



PROSPERITY ELEVATED 2020

LEGISLATIVE SESSION POLICY PRIORITIES

Tax Reform

Utah has one of the best tax climates in the nation. It's one of many reasons why businesses have flooded into our state. And all that growth has in turn helped drive up tax revenues. In fact, Utah is again projected to have more than a half a billion dollar surplus!

During the legislative session, lawmakers have the opportunity to work on changes to the tax reform bill that passed in the December 2019 special session, as well as discuss removing the Constitutional earmark on income tax. These will ensure Utah continues to be a state where people want to live, work, and raise their families.

AFP-Utah will continue to advocate to keep taxes low, transparent, and structured to apply equally, and allow for certainty and ease in compliance, as well as continue to end Utah's practice of crony cap-italist policies through government handouts to billion and trillion dollars corporations and industries.

Educational Opportunity

Every child in Utah deserves access to educational opportunities that meet their unique needs. This opportunity must be available to all students, regardless of their zip code or income level. Education is essential for people to transform their lives and reach their potential.

During the legislative session, lawmakers have opportunities to reimagine our approach to K-12 education:

AFP-Utah will advocate to pass an expansion of a Special Needs Scholarship bill, encourage lawmakers to address the misuse of school fees, as well as promote principled oversight and transparency in school funding.

Occupational Licensing

Excessive licensing requirements hinder many Utahns from creating opportunities for themselves and our communities. Our state has been one of the most burdensome in the nation for occupational licensing requirements.

During the legislative session, lawmakers have the opportunity to pass significant occupational licensing reforms that will help ensure Utah's competitive edge in drawing new businesses and residents to our state, as well as ensure public safety is protected while allowing for people with criminal records to have the opportunity to work in their desired profession.

AFP-Utah will work to pass legislation that will recognize out of state occupational licenses, remove barriers to employment for people with criminal records, remove specific occupational licenses, and block advancement of new licenses.

Regulation that Works

Burdensome rules and regulations are stifling opportunities for many Utahns—keeping them from improving their lives and reaching their potential.

The legislature has the opportunity to pass several reforms this session:

AFP-Utah will advocate to eliminate existing, nonfunctional regulations, limit and monitor the introduction of new regulations, as well as advocate for the expansion of a regulatory "sandbox" bill that passed last session.

Criminal Justice Reform

Our criminal justice system should keep our communities safe, rehabilitate people, and recognize the potential in every person to transform their life and contribute to society.

During the legislative session lawmakers will have several opportunities to work to reform our criminal justice system:

AFP-Utah will advocate for several criminal justice reform bills to address overcriminalization, excessive sentencing, the often abused practice of civil asset forfeiture, and prevent people's drivers licenses from being suspended for unpaid fees, which often locks them in a cycle of poverty and the revolving door of the criminal justice system.

Free Speech

Utah's legislature has long put off ensuring adequate protections of the free speech rights of our university students.

During the legislative session lawmakers will have the opportunity to work to reform current policies that inadequately protect students' rights:

AFP-Utah will advocate for legislation that will ensure that our universities are places that are open to public discourse that challenge their students to think critically.

Data Privacy

With quick advancements in technology, now is the time to extend legal protections to every Utahn's private data, biometric information, and create new policies to regulate when the government can legally access it.

During the legislative session lawmakers will have the opportunity to place guardrails on law enforcement's access to private data, and reform an unregulated practice of using facial recognition technology.

AFP-Utah will work to pass legislation that will codify legal protections over a person's private data, while balancing the need for law enforcement to adequately protect the public through the use of a legitimate warrant.

Through grassroots outreach, Americans for Prosperity – Utah is driving long-term solutions to Utah's biggest problems. Our activists engage friends, neighbors, and lawmakers on key issues and encourage them to take an active role in building a culture of mutual benefit, where people succeed by helping one another.

AFP-Utah recruits and unites Utahns behind a common goal of advancing policies that break down barriers and help people improve their lives