

## S 90

### Historic Roadways Protection Act

**Congress:** 119 (2025–2027, Current)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Public Lands and Natural Resources

**Introduced:** Jan 14, 2025

**Current Status:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of

**Latest Action:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably. (Feb 4, 2026)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/90>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Lee, Mike [R-UT]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** UT • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (1 total)

| Cosponsor                   | Party / State | Role | Date Joined  |
|-----------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Curtis, John R. [R-UT] | R · UT        |      | Jan 14, 2025 |

### Committee Activity

| Committee                              | Chamber | Activity                   | Date         |
|--|---------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Energy and Natural Resources Committee | Senate  | Referred To                | Jan 14, 2025 |
| Energy and Natural Resources Committee | Senate  | Hearings By (subcommittee) | Dec 2, 2025  |

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

### Related Bills

| Bill       | Relationship   | Last Action  |
|------------|----------------|--|
| 119 HR 376 | Identical bill | <b>Jan 14, 2025:</b> Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. |

## **Historic Roadways Protection Act**

This bill prohibits the Bureau for Land Management (BLM) from closing historical roads on public lands in certain areas of Utah until the Federal District Court for Utah makes a decision on each of the R.S. 2477 cases, which are cases brought by Utah and counties to keep historical roads on BLM land in Utah open for public use.

By way of background, a provision of the Mining Law of 1866, commonly known as R.S. 2477, granted rights-of-way to states and counties across public lands for the construction of roads for public use in order to promote settlement of the American West. In 1976, Congress repealed R.S. 2477 when it enacted the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), but FLPMA preserved rights-of-way that had been established under R.S. 2477. After the BLM released travel management plans that closed some historical roads, Utah and 22 counties filed lawsuits about their rights-of-way across public lands for historical roads.

Until the BLM certifies that those cases have been decided, the bill prohibits the BLM from obligating or expending federal funds to (1) finalize or implement a new travel management plan for certain travel management areas in Utah; or (2) implement, with respect to land within the boundary of Utah, the Indian Creek (Canyon Rims) Travel Management Plan, the San Rafael Desert Travel Management Plan, the San Rafael Swell Travel Management Plan, or the Labyrinth/Gemini Bridges Travel Management Plan.





- **Jan 14, 2025:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 14, 2025:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.
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