



UCAPA Legislative Priorities March 12, 2009 - Final

Position Key:
1 = support
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Title	Sponsor	Description	Pos	Status
Asset Building				
Funding for Individual Development Accounts	appropriation	\$50,000 - base budget	1	No cuts for 2010 budget.
SCR 3 Concurrent Resolution Urging the Creation of a Utah Council on Financial and Economic Education	Sen. Pat Jones	Bill to create a state council on financial education	1	Passed both House and Senate as of 3/10/09. Sent to Governor 3/12/09.
SB 100 Financial and Economic Literacy Education Amendments	Sen. Pat Jones	Bill requires public schools to provide financial and economic literacy passport and information about the UT Educ Savings Plan Account to parents or guardians of kindergarten students.	1	Passed both House and Senate as of 2/19/09. On its way to the Governor's office.
Funding for EITC/Volunteer Income Tax Assistance	appropriation	FY09 funding was \$157,000; FY10 recommendation leaves us at just over \$100,000 and we are low on the prioritization list for additional needed cuts of \$57,000 for FY10	1	\$57,000 cut was restored, back to base budget of \$100,000.
HB 91 IDA Amendments	Rep. Seegmiller	Provides that an IDA can be established for client's with disability to purchase assistive items and that the IDA funds cannot be used in determining eligibility for assistance.	1	Passed both House and Senate as of 2/24/09. On its way to the Governor's office.
Children				
Childcare Assistance	appropriation	Maintain pre-budget cut level; this year's level will be the same because of maneuvering to keep from losing the 4X federal match	1	DWS was given the money in their Special Administrative Fund to use as state match dollars to draw down over \$40 million in federal stimulus dollars and CCDG.
Funding for Head Start Education	appropriation	Maintain at last year's level of \$100,000.	1	Entire state-funded base budget has been cut for FY10, however there are a lot of federal head start dollars in the stimulus package that should provide more programming over next two years.
Food				
Emergency Food Network		\$300,000 base budget.	1	Lost \$100,000 of one-time money for FY10, but base budget is still preserved.



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Health				
Protect and restore eligibility, provider rate, and health promotion within Medicaid	appropriation	Restore Medicaid eligibility levels, programs, and provider rates that are likely to be cut (Age, Blind, Disabled eligibility; Closing Utah Primary Care Network to New Enrollees; Foster Care Independent Living Program; Primary Care Grants; Eliminate Workforce Financial Assistance; Provider rates).	1	Many provider reimbursement rate cuts were restored using one-time money realized from economic stimulus.
Restore Optional Medicaid Services	appropriation	Restore Medicaid services that were cut during special session (Eyeglasses, Dental Services, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Audiology)	1	The only service that was restored was physical therapy.
SB225 Legal Immigrant Children's Health Care Amendments	Sen. Robles	Removes the 5-year waiting period that legal immigrant children must meet before enrolling in CHIP or Medicaid		Bill did not pass this session.
HB 171 Legal Immigrant Children's Health Care Amendments	Rep. Holdaway	Removes the 5-year waiting period that legal immigrant children must meet before enrolling in CHIP or Medicaid	1	Bill did not pass this session.
Health Reform Taskforce Bills		HB 188 Health System Reform – Insurance Market; HB 331 Health Reform – Health Insurance Coverage in State Contracts; HB 165 Health Reform -Administrative Simplification - These bills have many components including: increasing transparency around insurers and brokers, creating limited benefit and mandate-lite packages (COBRA alternative option), increasing reporting requirements so that the impact of such changes can be monitored, expanding the portal to include defined contribution, and creating a risk adjuster board that will develop a plan for the risk adjustment mechanism in the defined contribution market and the methodology for implementing the defined contribution market. The bill, while not comprehensive reform, lays the foundation for broader reforms in the future.	1	Bills passed House and Senate and are awaiting the Governor's signature.
HB 144 Medical Language Interpreter Act	Rep. Chavez-Houck	An omnibus (broad) bill calling for statewide adaptation & implementation of the national standards for Cultural and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) across all sectors and thru public-private sector partnership over 3 years.	1	Passed House and Senate 3/5/09, awaiting Governor's signature.



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Medicaid Provider Rates Increase	appropriation	Restore and Increase provider reimbursement for primary care	1	Physicians were fully restored, hospitals and non-physician providers and were partially restored.
SB 114 Tobacco Tax Amendments	Sen. Christensen	Increase of tobacco tax with revenues to fund increased access to health care and cancer research	1	Sitting in rules committee since 2/12/09.
HB 219 Tobacco Tax Increase	Rep. Ray	Increase of tobacco tax with revenues to fund increased access to health care and cancer research - this is a higher tax rate than the SB 114.	1	Sitting in rules committee since 2/27/09.
Housing				
Olene Walker Housing Loan Fund	appropriation	Anticipating a loss of \$500K for one-time over FY09 and ongoing cuts.	1	Initial talk of \$354.5K ongoing cut, \$105K one-time "backfill" for FY10
Pamela Atkinson Homeless Trust Fund	appropriation	Anticipating a loss of \$500K for one-time funding over FY09 and FY08 as well as ongoing cuts.	1	Initial talk of \$105K ongoing cut, \$105K one-time "backfill" for FY10
HB 82 Teacher Mortgage Loan Program	Representative Hemmingway	The State Board of Education would provide for teachers a program loan of \$15,000 to be used for purchasing a home which loan can convert into a grant	1	Never made it to the floor.
HB 83 Property Tax Relief Programs	Rep. Froerer	Increases income qualifying limits for homeowners and renters	1	Passed on House floor and in Senate committee. Tabled in Senate because of large fiscal note.
HB299 (3rd Sub) Unlawful Detainer Amendments	Rep. Froerer	Effectively allows previous owners of foreclosed properties to be evicted more quickly and with greater damages. Our foreclosure notice to tenants amendment was removed, but we were able to keep the bill at the status quo for renters.	2	Passed Senate and House after concurrence between chambers on 3/12/09, awaiting Governor's signature.
HB 342 Disproportionate Rental Fee Amendments	Rep. Froerer	Describes what cities must do to charge different rental fees to landlords, including specifications about a good landlord program	2	Passed House and Senate 3/11/09, awaiting Governor's signature.



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HJR20 Joint Resolution Expressing Support for a Moratorium on Foreclosures	Rep. King	Requests the Governor to convene a working group to seek a 90 to 120 day moratorium on all foreclosure proceedings	1	Never made it to the floor.
SB 205 Community Development and Renewal Agency Amendments	Sen. Bramble	Makes numerous RDA amendments, including removing the housing funding under some plans. We are very concerned about this part of the bill.	3	Passed House and Senate on 3/12/09, awaiting Governor's signature.
SB 54 Uniform Assignment of Rents	Sen. Romero	An act that assigns rents to the lender under certain circumstances; not expected to have any harmful effect on renters.	2	Passed House and Senate 3/5/09, awaiting Governor's signature.
SB 95 Mobile Home Park Amendments	Sen. Jenkins	Requires that a lease between a mobile home park owner and resident discloses utilities ownership in park and service fees	1	Passed House and Senate 2/23/09, awaiting Governor's signature.
HB 198 Marriage License Fee Amendments	Rep. Johnson	\$10 optional additional marriage license fee could raise upto \$250,000/year to be used for shelters to help victims of domestic violence	1	Passed House and Senate 3/11/09, awaiting Governor's signature.
SBI 15 Payment of Mobile Home Park Relocation Expenses	Sen. Niederhauser	Places burden on RDA to pay for relocation but does not require the developer or sell to pay anything	1	Passed House and Senate 2/27/09, awaiting Governor's signature.
Welfare/Work Supports				
General Assistance	appropriation	Maintain base budget; a cut to all staff for the program has been recommended	1	GA was cut \$2.2 million by the appropriations subcommittee for FY10, and lost \$1 million from the base budget that was backfilled for FY09 with onetime for a total loss of \$3.2 million. FY10 cuts were backfilled \$2.2 million with onetime money.
FEP	appropriation	Maintain base budget and funding of all programs.	1	\$1.2 million personnel cut was backfilled with ongoing funds, plus an additional \$1 million in one-time funds given for staffing.



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DWS Caseload Increases	appropriation	Need money to cover increased caseloads in Food Stamp and Medical cases.	1	Received \$2 million in ongoing funds and \$1 million in one-time funds to help with caseload increases.
Unemployment Insurance	appropriation	Federal stimulus dollars for administrative caseload increases, Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) which extends benefits passed the usual 26 weeks, and a \$25 a week increase in UI benefits.	1	Will be receiving \$4.3 million for administrative, \$50 million for EUC and \$54 million for additional \$25 compensation.
HB 428 Unemployment Insurance Amendments	Rep. Mascaro	Bill to make changes to Unemployment Insurance Provisions to bring laws in line with federal modernization requirements in order to take advantage of federal incentive money. These include: an alternative base period model, benefits for part-time workers, and allowing eligibility for individuals that quit to accompany their spouses.	1	Sitting in rules committee since 2/26/09. Has been moved to master calendar for interim study.
HB 218 FEP Amendments	Rep. Fisher	Provides that DWS shall make a rule for the amount of cash assistance a participant is eligible to receive under FEP. (Is currently set by legislature).	1	Passed House and Senate with amendment 3/2/09. Sent to Governor's office.
HB 133 Earned Income Tax Credit	Rep. King	Earned Income Tax Credit	1	Failed in House on 2/23/09
Other				
HB216 Telecommunication Pricing Flexibility Amendments	Rep. Hunsaker	Removes the cap on basic residential telecommunication pricing	3	Signed by Governor on 3/6/2009.
HB38 Refugee Services Fund Amendments	Herrod	Provides that all interest or earnings from the Refugee Services Fund are deposited into the fund rather than the General Fund.	1	Passed both House and Senate as of 2/12/09. On its way to the Governor's office.
State Budget	program cuts	Anticipated cuts to balance the budget; we are watching that programs that support the poor do not get cut.	2	State budget was balanced using many reserve funds, federal dollars, and one-time money, though not the rainy day fund.
HB403 Sales and Use Tax and Income Tax Amendments	Rep. McCliff	A proposal to put the sales tax back on food, but provide a refundable tax credit for low-income families.	2	In rules committee since 3/5/09. Legislature not considering bringing back the sales tax on food to increase revenue at this point.