

Matthew H. Gwynn proposes the following substitute bill:

Surveillance Camera Amendments

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Stephanie Pitcher

House Sponsor: Jordan D. Teuscher

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill concerns a law enforcement officer's ability to tamper with a surveillance camera on private property.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- prohibits a law enforcement officer, or an individual acting on behalf of a law enforcement officer, from tampering with, changing the viewing direction of, or disabling a person's surveillance camera on the person's private property; and
- creates exceptions to the prohibition.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

53-25-1201, Utah Code Annotated 1953

53-25-1202, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

Section 1. Section **53-25-1201** is enacted to read:

Part 12. Law Enforcement Prohibitions

53-25-1201 . Definitions.

Reserved.

Section 2. Section **53-25-1202** is enacted to read:

53-25-1202 . Law enforcement officer prohibition on tampering with a private

29 **surveillance camera -- Exceptions.**

30 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2) or (4), a law enforcement officer, or an individual
31 acting on behalf of a law enforcement officer, may not tamper with, change the viewing
32 direction of, or disable a person's surveillance camera that is on the person's private
33 property.

34 (2) Subsection (1) does not apply if the law enforcement officer, or the individual acting on
35 behalf of a law enforcement officer:

36 (a) obtains the person's permission before taking the action described in Subsection (1);

37 (b) obtains a court order granting permission to take the action described in Subsection
38 (1) before taking the action described in Subsection (1); or

39 (c) takes the action described in Subsection (1) under a circumstance described in
40 Subsection (3)(a) if the law enforcement officer, or the individual acting on behalf of
41 a law enforcement officer, subsequently takes an action described in Subsection (3)(b).

42 (3)(a) The circumstances described in Subsection (2)(c) are:

43 (i) the existence of exigent circumstances; or

44 (ii) to protect a law enforcement officer's safety:

45 (A) while executing a warrant; or

46 (B) if the circumstances, as known to the law enforcement officer, present a real,
47 articulable risk to the law enforcement officer's safety.

48 (b) The subsequent actions described in Subsection (2)(c) are:

49 (i) notifying the affected person within 24 hours after:

50 (A) the exigent circumstances no longer exist;

51 (B) the warrant described in Subsection (3)(a)(ii)(A) has been served; or

52 (C) the circumstances described in Subsection (3)(a)(ii)(B) have been resolved; or

53 (ii) obtaining a court order as soon as practicable after the circumstance described in
54 Subsection (3)(a) no longer exists, and if a court refuses to issue a court order,
55 informing the person about the action taken on the surveillance camera within 24
56 hours after the court's refusal.

57 (4) This section does not apply to a camera that is used for the surveillance or taking of
58 wildlife.

59 **Section 3. Effective Date.**

60 This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.