



Prosperity Elevated
**LEGISLATIVE
AGENDA 2025**





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Every state is a border state and we need to ensure the border is secure and communities are safe.

LET'S ELEVATE!

Utah is a state of innovation, resilience, and opportunity, committed to improving the lives of all its residents. Our public policy must raise the bar for long-term economic freedom, opportunity, and prosperity, paving the way for future generations. Freedom MUST be elevated in Utah, because the nation is watching, and Utah is poised to lead. However, there are key areas we can improve to ensure we meet the growing demands of our bright future.

AFP Utah is a non-partisan, non-profit grassroots organization dedicated to bottom-up solutions that elevate freedom and prosperity for all.

We connect individuals with policy, empowering them to raise their voices and create the change we need for a stronger future. We believe in limited government, the rule of law, equal rights, and the power of people. In Utah, we achieve BIG things. We remove obstacles, empower people, and work tirelessly to ensure everyone has the opportunity to realize their own American Dream.

While Washington D.C. continues to face gridlock, Utah leads by example. We demonstrate to the nation what success, prosperity, and opportunity can achieve when driven by the principles of freedom.

Utah is the land of elevated opportunity, and Washington D.C. is taking notice. Let's get to work and make **Prosperity ELEVATED** in our great state.



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**MORE THAN
400,000
CALLS MADE
IN 2023 & 2024**

**OVER 100
GRASSROOTS
EVENTS
IN 2024**



**100,000+
DOORS
KNOCKED
IN 2023 & 2024**



LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



AN ECONOMY THAT WORKS

Freedom and Prosperity for All!

Utahns deserve transparency in how their dollars are spent. Let's stop overburdensome regulations and local government overspending. We need smart regulations that support businesses and entrepreneurs, not hinder them.



SCHOOL CHOICE IN EDUCATION

Empower Students, Empower Parents!

Every child deserves a world-class education, no matter their zip code. Utah Students now have access to the recently passed Utah Fits All Scholarship, giving them access to the dollars allocated for their education to use in a variety of ways – home schooling, private school etc., that best fit their individual needs. It's time to expand this program so that all Utah students have access to it.



HOUSING UTAH

Affordable Living for All!

Free market solutions will drive our housing market, keeping costs low and supply high. With over 50,000 people moving to Utah annually, and a current shortfall of over 30,000 homes, we must ensure Utah remains a great, affordable place to live and work.



SECURING UTAH

Protecting Our Borders, Ensuring Our Safety!

Every state is now a border state, and Utah has seen the real-world impacts of that. Border security and public safety are essential for trade, commerce, and prosperity.



THE ECONOMY

**WHILE UTAH IS A PROSPEROUS STATE
FOR FAMILIES AND BUSINESSES,
THERE IS STILL WORK TO DO.**

Our economic prosperity has made Utah one of the strongest economies in the country. Decades of good policy have led to rapid and sustained economic growth, creating an environment where our relatively friendly tax climate allows people to keep more of their hard-earned money and live a life of abundance. However, to ensure that we continue to elevate prosperity in Utah, we must continue to address emerging challenges and build on our success.

Utah's state budget has more than doubled in less than a decade, far outpacing an increase in the population of the state. We need to take a serious look at all spending in our state and justify every dollar. While the state has prioritized tax cuts in recent years, local governments and schoolboards across the state continue to increase taxes, causing skyrocketing property taxes and higher living costs.

To maintain our economic freedom, we must control spending and enhance taxpayer input while ensuring sensible regulations. Key reforms include:

LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT OF IMPACTFUL REGULATIONS

Passing a state REINS Act (Regulations from the Executive In Need of Scrutiny) will help protect businesses and taxpayers by ensuring that any proposed regulation with a large fiscal impact has final approval from the legislature before being implemented.

NO MORE TAXPAYER HANDOUTS

Utah has spent many years using economic development policies to give taxpayer-funded handouts to select businesses, from large tech companies

to professional sports' teams. Data shows that, particularly with sports team investments, that these handouts simply don't work. We must stop increasing taxes and propping up companies on the backs of taxpayers.

ENSURING FAIRNESS WITH PUBLIC SECTOR UNIONS

Utah's public sector unions receive unfair benefits from the state, while avoiding adequate input from their members. Utah needs to pass legislation that prevents public unions from using taxpayer funded resources for their personal union use, stop automatic dues deductions from government employee paychecks, and mandate recertification of unions on a semi-annual basis to make sure that members are supportive of the benefits their receiving and the leadership that makes decisions for them.

MAKE UTAH FREE TO WORK

Utah has been a leader in recent years on reducing barriers to occupational licensing. We can continue to build upon that, utilizing the Occupational Licensing Review Committee to continue reviewing licensing requirements and making necessary recommendations for changes so that the state is only prioritizing public health and safety with its licensing requirements. The government doesn't exist to create barriers to entry to protect those already

working in a profession – competition in the marketplace is necessary to provide the best services and products to the public.

If we want Utah to continue to lead, we must make Utah a friendly place to work in one's desired profession. Let's cut burdensome regulations and let Utahns use their talents in the marketplace.

KEEP UTAH COMPETITIVE WITH LOWER TAXES

Utah has the 11th highest tax burden in the country when accounting for state and local taxes combined. The legislature should continue to prioritize a reduction in Utah's income tax rate to keep Utah competitive with our neighbors. A lower tax rate and friendly regulatory environment will spur economic development and investment in our state without the need to offer special incentives.



HOUSING UTAH

UTAH HAS BECOME THE THIRD LEAST AFFORDABLE HOUSING MARKET IN THE COUNTRY

With a current shortage of over 30,000 housing units, and over 50,000 people moving to Utah every year, the demand for housing options is currently outpacing supply, leading to ever-climbing prices. To address this issue, we must look to policy solutions and free market housing reforms that prioritize and increase the supply of housing to meet the demand, and not make matters worse by artificially increasing demand.

REDUCING RED-TAPE

Often times, a delay in construction due to the permitting process being held up at the local level increases the cost of construction. By ensuring that permits are approved in a timely fashion, we can increase the speed in which homes are ultimately finished.

MINIMUM LOT SIZE REQUIREMENTS

In Utah, municipal ordinances require residential lots to be of a minimum size, restricting potential housing development opportunities and reducing housing stock. Utah should reduce the minimum lot size requirements used by municipalities, which will allow for more single-family homes to be built. Without these types of changes Utah risks losing the next generation to other, more affordable, states.

ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS (ADU'S)

Allow Utahns to build granny flats, casitas or accessory dwelling units on their own property. Some local governments are preventing residential property owners from building or erecting accessory dwelling units (ADUs). Utahns should be allowed to maximize their investment and utilize their property to its highest and best use, while providing for additional housing capacity in our state.



SCHOOL CHOICE

**WITH OVER 650,000 STUDENTS
IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS, IT'S TIME
FOR UTAH TO EXPAND EDUCATIONAL
OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVERY CHILD.**

WE MUST EMPOWER PARENTS TO MAKE DECISIONS THAT BEST FIT THE NEEDS OF EACH AND EVERY CHILD.

SCHOOL CHOICE IN EDUCATION

Utah has around 650,000 K-12 students. Unfortunately, too many of them struggle in the current education environment they're in. Thousands of Utah students are currently in public schools that meet the needs of many students, but may not be meeting their own educational needs. These students are the future of Utah, and we must give them every opportunity to succeed to help ensure Utah's future remains bright.

UNIVERSAL EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

In 2023 Utah joined 18 other states that have already implemented an Education Savings Account (ESA) program, the Utah Fits All Scholarship. This program empowers parents by allowing the tax dollars allocated for their child to follow that child to the school of their choice, whether public, private, or homeschool. Parents contribute to the tax system

and deserve to have a say in how that money is spent for their child's education.

Universal choice should be a priority for all Utah students. Currently, the Utah Fits All Scholarship is funded to provide for 10,000 students. In its first application cycle nearly 30,000 students applied. There is a growing need for individualized education, and we should expand our program until all Utah students that need and want it have that access. ESAs meet the demands of students, parents and educators.



SECURING UTAH

Every state is now a border state and Utah is feeling the effects. Border security and public safety lead to more trade, commerce, and prosperity. Border insecurity and lack of public safety lead to the exact opposite.

PRIORITIES

1. Stop the humanitarian crisis at our southern border by increasing security personnel, upgrading our technology and infrastructure, and reforming our asylum system.
2. Reduce costly and cumbersome regulations that punish legal immigrants and prevent small U.S. businesses from sponsoring the workers they need.
3. Replace the unlawful DACA program with a legislative solution that provides certainty, transparency, and accountability for those who grew up in the U.S. illegally through no fault of their own.

Prosperity Elevated



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