

UTAH Petroleum Marketers & Retailers Association Report



John Hill
UPMRA
Executive Director

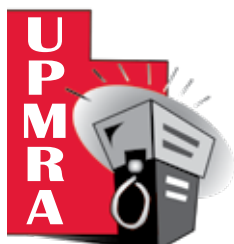
UPMRA UPDATE

The 2025 Utah General Legislative Session saw 962 bills and resolutions numbered and introduced, with 582 of them passing. But **Governor Cox vetoed six bills**, including **Senate Bills 37 and 296**. **Senate Bill 37** would have re-routed a portion of the locally assessed property tax imposed for school districts to the **General Fund** – to be used by the Legislature for whatever purpose it determined.



Representative Eliason discusses PST Amendments

SB 37 is a third attempt at creating more General Fund revenues. The first was the failed attempt in 2019 to impose sales tax on services. The second was the failed Amendment A that was stricken from the 2024 ballot by the Utah Supreme Court that would have un-earmarked the income tax for education. The legislature's desire to generate more General Fund revenue remains, and likely means there will be future legislative attempts to deal with Utah's complex funding issues.



Senator Ipson
at UPMRA Day on the Hill

Senate Bill 296 dealt with separation of powers issues and would have granted the Legislature more power and control over the Judiciary. There were other more draconian bills that would have furthered this tension, but SB 296 was the bill that passed. Governor Cox would have been granted the power to appoint the Chief Justice of the Utah Supreme Court and the Chief Judge of the Utah Court of Appeals – both appointments being subject to the Legislature's "advise and consent" power vested in the Utah Senate. Governor Cox indicated that he doesn't want that power and that granting that power could be dangerous to the Judiciary's independence.

With respect to the two bills with which some UPMRA members were concerned, **SB 328, the 2025 alcohol bill, passed.** In its original form, it inadvertently repealed the allowance to deliver beer through drive-up windows. This was done in order to authorize the use of parking lot delivery of beer. Your UPMRA lobbyists met with Sen. Stevenson who agreed that the repeal was an inadvertent omission and worked with UPMRA through 6 substitute bills to ensure that drive-up window delivery would still be allowed.

The other bill concerning to some UPMRA members was **2nd Sub. SB 91 dealing with the imposition of a 1% restaurant tax on made-to-order or "customized" prepared food items such as what may be ordered at convenience store grills.** UPMRA teamed up with the Utah Food Industry Association and Retail Merchants Association to oppose the bill. We both testified before the House Rev & Tax

Committee, but the bill passed on a 10-1 vote. Additionally, UPMRA joined with UFA and UFMA on a floor handout in the House. But the additional 1% of tax revenue goes directly to the counties, which helped the bill pass, and the Governor signed SB 37 into law.



UPMRA's Legislative Day on the Hill



EMA News

Washington Conference Day on the Hill - May 14-16

EMA Director, Roy Hall is joining State Executive, John Hill for EMA's annual Washington Conference and Day on the Hill. In addition to networking with marketers and industry experts from across the country, we plan to meet in-person with Utah's members of Congress (May 15). Everyone is welcome to attend the EMA Washington Conference at The Mayflower Hotel.

UPMRA Missed our EMA SBC PAC GOAL for 2024

This year's EMA PAC goal for Utah is \$2,622, and we need your financial support to meet our goal. The UPMRA Board is encouraging "100% participation" by each and every member.



To help UPMRA meet our EMA PAC goal please go to the EMA website and make a personal contribution (password is UTAH):
<https://www.energymarketersofamerica.org/advocacy/sbc-pac/>

UPMRA Summer Golf



June 19th at Thanksgiving Point GC

The UPMRA board considered the location, Thanksgiving Point, a big draw, so we are returning for a second year. Plan to join us for a fun round of golf with lots of prizes, breakfast, lunch and a round of golf on Utah's premier golf course: Thanksgiving Point in Lehi, Utah.



2025 Convention & Trade Show

**September 9-11, 2025
at the Sheraton Park City Hotel**

After two years in St. George, the board decided to take the 2025 UPMRA Convention & Trade Show back to The Sheraton Park City Hotel. Save the dates: September 9-11, 2025, and meet us in Park City, Utah.

We are excited to be holding Tuesday's Opening Reception at Utah's Olympic Park where attendees will enjoy appetizers and beverages while watching Olympic hopefuls practice their arial ski jumps, landing safely in a swimming pool.

Governor Cox is our invited keynote speaker, after a morning of education on Wednesday. And we will be playing the Horse Racing game again on the trade show floor that afternoon, and hope to raise PAC dollars.

You won't want to miss this year's Convention and Trade Show, or golf at Soldier Hollow Golf Course on Thursday, September 11th.



UPMRA Convention & Trade Show
SEPTEMBER 9-11, 2025 • SHERATON HOTEL