

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE OF UTAH



Press Release

February 2, 2022

Contact:

Alexa Musselman
Utah House of Representatives
801-865-5882 | amusselman@le.utah.gov

House Members Highlight School Safety Legislation

SALT LAKE CITY – Today, members of the Utah House of Representatives discussed legislation aimed at increasing school safety. Lawmakers studied this topic over the interim while working with stakeholders to ensure schools remain safe for Utah’s students.

The following bills were highlighted:

[HB 60](#) Juvenile Justice Modifications (Rep. Cheryl Acton)

- Ensures we have better data about potential threats by requiring schools to report incidents of students bringing weapons to school.

[HB 61](#) School Safety Requirements (Rep. Ryan D. Wilcox)

- Establishes a School Security Task Force that will set minimum safety and design standards for schools with appropriate training and resources for first responders, teachers, and administrators.

[HB 140](#) Standard Response Protocol to Active Threats in Schools (Rep. Dan Johnson)

- Requires emergency response drills to be developmentally appropriate for students and conducted on a regular basis.

School Absentee Amendments (Rep. Dan Johnson)

- Addresses the high absenteeism rate in Utah by promoting early prevention and support. Requires cooperation between LEAs, the State Board of Education, and the Division of Juvenile Justice and Youth Services.

[HB 249](#) Education Related Information Amendments (Rep. Karen Peterson)

- Creates an online tool that empowers parents with information and resources when their student has been subject to bullying, cyber-bullying, or other abusive behavior.

[HB 304](#) Juvenile Justice Revisions (Rep. Karianne Lisonbee)

- Empowers school resource officers to address illegal conduct on school grounds and make referrals to juvenile courts when appropriate.

Many of these bills are expected to be heard in the House Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Committee today at 3:40 p.m. in House Building 30.

###