In April, the Utah Legislature updated the statutory insurance inducement definitions to allow online companies, such as the human resource software company Zenefits, to conduct business in Utah. “There are always going to be innovators and disruptors as technology accelerates business growth,” said Gov. Gary R. Herbert, “and we believe government needs to be able to work with these innovators to ensure strong and efficient economic policies and an open marketplace.”

HB 4, the Business, Economic Development and Labor Base Budget bill, appropriates funds for the support and operation of state government for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2016. HB 362, a Transportation Infrastructure Funding bill, ensures appropriate funding will be in place to meet the growth needs and increased use of the state’s transportation infrastructure.

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**GDP**

Utah is ranked 32nd in GDP among the states.

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**Legislative Update**

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**Selected Corporate Facility Projects 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>New/ Expansion</th>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Investment ($ millions)</th>
<th>Employment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Procter &amp; Gamble Company</td>
<td>Bear River City</td>
<td>Box Elder</td>
<td>MF</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Tissue Paper</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solarcity Corporation</td>
<td>Salt Lake City</td>
<td>Salt Lake</td>
<td>HQ</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Solar Energy Service</td>
<td>94</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>JBS USA</td>
<td>Hyrum</td>
<td>Cache</td>
<td>MF/DW</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Beef Processing</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ancestry</td>
<td>Lehi</td>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>HQ</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Online Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>AAA</td>
<td>Clearfield</td>
<td>Davis</td>
<td>CC</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Customer Support</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>290</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prosper Marketplace</td>
<td>Sandy</td>
<td>Salt Lake</td>
<td>O/F/CC</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Loan Brokers</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHG Healthcare</td>
<td>Salt Lake City</td>
<td>Salt Lake</td>
<td>HQ</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Healthcare Staffing</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black Diamond</td>
<td>Salt Lake City</td>
<td>Salt Lake</td>
<td>MF</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Sports Equipment</td>
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<td>160</td>
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<tr>
<td>Smith’s Food &amp; Drug Center</td>
<td>Layton</td>
<td>Davis</td>
<td>DW</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Food Retailer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advice Media</td>
<td>Park City</td>
<td>Summit</td>
<td>HQ</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Marketing Services</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Did You Know?**

Utah ranks first in the 2015 ALEC-Laffer State Economic Outlook Rankings, which is a forecast based on 15 state policy variables. This is the eighth year in a row Utah has placed first in this ranking, Utah ranks third in the 2015 ALEC-Laffer State Economic Performance Rankings, 2003-2013. Both measures are part of the 2015 ALEC-Laffer State Economic Competitive Index.

In October, Forbes ranked Utah the Best State for Business for the second straight year and for the fifth time since 2010.

PriceWaterhouseCoopers named Utah the number four state for aerospace manufacturing attractiveness.

A Brookings Institute report in July 2015 recognized Provo’s job growth as the fastest in the nation. During Q1 2015, Provo rapidly grew at 2.2 percent, surging the national average of 0.5 percent.

Utah’s growth has consistently ranked at the top for the last five years. Additionally, Provo has the lowest unemployment rate in the Mountain West region at 3 percent.
Nobody’s Perfect

www.forbes.com/best-states-for-business/

2010 – #1 BEST STATE FOR BUSINESS
2011 – #1 BEST STATE FOR BUSINESS
2012 – #1 BEST STATE FOR BUSINESS
2013 – #3 BEST STATE FOR BUSINESS
2014 – #1 BEST STATE FOR BUSINESS
2015 – #1 BEST STATE FOR BUSINESS

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