

**DCCW Legislative Report
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By Donna Murphy**

This November has been an election month and thankfully it has not been as chaotic as a presidential election year. There have been many issues on Utah Capitol Hill during this Interim Session and many have been approved as committee bills to be presented in 2026. The next upcoming General Session starts on January 20, 2026 and ends on March 6, 2026. There has been much debate on redistricting maps with some meetings to get public input.

As per the Intermountain Catholic Newspaper on October 31, 2025 the Pope said "Hope doesn't mean having all the answers but having trust". "Hope means trusting God that 'things are not as they seem'. The resurrection of Jesus means "love has triumphed, even though before our eyes we see many contradictions and the clash of many opposites." The president and CEO of the Catholic Health Association has told OSV News said "We are deeply concerned about what the proposed Medicaid cuts would mean for the future of our health care system. Such cuts would create a system that is more unequal and unstable, putting millions of people at risk of losing coverage and leaving safety-net hospitals under even greater financial strain. The result would be widening of health disparities -especially for children, older adults, people with disabilities and low-income families who rely most of Medicaid for care." This article also details how the U.S. Catholic bishops declared in their 1993 "Framework for Comprehensive Healthcare Reform that every person has a right to adequate health care. This right flows from the sanctity of human life and the dignity that belongs to all human persons who are made in the image and likeness of God." The President of U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio has said in the October 31, 2025 Intermountain Catholic newspaper, "I ask every American to reflect on the value of every human life. I beg you to see Christ in every person, even those whose policies you oppose. Disagree, debate civilly, stand up for your rights, but always remember in your heart that we are all children of God and deserve dignity and life."

In general, if we can continue to pray for our colleagues and family members as well as strangers to be more understanding of each other's differences, the world will be a safer, more peaceful place in which to live. Please consider getting to know who your elected officials are and become acquainted with them. The websites and newspaper referenced in this article may be found at www.icatholic.org, www.dioslc.org and www.le.utah.gov. Please feel free to contact me at 801-414-4725 or email at drmurphy21@outlook.com. God Bless America and all of us to be safe from political violence.