

# AFT Utah Legislative Tracker

Bill Number	Bill Name	Bill Description	AFT's View Based on the Elements of a World-Class Education System Source: <i>No Time to Lose - How to Build a World-Class Education System State by State August 2016</i> NCSL Conference Report	Sponsor	Support/ Oppose
			<p>1) Children come to school ready to learn, and extra support is given to struggling students so that all have the opportunity to achieve high standards.</p> <p>2) A world-class teaching profession supports a world-class instructional system, where every student has access to highly effective teachers and is expected to succeed.</p> <p>3) A highly effective, intellectually rigorous system of career and technical education is available to those preferring an applied education.</p> <p>4) Individual reforms are connected and aligned as parts of a clearly planned and carefully designed comprehensive system.</p>		
<a href="#">HB0035</a>	Minimum School Program Amendments	This bill: amends provisions related to a local school board paying for a student to attend a school district outside of the state; amends provisions related to necessarily existent small schools; amends funding requirements for comprehensive guidance programs; and repeals the Teacher Salary Supplement Restricted Account.	This is a local school board issue.	Rep. Cutler	No Position
<a href="#">HB0043</a>	American Indian and Alaskan Native Education Amendments	This bill: creates a pilot program related to teachers at American Indian and Alaskan Native concentrated schools located in certain areas; and makes technical corrections.	1) This program will benefit teachers in turn this gives students the instruction they deserve. It will increase achievement. 2) This bill will improve our instructional system. It will ensure highly effective teachers. 3) This program will meet this standard. 4) This bill meets this standard.	Rep. Noel	Support
<a href="#">HB0054</a>	CAMPUS FREE SPEECH AMENDMENTS	This bill: defines terms; designates outdoor areas of campuses at institutions of higher education as traditional public forums; creates requirements for institutions of higher education related to expressive activity; creates a cause of action related to a violation of expressive rights at an institution of higher education; and enacts other provisions related to expressive activity at an institution of higher education.	We are in support of free expression for faculty, staff, and students on campus.	Rep. Coleman	Support
<a href="#">HB0062</a>	Educator Rights Amendments	This bill: defines "abusive conduct"; requires a local school board or charter school governing board to: update a policy related to bullying; and implement a grievance process for a school employee who experiences abusive conduct; provides for training related to abusive conduct; and makes technical and conforming changes.	2) This bill allows teachers to be treated as professionals and ensures safety in the workplace.	Rep. Stratton	Support
<a href="#">HB0088</a>	Teacher Salary Supplement Program Amendments	This bill: amends the definition of "qualifying educational background" to include certain teachers with a background in earth science; and makes technical and conforming changes.	2) In a world-class system, a highly professional teaching force is well-prepared, well-compensated and well supported throughout their careers. This is a step towards that standard. Since supplemental salary is already in place, we support these amendments.	Rep. Gibson	Support
<a href="#">HB0092</a>	Physical Restraint in Schools	This bill: defines terms; amends provisions related to the infliction of corporal punishment on a student; amends provisions related to the use of physical restraint in schools; amends provisions related to a student who willfully defaces or otherwise injures school property; and makes technical and conforming changes.	1) This bill ensures that students are given the support they need to overcome challenging situations. 2) School faculty and staff can ensure safety for all students.	Rep. Moss	Support
<a href="#">HB0114</a>	LOCAL SCHOOL ENTITY AMENDMENTS	This bill: amends certain references to education entities in Title 53A, Chapter 17a, Minimum School Program Act; repeals outdated language; and makes technical changes.	4) Appears to fix outdated language. The sponsor is working closely with USBE.	Rep. Cutler	Support
<a href="#">HB0125</a>	Student Residency Amendments	This bill: defines terms; enacts provisions governing the school district of residency for a child who is receiving services from a health care facility or human services program; and makes technical and conforming corrections.	1) This bill will distribute resources so that students who may find it harder to meet the standards because of health issues will not be lost through the cracks.	Rep. Owens	Support
<a href="#">HB0126</a>	Student Plan for College and Career Readiness Revisions	This bill: replaces references to: • "student education/occupation plan" or "SEOP" to "plan for college and career readiness"; and • "student education plan" or "SEP" with "individual learning plan."	2) This bill ensures that all students are expected to be ready for college and career, and all educators are expected to get them there. 3) This bill ensures that there are no "dead ends" and pathways to university are clear and always available. Furthermore, schools partner with employers to ensure that high standards are set for the students and provide on-the-job training and learning opportunities to enable them to reach those standards. 4) This bill is designed to ensure that every student meets the same goal of college and career readiness.	Rep. Winder	Support
<a href="#">HB0132</a>	School Bus Safety Requirements	This bill: requires all new school buses purchased after June 30, 2017, to be equipped with seatbelts for all passengers; provides rulemaking authority; and makes technical changes.	There has been concern from our bus drivers that this bill does not go far enough by making these seatbelts mandatory for all busses and it also doesn't include training for students. These belts are a good idea, but training needs to be in place to protect students from injury for improper use. We have shared our concerns with the sponsor.	Rep. Hall	Support

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<a href="#">HB0136</a>	Board of Education Revisions	This bill: requires the State Board of Education to take certain actions before implementing a federal program that does not directly and simultaneously advance a state goal, objective, program need, or accountability system.	2) Law makers need to trust the professionals in the field to design a world-class instructional system. 4) The USBE already reviews Federal programs. ESSA for example already has provisions in place for state accountability and choice. USBE is working with stakeholders to design a comprehensive system. This bill bogs down moving forward.	Rep. Kennedy	Oppose
<a href="#">HB0165</a>	Higher Education Retirement Amendments	This bill: provides definitions; provides that the Board of Directors of each applied technology college, rather than the State Board of Regents, shall designate the public or private retirement systems, organizations, or companies that a regular full-time employee of each applied technology college is eligible to participate in under certain retirement systems or plans; and makes technical and conforming changes.	We are concerned that this bill will allow the UCAT board to cut the URS system out as a choice for employees. The URS system is stable and a good choice for employees. We also have reason to believe that there is a push from private vendors to draw employees away from the URS to steer them towards their plans.	Rep. Westwood	Oppose
<a href="#">HB0213</a>	Workplace Discrimination Amendments	This bill: modifies the remedies available in an administrative action based on prohibited employment practices; provides for civil actions seeking relief from discriminatory or prohibited employment practices; bars further agency action if a civil action is commenced; removes language related to exclusive remedy; and makes technical and conforming changes.	2) Workplace safety and rights are paramount to a world class instructional system. We have delt with this issue several times before. This bill will ensure that we retain the best teachers.	Rep. Wheatley	Support
<a href="#">HB0241</a>	School Accountability Amendments	This bill: defines terms; requires the State Board of Education to establish a school accountability system; enacts provisions related to the school accountability system, including provisions related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the indicators used to determine a school's rating under the school accountability system;</li> <li>board duties and rulemaking under the school accountability system;</li> </ul> and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>required reports; modifies provisions in the School Turnaround and Leadership Development Act; and makes technical and conforming changes.</li> </ul>	2) This bill is a great step forward to developing a world-class instructional system. School grading is not what is needed to build such a system.	Rep. Poulson	Support
<a href="#">HJR008</a>	Joint Resolution Supporting the Retention of Public Educators	This resolution: recognizes the shortage of credentialed public educators in the state of Utah; acknowledges that public education is a critical component of Utah's prosperity; and directs that net revenue generated from the management of public lands that have been transferred to the state of Utah be deposited into a new fund for the purpose of increasing public educator salaries.	2) This resolution will support the retainment of teachers and ensure that students have access to highly effective teachers.	Rep. Edwards	Support
<a href="#">SB0040</a>	School Bus Inspection Revisions	This bill: changes the frequency of required safety inspections for school buses; and requires random inspections on a portion of school buses.	Input from our bus drivers: <i>We already have safe fleets and inspections by UHP annually. We also do an additional 20% random testing now. So it is the practice now. Districts compete informally with our inspection results. We have not had problems with equipment failure. Any time a UHP wishes, he may do a road side inspection by law regardless of the scheduled inspections by law. This takes time and if the driver has scheduled pickups another bus must be found and dispatched. That is why we schedule our inspections. Again we have not had problems. We all want to be safe that is the number one goal that we are dedicated to. This bill does not differentiate between scheduled and road side inspections. I would include the word scheduled. By law a UHP may do a road side inspection when ever they see fit. Let's not cause problems unnecessarily. We have shared these concerns with the sponsor.</i>	Sen. Harper	Support
<a href="#">SB0059</a>	Students with Disabilities Evaluation Amendments	This bill: defines terms; requires the State Board of Education to: make rules regarding communication, within a specified time, with the parent or legal guardian of a student who may have a disability; make rules to create a process to review certain violations; and annually report certain violations to the Education Interim Committee; and makes technical changes.	1) This bill will ensure that students with disabilities will get all the support they need to be successful.	Sen. Davis	Support
<a href="#">SB0060</a>	School District Amendments	This bill: defines terms; and requires a private school to: provide local education agencies with personally identifiable information of students with disabilities; and provide parents of students with disabilities information regarding individual rights and school resources.	4) This bill provides an important tracking mechanism that is part of a comprehensive education system.	Sen. Davis	Support
<a href="#">SB0061</a>	Students with Disabilities Accommodations Funding	This bill: defines terms; requires the State Board of Education (the board) to make rules regarding the disposition of any money appropriated to the board to reimburse local education agencies for certain services rendered to a student with an autism spectrum disorder; and requires the board to present draft rules to the Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee or Education Interim Committee for review and recommendation.	2) This bill will benefit students with autism and give resources to educators.	Sen. Davis	Support

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<a href="#">SB0078</a>	TEACHER PEDAGOGICAL ASSESSMENT	<p>This bill: defines terms; requires the State Board of Education to: establish a teacher pedagogical assessment that is performance based and assesses an individual's pedagogical skills; require an individual to pass a teacher pedagogical assessment to receive or retain a certain license to teach; administer a baseline-year program to implement the use of a teacher pedagogical assessment; and make rules related to a teacher pedagogical assessment; and makes technical and conforming changes.</p>	<p>2) In a world-class system, the highly professional teaching force is well prepared. Through our interactions with teacher education programs in our state colleges and universities we are confident that the prepare pre-service teachers to enter the classroom to teach their first day. Students in these programs are expected to pass this assessment prior to graduation. However, those individuals that come into the profession on alternative licensure pathways, have two years to pass the assessment. We believe every teacher should be prepared to teach their first day. If a teacher pedagogical assessment is to be used to measure competency, than every individual going into the profession should have to pass it before their first day in the classroom. The argument has also been made that other professions such as attorneys and doctors have to pass the bar exam, why not teachers? Pay teachers the same salary as those professions and we will agree with such an assessment.</p>	Sen. Millner	Oppose
<a href="#">SB0080</a>	School Funding Amendments	<p>This bill: defines terms; directs the Legislature to annually appropriate an amount equal to one-third of the funds allocated for an increase in the weighted pupil unit value to increase the number of guaranteed local levy increments; directs the State Board of Education to use the appropriation to increase:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the number of guaranteed local levy increments, giving first priority to guarantee board local levy increments and second priority to guarantee voted local levy increments; and</li> <li>• the guaranteed amount for each local levy increment per weighted pupil unit after increasing the number of guaranteed local levy increments;</li> </ul> <p>directs a local school board to use funds received from the state local levy guarantee for a public education purpose; recodifies and enacts language governing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a voted local levy;</li> <li>• the use of guaranteed local levy increments; and</li> <li>• a board local levy; and makes technical and conforming amendments.</li> </ul>	<p>2) This bill does nothing to address new revenue streams for funding to build a world-class system. It is pitting districts against districts. This bill takes already limited amount of funding and spreads it thinly. It does not benefit the system as a whole.</p>	Sen. Fillmore	Oppose
<a href="#">SB0102</a>	Utah Student Privacy Act	<p>This bill: provides that a local school board or charter school governing board require a public school to make a list of individuals who are authorized to access education records; requires a local school governing board or charter school governing board to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide training on student privacy laws; and</li> <li>• require individuals who are authorized to access education records to complete training on student privacy laws and certify to the local school board or the charter school governing board that they have completed the required training and understand student privacy requirements; and prohibits a local school board, charter school governing board, public school, or school employee from sharing an education record with a school employee who is not authorized.</li> </ul>	<p>4) This bill supports the larger educational system by protecting student's privacy.</p>	Sen. Mayne	Support
<a href="#">SB0148</a>	School Leadership Task Force	<p>This bill: creates the School Leadership Task Force, including provisions related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• task force membership;</li> <li>• quorum requirements;</li> <li>• membership requirements; and</li> <li>• task force duties; and provides a repeal date.</li> </ul>	<p>2) This bill does not create a variety of roles for teachers so they can use their expertise to improve teaching, learning, and give input. Leadership roles offer experienced teachers incentives to remain in the profession, hone and receive rewards for their unique skills, and better support students and colleagues. High-quality professional school leaders are highly trained and carefully selected. They should have served in a variety of school settings. School leaders interact regularly and in great depth with their teachers.</p>	Sen. Milner	Oppose