

UTAH Petroleum Marketers & Retailers Association Report



John Hill
UPMRA
Executive Director

UPMRA



The UPMRA Board at their Day on the Hill meeting



Utah's State Legislature adjourned on March 6th at midnight. A record number of bills and resolutions (1,021) were numbered and introduced, and 541 passed, which is fewer passed bills than in 2025, 2024 and 2023.

During the 45-day session, UPMRA focused on several issues, including:

HB 575, Fuel Tax and Supply Amendments that finally passed with a six-cent reduction in the motor fuel tax from July 1, 2026, until December 31, 2026. However, this bill's initial concept attempted to reduce the price of gas at Utah's pumps, by adding an export tax on products refined in Utah and exported outside of Utah, and adding a severance-like tax on local refiners to offset the wear and tear of industry trucks on Utah roads.

The Legislature passed one **property tax bill** of three designed to either cap tax rates or otherwise improve the valuation and "truth in taxation" processes.

Senator McKell amended his Kratom bill (**SB 45**) to ban the sale of most **Kratom** products but allows the "pure leaf" product from the Kratom plant to continue to be sold, but only by specialty tobacco retailers. Many of the provisions of **Rep. Dailey-Provost's HB 387** were amended into **Sen. McKell's bill**.

Bills dealing with nicotine and related products, including an increase in tobacco product tax rates and a change in method concerning the manner in which certain products are taxed also passed. Rep. Dailey-Provost's **3rd Sub. HB 385** creates a new **Department of Agriculture license for "specialized products."** Originally, the bill would have imposed a

UPDATE



Representative Provost discusses legislation with the UPMRA Board

DEQ Announces Database for all things Tank related

DEQ is phasing in an interactive database for all things tank related. Owners will have online access to facilities, releases, certifications, and be able to check on fees, compliance schedules, and more. A phone application is also in the works. The backend is currently live, with frontend rollout expected this summer.

Also, a November 2025 rule change to **Permit Requirements** is now in effect: Installers must notify DEQ no later than 30 days before they begin a tank installation. The rule also applies to tank removals.

specialized product license fee of \$600 on all tobacco retailers, but after UPMRA (Gary) and the Retail Merchants Association testified against the bill, and in spite of it passing out of committee, it finally passed with a **three-tier licensing fee**, starting at \$2,500 for specialized product retailers, then \$600 for specialty tobacco retailers and only **\$300 for general tobacco retailers**.

Rep. Clancy's tobacco bill (**HB 337**) underwent multiple changes and finally **passed in its 7th Substitute**. UPMRA spoke against the bill in committee when it imposed a \$0.10 per stick tax increase. The final bill imposes a \$0.025 per stick tax increase on cigarettes, and raises the tax on alternative nicotine products from .56% of the manufactures retail price to .71%, and imposes a \$1.00 per can tax on pouch containers of 20 pouches with an addition .05 cent tax for each pouch greater than 20 pouches. If you would like further information on any of these bills or other bills discussed during the legislative session, email me: JohnHill@upmra.com.

EMA News

Washington Conference and Day on the Hill — May 13-15



UPMRA President, Chane Kellerstrass is joining EMA Director, Roy Hall and State Executive, John Hill for EMA's annual Washington Conference and Day on the Hill. In addition to networking with petroleum marketers and industry experts from across the country, we hope to meet in-person with all 6 of Utah's members of Congress on May 14th.

UPMRA SUMMER GOLF Wednesday, June 17th at Bountiful Ridge GC



After two years at Thanksgiving Point GC, the board decided to head north of Salt Lake, returning to the beautiful Bountiful Ridge Golf Course on **Wednesday, June 17, 2026**. We had record turnout in 2021 at Bountiful Ridge, as we returned to in-person activities following the COVID lockdown.

Join us for a fun round of golf with lots of prizes, breakfast, lunch and a round of golf on one of Utah's favorite public golf courses: Bountiful Ridge!

UPMRA HIT our EMA SBC PAC GOAL for 2025!

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 UPMRA 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/>

2026 Convention & Trade Show returning to St. George, Utah

After returning to Park City this year, the board decided to take the 2026 UPMRA Convention & Trade Show back to St. George, so mark your calendar for October 27-29, 2026. The weather will still be fabulous and we avoid any conflict with hunters and Fall breakers.

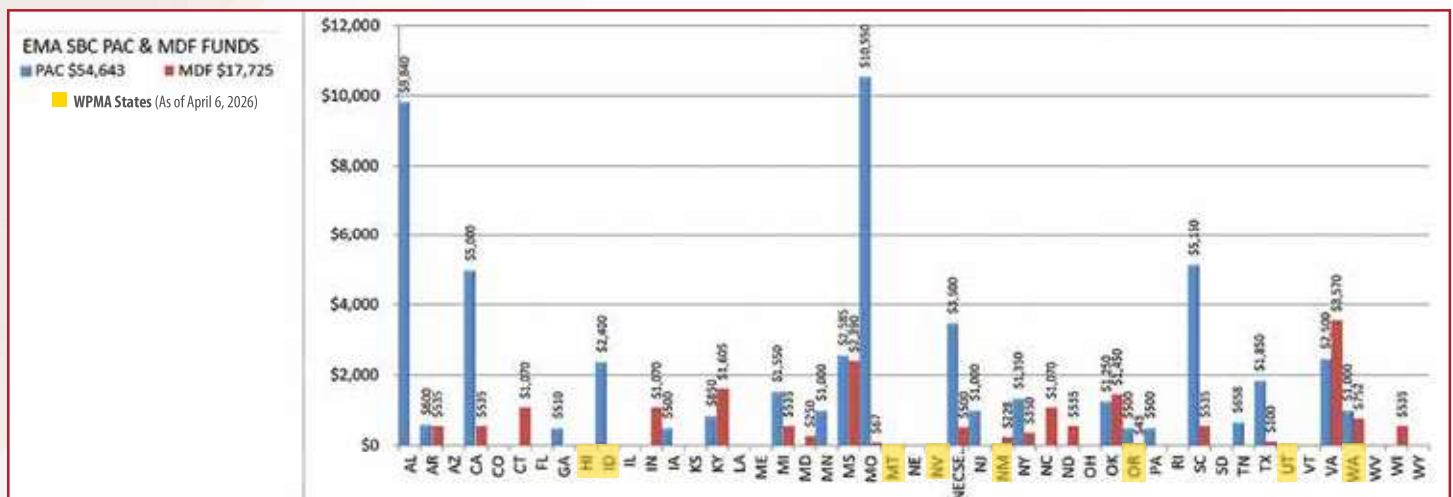
Instead of a Jeep Safari in 2026, we are planning an afternoon hike to some amazing, 1000-year-old Rock Art, and we will play the Horse Racing game again during the trade show, but with a twist to make it more difficult to "game" the system.

Convention Golf will be on Thursday, October 29th, and we plan to play Coral Canyon Golf Course. You will not want to miss this year's convention!

2026 UPMRA "New World" Convention & Trade Show Schedule of Events

Tuesday, October 27

- 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.... **Rock Art Nature Hike** with **Box Lunch**
Prior to hike
- 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. **UPMRA Board Meeting**
open to all members (*Hilton Garden Inn*)
- 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. **Welcome Reception**
with Appetizers (*Hilton Garden Inn Patio*)
- 7 - 9 p.m. **Crush Golf + Grill Party**
with **Supplier Hospitality**



Wednesday, October 28

- 8:00 - 11:55 a.m. Trade Show Setup
- 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. **Registration Open**
(Hilton Garden Inn)
- 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. General Business **Breakfast Buffet**
- 9:00 - 11:55 a.m. **GENERAL BUSINESS SESSION**

- President's Welcome** by *Darin Snow, UPMRA President*
- WPMA Report** by *Annie Marszal, WPMA President*
- EMA State Report** by *Chane Kellerstrass, UPMRA EMA Director*
- Tobacco Regulation Update** by *Altria*
- NACS Update** by *April VanApeldorn, NACS*
- DEQ Interactive Tank Database** by *Morgan Atkinson, DEQ*
- Economic Outlook for 2027** by *Robert Spendlove, Zions Bank*

- 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. **KEYNOTE LUNCH:**
Nita Belles, In Our Backyard Founder
(Hilton Garden Inn)
- 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. **Trade Show Open**
Horse Racing Games and Prizes
- 4:00 p.m. **Reception** (Beverages and light appetizers)
on Trade Show floor
- 5:30 p.m. Trade Show Breakdown
- 6:30 p.m. Open for **Supplier Hospitality**

Thursday, October 29

- 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. **Breakfast and Range Balls**
- 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. **Golf Tournament**
The Ledges Golf Course
– Shotgun start
– Lunch and Awards after golf

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: *Nita Belles* *In Our Backyard Founder*



Fighting to End Human Trafficking

Stop Human Trafficking!

It may come as a surprise to learn that the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children estimates that well over one hundred thousand children are trafficked yearly in America. While many of these young victims are runaways or kids who've been abandoned, others are from what would be considered "good" families and have been lured or coerced into human trafficking by clever predators. *"These predators are particularly adept at reading children, and knowing what their vulnerabilities are,"* says FBI Deputy Assistant Director Chip Burrus.

