB 61: School Safety Requirements	Requires every public and secondary school to designate a school safety specialist	Support: Passed
3. HB 122: Sex Offender Registry Amendments	Clarifies that juveniles committing qualifying offenses are still required to comply with registry requirements.	Priority Support: Passed
4. HB 304: Juvenile Justice Revisions	Requires a school to develop a reintegration plan for a youth alleged to have committed a violent felony/weapons offense.	No Position: Passed
5. HB 400 School Absenteeism Amendments	Allows the State Board of Education to support and train schools on evidence-informed models to reduce dropout and chronic absenteeism.	Priority Support: Passed
6. SB 15: Juvenile Offender Penalty Amendments	Addresses limitations of sentencing for qualifying sexual offenses committed by juveniles who are between 14-18 years old.	Priority Support: Passed



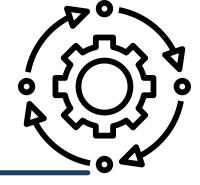
## **DATA & TRANSPARENCY**

CCJJ supports legislation that increases data collection and transparency efforts in order to analyze and evaluate current program and policy performance, as well as to provide information to stakeholders.

Below you will find a general overview of some of the major legislation that included requirements for CCJJ to report on data collected from various education, criminal and juvenile justice agencies, CCJJ's position and the outcome.

BILL	DESCRIPTION	VOTE/OUTCOME
1. HB 57: Law Enforcement Investigation Amendments	Requires CCJJ to receive, compile, and publish data on reverse-location warrants.	Support: Passed
2. HB 297: Victim Services Amendments	Requires CCJJ to receive, compile, and publish data on sexual assault offenses.	No Position: Passed
3. HB 304: Juvenile Justice Revisions	Requires CCJJ to compile, and report data received from the State Board. of Education and the Juvenile Court.	No Position: Passed
4. HB 352: Law Enforcement Data Amendments	Creates a standard recidivism reporting metric for CCJJ and criminal justice agencies.	Priority Support: Passed
5. SB 87: Criminal Prosecution Amendments	Requires CCJJ to receive and report on preliminary hearing data collected by the Courts.	Hold: Passed
6. SB 156: Investigative Genetic Genealogy Modifications	Requires CCJJ to receive, compile, and publish data on genetic genealogy database utilizations.	Support: Passed

## JUSTICE SYSTEM PROCESSES



As with any other major topic but especially with making changes to justice system processes, CCJJ supports working together with the legislature and stakeholders through working groups and thoughtful discussions to find consensus.

Below you will find a general overview of some of the major legislation that impacts justice system processes, CCJJ's position and the outcome.

BILL	DESCRIPTION	VOTE/OUTCOME
1. HB 50: Criminal Financial Obligation Amendments	Clarifies restitution determination processes, especially for high-volume courts.	Support: Passed
2. HB 216: Business & Chancery Court Amendments	Establishes the Business and Chancery Court and creates the related nominating commission.	No Position: Passed
3. HB 317: Pretrial Release Modification	Clarifies the exemption for the right to bail and amends provisions regarding pretrial release by a judge.	Support: Passed
4. SB 114: County Correctional Facility Contracting Amendments	Amends provisions concerning county correctional facility contracting for state inmates. Focuses solely on the contracting piece.	Priority Support: Passed
5. SB 129: Judiciary Amendments	Removes existing nominating commissions and creates new nominating commissions. Removes the partisan limits and other requirements for membership.	Oppose: Passed

## INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS



CCJJ supports legislation that balances accountability and rehabilitation for individuals who are currently or have experienced incarceration.

Below you will find a general overview of some of the major legislation that relates to the experience of incarceration, CCJJ's position and the outcome.

BILL	DESCRIPTION	VOTE/OUTCOME
1. HB 181: Offender Employment Amendments	Increases accessibility to job opportunities for individuals with a criminal history.	Priority Support: Passed
2. HB 203: Inmate Education Amendments	Directs the Utah Board of Higher Education to assign student success advisors to correctional facilities	Support: Failed
3. HB 259: Suicide Prevention in Correctional Facilities	Creates a Suicide Deterrence Grant Program to provide suicide barriers in county jails	Support: Passed
4. HB 368: Inmate Identification Amendments	Assists individuals obtain an identification card while incarcerated.	Priority Support: Passed
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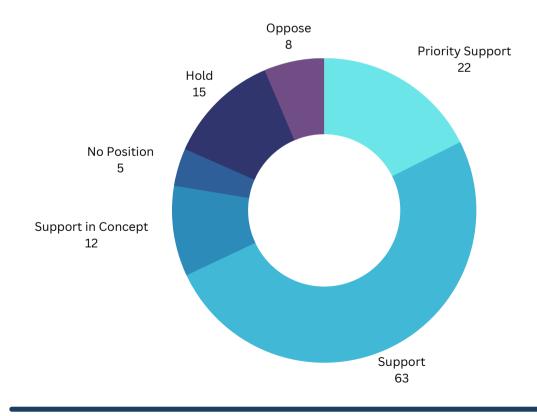
## SENTENCING COMMISSION

#### Background

Utah's Sentencing Commission consists of twenty-eight statutorily delegated and appointed members representing all facets of the criminal justice system including judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, legislators, victim representatives, law enforcement, treatment specialists, corrections, parole authorities, juvenile justice representatives, citizen representatives, and others.

#### **Voting Summary**

Overall, the Sentencing Commission took a position on 296 bills which included substituted bills. Aside from the 171 beyond the scope bills, the majority of the bills discussed resulted in a position of support, priority support, and support in concept with 8 oppositions.



## SENTENCING COMMISSION MAJOR THEMES

Following a review of all legislation that the Sentencing Commission tracked, we found five major themes. Please note the following information is not an all inclusive list.



#### 01 — Sex Offenses

There were at least eight bills focused on penalties and processes for sex specific crimes.



#### 02 — Firearm Offenses

There were nineteen bills focused on firearms ranging from issues of accessibility to prevention of gun violence.



#### 03 — Juvenile Justice

There were ten bills that broadly focused on the intersection of kids in school and the juvenile justice system.



### 04 — Justice System Processes

There were six bills focused on justice system processes ranging from restitution determination processes to measuring recidivism.



#### 05 — Creating a New Offense

There were sixteen bills aimed at creating a new crime.



## **SEX OFFENSES**

The Sentencing Commission made it a priority to support bills that added clarity and consistency to existing processes. The Commission opposed or pushed for changes to bills that would have created larger changes to existing law without further study.

Below you will find a general overview of some of the major legislation that relates to sex specific crimes, the Commission's position and the outcome.

DUL	DECORPORA	V077/01/7001/7
BILL	DESCRIPTION	VOTE/OUTCOME
1. HB 122: Sex Offender Registry Amendments	Clarifies and streamlines sex offense registry statutes and procedures	Priority Support: Passed
2. HB 139: Sex & Kidnap Offender Registry Amendments	Allows sex offense registrants who move to Utah from other states to petition for removal after five years if certain criteria are met.	Support: Passed
3. HB 156: Registry Administration Amendments	Transfers administration of sex, kidnap, and child abuse offense registries from Corrections to the Department of Public Safety.	Priority Support: Passed
4. HB 268: Sex Offense Amendments	Creates Sex Offense Management Board to promote evidence-based processes and consistency in sex offense policy and procedures.	Priority Support: Passed
5. SB 57: Sexual Abuse Material Amendments	Restricts how sexual abuse imagery evidence is accessed/stored/viewed to codify current best practices.	Support: Passed
6. SB 178: Sexual Assault Modification	Creates new offense for "condom stealthing."	Oppose: Failed



## **FIREARM OFFENSES**

The Sentencing Commission supported bills that strengthened firearms restrictions and processes in domestic violence and other serious cases. The Commission opposed bills that would have substantially loosened firearms restrictions, but also supported bills that reduced restrictions in measured ways for non-violent offenders.

Below you will find a general overview of some of the major legislation that relates to firearm offenses, the Commission's position and the outcome.

BILL	DESCRIPTION	VOTE/OUTCOME
1. HB 27: Drug Possession Penalty Amendments	Reduces 3rd degree felony penalty to a Class A misdemeanor if the restricted person only had marijuana in their system.	Support: Failed
2. HB 199: Voluntary Firearm Safekeeping Amendments	Restricts returning firearms to DV defendants where there is a jail release agreement or court order that would make the person restricted from possessing firearms.	Support: Passed
3. HB 461: Airport Firearm Possession Amendments	Prevents prosecutors from requiring forfeiture of firearms as part of the resolution of such cases.	Oppose: Passed
4. HB 485: Restricted Persons Amendments	Requires courts to notify of firearm restrictions associated with protective orders.	Support: Passed
5. HB 507: Firearm Possession Revisions	Reduces restriction period for non- violent felonies to seven years- consistent with expungement period.	Support: Passed
6. SB 50: Weapon Purchase Amendments	Expands current 3rd degree felony for false statement on firearm transfer record to include false statements to subvert the waiting period.	Support: Failed

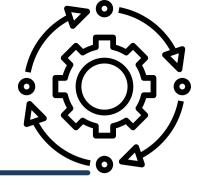


## **JUVENILE JUSTICE**

The Sentencing Commission supported bills that recognize the special characteristics of children in the justice process. The Commission also supported measured strengthening of school safety measures. The Commission pushed for changes to bills that would have rolled back juvenile justice reform. Below you will find a general overview of some of the major legislation that relates to juvenile justice, the Commission's position and the outcome.

BILL	DESCRIPTION	VOTE/OUTCOME
1. HB 60: Juvenile Justice Modifications	Addresses the use of juvenile delinquency records by public and private employers.	Priority Support: Passed
2. HB 61: School Safety Requirements	Requires every public and secondary school to designate a school safety specialist	Support: Passed
3. HB 122: Sex Offender Registry Amendments	Clarifies that juveniles committing qualifying offenses are still required to comply with registry requirements.	Priority Support: Passed
4. HB 304: Juvenile Justice Revisions	Requires a school to develop a reintegration plan for a youth alleged to have committed a violent felony/weapons offense.	Support in Concept: Passed
5. SB 67: Juvenile Commitment Amendments	Fixes loophole in mixed jurisdiction cases resolved in both juvenile and adult court.	Support: Passed
6. SB 186: Juvenile Court Amendments	Clarifies process for juvenile restitution determinations.	Support: Passed
7. SB 290: Juvenile Court Modifications	Gives kids who received immigration protection due to being abuse victims to get a record of that status from juvenile court.	Support: Passed

## JUSTICE SYSTEM PROCESSES



As with any other major topic but especially with making changes to justice system processes, the Sentencing Commission supports working together with the legislature and stakeholders through working groups and thoughtful discussions to find consensus. The commission opposed legislation that made more sweeping changes with less consensus.

Below you will find a general overview of some of the major legislation that impacts justice system processes, the Commission's position and the outcome.

BILL	DESCRIPTION	VOTE/OUTCOME
1. HB 50: Criminal Financial Obligation Amendments	Clarifies restitution determination processes, especially for high-volume courts.	Support: Passed
2. HB 244: Victim Services Commission	Creates a new commission within CCJJ that focuses on coordination efforts in the development and implementation of victim services.	Priority Support: Passed
3. HB 246: Board of Pardons & Parole Amendments	Requires Board of Pardons and Parole to prioritize public safety in release decisions.	Support: Passed
4. HB 317: Pretrial Release Modification	Clarifies the exemption for the right to bail and amends provisions regarding pretrial release by a judge.	Support: Passed
5. HB 352: Law Enforcement Data Amendments	Creates a standard metric for recidivism reporting by CCJJ, Board of Pardons and Parole, and Department of Corrections.	Priority Support: Passed

## CREATING A NEW OFFENSE



The Sentencing Commission was hesitant to support legislation creating or expanding criminal offenses unless narrowly tailored to address the identified problem in an effective manner. The Commission pushed for changes on several bills seeking to expand or create new offenses, but ultimately supported this type of legislation once the elements and penalties were appropriately targeted.

Below you will find a general overview of some of the major legislation that aimed to create a new crime, the Commission's position and the outcome.

BILL	DESCRIPTION	VOTE/OUTCOME
1. HB 129: Prohibited Correctional Facility Items	Creates class A misd. for possessing a communication device in a correctional facility without permission.	Support: Passed
2. HB 143: Parental Kidnapping Amendments	Creates 3rd degree felony for parental kidnapping and 2nd degree felony if parent removes child from the state.	Support: Passed
3. HB 254: Penalty for False Statement During Drug Arrest	Creates class B misd. for an actor arrested for a crime to falsely claim drugs were ingested before the arrest.	Support: Passed
4. HB 313: Suspect Metal Amendments	Creates 3rd degree felony for theft of 25 pounds or more of a suspect metal item, less than \$5,000, and is made of or contains aluminum or copper and is not a lead battery.	Support: Passed
5. HB 370: Utility Infrastructure Amendments	Creates 1st degree felony for damage or defacement of critical infrastructure to the point that it causes a catastrophe.	Support: Passed

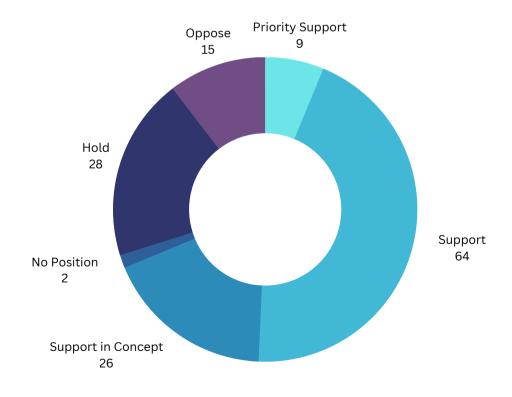
## **USAAV+**

#### Background

Established by the 1990 Utah Legislature, the mission of the Utah Substance Use Advisory and Mental Health Advisory Council (USAAV+) is to create and coordinate a comprehensive strategy to eliminate substance use and mental health disorders throughout the state. USAAV+ consists of twenty-three statutorily delegated and appointed members representing all facets of the treatment community and the criminal and juvenile justice field.

#### **Voting Summary**

Overall, the Council took a position on 145 bills which included 68 substituted bills. The majority of the bills discussed resulted in a position of support, priority support, and support in concept with 15 oppositions.



## USAAV+ MAJOR THEMES

Following a review of all legislation that the USAAV+ Council tracked, we found four major themes. Please note the following information is not an all inclusive list.



### 01 — Drug and Alcohol Related Offenses

There were ten bills focused on penalties and processes for drug and alcohol related offenses.



## 02 — Mental Health Licensing and Employment Processes

There were sixteen bills focused on mental health licensing requirements and related employment processes.



#### 03 — Access to Behavioral Health Services

There were fourteen that broadly focused on increasing access to behavioral health services.



### 04 — Prevention Efforts for Youth

There were five bills focused on prevention efforts for youth from alcohol to tobacco related issues.





USAAV+ Council supported bills that de-stigmatize substance use disorders, use data and evidence-based practices, and ensure the safety of the public. The Council opposed the creation of a new homicide crime that would discourage help-seeking (even by perception) and pushed for changes that would exclude victims' family members, friends, and romantic partners. Below you will find a general overview of some of the major legislation that dealt with drug and alcohol related offenses, the Council's position and the outcome.

BILL	DESCRIPTION	VOTE/OUTCOME
1. HB 27: Drug Possession Penalty Amendments	Reduces 3rd degree felony penalty to a Class A misdemeanor if the drug was only marijuana.	Support: Failed
2. HB 62: Driving Under the Influence Modifications	Amends offenses eligible for the 24-7 sobriety program.	Support: Passed
3. HB 223: Drug & Alcohol Enforcement Amendments	Addresses funding and enforcement of drug and alcohol-related provisions.	Priority Support: Passed
4. HB 247: Alcohol Control Amendments	Focuses on the ability to charge "over-service" by clarifying the definition of intoxication.	Support: Passed
5. SB 86: Drug Testing & Paraphernalia Amendments	Removes fentanyl test strips off the paraphernalia code so that clinics/programs can provide them to community organizations.	Priority Support: Passed
6. SB 122: Drug Paraphernalia Amendments	Creates an affirmative defense for possession of a hypodermic syringe case in certain circumstances.	Priority Support: Failed
7. SB 254: Drug- Induced Homicide Amendments	Creates the offense of drug-induced homicide.	Oppose: Failed



USAAV+ Council worked to support efforts to expand the number of mental health and substance use disorder professionals entering into the workforce and address inequities that may cause qualified professionals from entering or remaining in the workforce. The Council opposed bills that removed provisions that they viewed as creating safety concerns for the public that are being served by these individuals. Below you will find a general overview of some of the major legislation that dealt with licensing and employment processes, the Council's position and the outcome.

BILL	DESCRIPTION	VOTE/OUTCOME
1. HB 166: Mental Health Professional Licensing Amendments	Reduces the number of supervision hours from 100 to 75 hours for licensed clinical social workers, marriage and family therapists, and clinical mental health counselors.	Oppose: Passed
2. HB 181: Offender Employment Amendments	Establishes a web portal that connects individuals with criminal histories to job opportunities with interested employers.	Priority Support: Passed
3. HB 228: Unprofessional Conduct Amendments	Prohibits certain health care professionals from providing conversion therapy to a minor.	Support: Passed
4. HB 278: First Responder Mental Health Services Grant Program	Provide grants for specific individuals who are studying at certain educational institutions to become mental health therapists.	Support: Passed
5. HB 323: Expungement Fee Waiver Amendments	Extends the automatic repeal dates for the suspension of fees for a certificate of eligibility and a petition for expungement.	Priority Support: Failed
6. SB 182: Mental Health Professional Licensing Modifications	Creates licenses for a clinical master's substance use disorder counselor and associate master's substance use disorder counselor.	Priority Support: Failed

## ACCESS TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES



USAAV+ Council supported bills that increase access to mental health, substance use treatment and recovery services, especially for vulnerable and underserved populations. The Council prioritized efforts to provide housing efforts. The Council worked to change bills that would limit access or bills that would benefit from continued work over the interim. Below you will find a general overview of some of the major legislation that dealt with access to services, the Council's position and the outcome.

BILL	DESCRIPTION	VOTE/OUTCOME
1. HB 23: Forensic Mental Health Amendments	Adds duties for USAAV+ focused on forensic mental health and state hospital admissions policy for individuals in Correction's custody.	Support: Passed
2. HB 59: First Responder Mental Health Amendments	Broadens the scope of individuals who are considered to be eligible for mental health services.	Support: Passed
3. HB 66: Behavioral Health Crisis Response Commission Amendments	Provides grant funding opportunities for the development of up to five mobile crisis outreach teams.	Support: Passed
4. HB 111: Inmate Treatment Amendments	Expands medically assisted treatment options within county or municipal jails.	Priority Support: Passed
5. HB 231: Low-Income Housing Property Tax Exemption	Creates a low-income housing property tax exemption for organizations serving individuals in supportive housing projects as part of wrap-around services.	Priority Support: Passed
6. HB 288: Opioid Dispensing Requirements	Requires a health care provider who prescribes high-dosage opioids or with a benzodiazepine to discuss and offer to include a prescription for an opioid antagonist	Support: Passed
7. HB 516: Mental Health Treatment Study	Requires a study on the delivery and accessibility of mental health treatment and supports in Utah.	Support: Failed

## PREVENTION EFFORTS FOR YOUTH



USAAV+ Council supported bills that used evidence-based practices to create and support interventions that protect youth from substances and practices that cause irreparable damage to their physical and mental health. The Council opposed bills that would increase access to illegal substances.

Below you will find a general overview of some of the major legislation that dealt with prevention efforts for youth, the Council's position and the outcome.

BILL	DESCRIPTION	VOTE/OUTCOME
1. HB 100: Beer Order & Delivery Amendments	Permits retailers to deliver to private residences and requires the Office of Substance Use and Mental Health to establish training.	Opposed: Failed
2. HJR 005: Joint Resolution for Gender Reassignment Surgical Health Benefits	Directs PEHP to provide gender reassignment surgical benefits to state employees and beneficiaries under certain circumstances.	Support: Failed
3. HB 434: Parent & Student Rights & School Safety Amendments	Amends requirements for a local education agency to address bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, abusive conduct, or retaliation incidents.	Support in Concept: Failed
4. HB 438: Electronic Cigarette Requirements	Sets the limit for nicotine content to not exceed 3% nicotine per container.	Support: Failed
5. SB 248: Tobacco Amendment	Creates a temporary events permit for the sale of tobacco and nicotine products and authorizes telephone, mail, Internet, or other remote orders of cigars or pipe tobacco.	Oppose: Failed

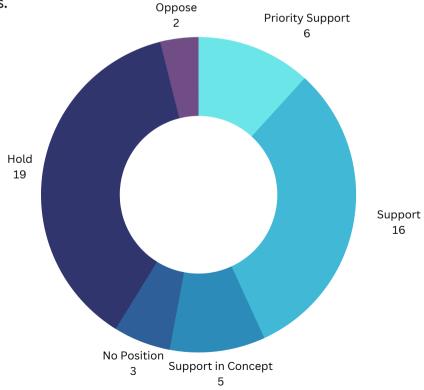
## **UBJJ**

#### Background

The Utah Board of Juvenile Justice (UBJJ) serves as the designated State Advisory Group for the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA, 34 U.S.C. § 11101) through the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. UBJJ partners with Juvenile Justice and Youth Services, Juvenile Court, Department of Child and Family Services, Utah State Board of Education, Division of Indian Affairs, the Division of Multicultural Affairs, as well as numerous community groups and stakeholders.

#### **Voting Summary**

Overall, the UBJJ Policy Working Group took a position on 52 bills which included 18 substituted bills. The majority of the bills discussed resulted in a position of support, priority support, and support in concept with 2 oppositions.



## **UBJJ MAJOR THEMES**

Following a review of all legislation that UBJJ tracked, we found three major themes. Please note the following information is not an all inclusive list.



### 01 — Access to Education & Employment

There were six bills focused on increasing access to education and employment for youth.



### 02 — School and Community Safety

There were eight bills focused on school and community safety, particularly in the education environment.



### 03 — Justice System Processes

There were eight bills that broadly focused justice system processes ranging from child welfare to custodial interrogation limits.

# ACCESS TO EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT

UBJJ supported bills that recognize the importance of increasing access to education and employment opportunities for all youth, particularly for youth who have had contact with the juvenile justice system.

Below you will find a general overview of some of the major legislation that relates to access to education and employment, UBJJ's position and the outcome.

BILL	DESCRIPTION	VOTE/OUTCOME
1. HB 60: Juvenile Justice Modifications	Addresses the use of juvenile delinquency records by public and private employers.	Priority Support: Passed
2. HB 102: Higher Education Residency Amendments	Increases access to higher education state institutions for individuals with an immigration status through residency status.	Support: Passed
3. HB 468: Employment Screening Requirements	In relation to hiring a mental health professional, prohibits certain public employers from denying employment based on certain arrests or criminal convictions or participation in substance use treatment.	Support: Passed
4. SB 47: Incarcerated Youth Education Amendments	Clarifies youth in the legal custody of the Division of Juvenile Justice and Youth Services may participate in the Utah Tech University Higher Education Program.	Support: Passed
5. SB 145: Higher Education for Incarcerated Youth Program Amendments	Expands the Utah Tech University Higher Education for Incarcerated Youth Program to include youth held in home or secure detention.	Support: Failed

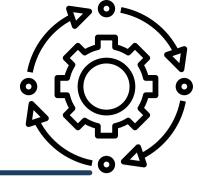




UBJJ supports legislation that finds balance in the science of adolescent brain development, appropriate system responses to delinquency, and measures of school and community safety. As UBJJ is part of CCJJ, who is the agency that oversee and monitors the impact of juvenile justice reform policies passed in 2017 and subsequent years, discussions on potential legislation are guided by national and local data which can be found on our website here. Below you will find a general overview of some of the major legislation that relates to juvenile justice, CCJJ's position and the outcome.

BILL	DESCRIPTION	VOTE/OUTCOME
1. HB 60: Juvenile Justice Modifications	Requires schools to communicate to law enforcement when a child brings a gun to school.	Priority Support: Passed
2. HB 61: School Safety Requirements	Requires every public and secondary school to designate a school safety specialist	Support in Concept: Passed
3. HB 140: Standard Response Protocol to Active Threats in Schools	Codifies State Board of Education rulemaking authority to require schools to develop emergency preparedness/response plans.	Priority Support: Passed
4. HB 304: Juvenile Justice Revisions	Requires a school to develop a reintegration plan for a youth alleged to have committed a violent felony/weapons offense.	Support in Concept: Passed
5. HB 400: School Absenteeism Amendments	Requires local education agencies to provide professional learning opportunities for educators to have the tools to address student behavior.	Priority Support: Passed
6. HB 434: Parent & Student Rights & School Safety Amendments	Requires a school to provide regular communication updates to a parent regarding the implementation of an action plan to address an incident of bullying.	Support: Failed

## JUSTICE SYSTEM PROCESSES



As UBJJ provides federal grant funding to delinquency prevention programming throughout the state, discussion on potential legislation relating to justice system processes ensured federal funding was not put at risk. UBJJ supports working together with the legislature and stakeholders through working groups and thoughtful discussions to find consensus. Below you will find a general overview of some of the major legislation that impacts justice system processes, UBJJ's position and the outcome.

BILL	DESCRIPTION	VOTE/OUTCOME
1. HB 40: Indian Child Welfare Amendments	Prioritizes the placement of American Indian children in adoptions and with foster families within their cultures.	Priority Support: Failed
2. HB 122: Sex Offender Registry Amendments	Clarifies that juveniles committing qualifying offenses are still required to comply with registry requirements.	Support: Passed
3. HB 304: Juvenile Justice Revisions	Changes the diversion eligibility when a youth gets referred to the juvenile court.	Support in Concept: Passed
4. SB 15: Juvenile Offender Penalty Amendments	Addresses limitations of sentencing for qualifying sexual offenses committed by juveniles who are between 14-18 years old.	Priority Support: Passed
5. SB 49: Juvenile Custodial Interrogation Amendments	Allows a law enforcement officer to detain a child beyond the 2 hours limit (4 hours) to complete an interrogation.	Support in Concept: Passed
6. SB 67: Juvenile Commitment Amendments	Fixes loophole in mixed jurisdiction cases resolved in both juvenile and adult court.	Support: Passed
7. SB 220: Juvenile Court Judge Amendments	Increases the number of juvenile judges assigned to the Fourth Juvenile District from 5 to 6.	Support: Passed

## **CONCLUSION & CONTACT**

The Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice, along with the Sentencing Commission, Substance Use and Mental Health Advisory Council, and Board of Juvenile Justice understands the tremendous work that can go into just one bill. The summary of bills do not capture the phone calls, messages, meetings, that took place throughout the past year and during the session. We applaud the efforts of the legislature and stakeholders working together on important issues for the state of Utah. We hope to be a resource for criminal and juvenile justice related legislation and look forward to working together during the interim. Please see below for our contact information.

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