
IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF SALT LAKE COUNTY

STATE OF UTAH

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF
UTAH, et al.,

Plaintiff(s),

vs.

UTAH STATE LEGISLATURE, et al.,

Defendant(s).

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**ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR
TEMPORARY RESTRAINING
ORDER AS MOOT**

Civil No. 220901712

Judge Catherine Conklin

Judge Derek Williams

Judge Roger Griffin

This matter is before the panel on Plaintiffs’ motion for a temporary restraining order, filed February 23, 2026. The motion sought an order preventing transfer of this matter to a three-judge panel pursuant to Defendants’ Notice to Convene District Court Panel [the “Notice”], which had been filed the previous day. The previous judge assigned to this matter, the Honorable Dianna Gibson, concluded that the Notice deprived her of jurisdiction and thus the ability to rule on Plaintiffs’ motion.

The panel is placed in the curious position of being asked essentially to restrain itself from forming and rendering rulings. But because the Notice had been filed prior to Plaintiffs’ motion, the panel concludes that the issue is moot and no longer justiciable. The panel notes that the issue of mootness is typically addressed at the appellate level, which means that most of the case law is not directly on point. Nevertheless, the principle of mootness is clearly applicable here.

The court may raise “the issue of mootness sua sponte to further a core judicial policy of limiting the scope of its power to issues in controversy.” *In re Adoption of L.O.*, 2012 UT 23, ¶ 7, 282 P.3d 977, 979 (cleaned up, internal quotations omitted). “Mootness is a jurisdictional issue and courts will generally not resolve an issue that becomes moot.” *State v. Jones*, 2024 UT App 13, ¶ 2, 544 P.3d 1043, 10444 reh'g denied (Mar. 29, 2024) (referencing *Utah Transit Auth. v. Local 382 of Amalgamated Transit Union*, 2012 UT 75, ¶¶ 19–20, 27, 32, 289 P.3d 582). An issue is moot if “circumstances change so that the controversy is eliminated, thereby rendering the relief requested impossible or of no legal effect.” *In re Adoption of L.O.*, 2012 UT 23, ¶ 7, 282 P.3d 977, 979 (referencing *Richards v. Baum*, 914 P.2d 719, 720 (Utah 1996)); *see also Jones*, 2024 UT App 13 at ¶ 2.

Here, Plaintiffs seek to prevent an event that has already occurred. There is no order this panel could issue that could change that fact, and such an order may be of questionable efficacy given that the relief sought is to avoid formation of this very panel. Because the panel has been formed and its formation eliminates the controversy addressed by Plaintiffs’ motion, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the motion for a temporary restraining order is DENIED.

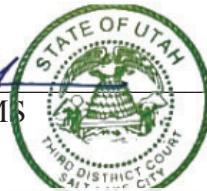
No further order needs to be prepared to effectuate the terms of this ruling.

DATED March 17, 2026.

Catherine S. Conklin
CATHERINE CONKLIN
Panel Judge



Derek Williams
DEREK WILLIAMS
Panel Judge



Roger Griffin
ROGER GRIFFIN
Panel Judge



CERTIFICATE OF NOTIFICATION

I certify that a copy of the attached document was sent to the following people for case 220901712 by the method and on the date specified.

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03/19/2026

/s/ MICHAEL STARKS (AOC)

Date: _____

Signature