

1 **PLACE NAME AMENDMENTS**

2 2021 GENERAL SESSION

3 STATE OF UTAH

4 **Chief Sponsor: Jani Iwamoto**

5 House Sponsor: Christine F. Watkins

7 **LONG TITLE**

8 **General Description:**

9 This bill addresses names of places.

10 **Highlighted Provisions:**

11 This bill:

- 12 ▶ defines terms;
- 13 ▶ authorizes the Division of Indian Affairs to help facilitate the application process
- 14 for changing location names referring to American Indian terms;
- 15 ▶ requires reporting; and
- 16 ▶ makes technical changes.

17 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

18 None

19 **Other Special Clauses:**

20 None

21 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

22 AMENDS:

23 **9-9-107**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2014, Chapter 371

24 ENACTS:

25 **9-9-112**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

27 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

28 Section 1. Section **9-9-107** is amended to read:

29 **9-9-107. Division report.**

30 The department shall include a report of the division's operations and
31 recommendations, including the division's activities under Section 9-9-112, in the annual
32 written report described in Section 9-1-208.

33 Section 2. Section 9-9-112 is enacted to read:

34 **9-9-112. Geographic place names -- Role of division -- Report.**

35 (1) As used in this section:

36 (a) "Location name referring to American Indians" means the name of a place in the
37 state that uses American Indian related terms.

38 (b) "Utah Committee on Geographic Names" means the committee created by
39 executive order of the governor that has a primary function to act as the state's liaison with the
40 United States Board on Geographic Names and to review geographic name changes and
41 additions in Utah.

42 (2) (a) To facilitate the United States Board on Geographic Names' application process
43 for changing a location name referring to American Indians, the division may create an
44 application template, in consultation with the Utah Committee on Geographic Names, for the
45 following to use:

46 (i) a county in which a place with a location name referring to American Indians is
47 located;

48 (ii) an Indian tribe that is connected to the geographic location referring to American
49 Indians for which the Indian tribe seeks to change the name;

50 (iii) a local community in and around a place with a location name referring to
51 American Indians; or

52 (iv) another person identified by the division in consultation with the Utah Committee
53 on Geographic Names.

54 (b) The application template described in Subsection (2)(a) shall encourage an
55 applicant to solicit feedback from the one or more tribal governments that are connected to the
56 geographic location for which the applicant is proposing to change the location name referring
57 to American Indians.

58 (c) If the division assists a person applying to change the location name referring to
59 American Indians, the division shall direct the person to consult with any tribal government
60 that is connected to the geographic location for which the location name referring to American
61 Indians is proposed to be changed so that a tribal government has an opportunity to provide an
62 official response.

63 (d) The division may bring proposed name changes to location names referring to
64 American Indians to tribal leaders to solicit input from the Indian tribes.

65 (3) The division shall provide on the division's website resources for applicants and
66 information about proposed changes to location names referring to American Indians.

67 (4) In accordance with Section [9-9-107](#), the division shall annually report to the Native
68 American Legislative Liaison Committee on the division's activities under this section.