



Our Children's Trust is the world's only non-profit public interest law firm dedicated exclusively to securing the legal rights of youth to a healthy atmosphere and safe climate, based on the best available science. We support our youth clients and amplify their voices before the third branch of government in a highly strategic legal campaign that includes targeted media, education, and public engagement work to support the youths' legal actions. Our legal work – guided by constitutional, public trust, human rights laws and the laws of nature – aims to ensure systemic and science-based climate recovery planning and remedies at federal, state, and global levels.

Potential Utah Youth Climate Lawsuit

Supported by leading climate scientists and lawyers, young people in Utah are planning to file a lawsuit against the State of Utah for taking actions that cause climate change in violation of their constitutional rights.

General Information

Utah youth are joining young people from around the world, including the 21 youth plaintiffs who filed suit against the U.S. federal government in [Juliana v. U.S.](#), to stand up and protect their rights to a climate system on which their lives depend. The planned lawsuit in Utah is part of an international, youth-led legal campaign to address the climate crisis, supported by the nonprofit public interest law firm Our Children's Trust and Utah law firm Deiss Law. These youth-led legal actions are unique in seeking enforceable, science-based remedies to stabilize the Earth's climate system and reduce atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide to safe levels for current and future generations.

Significance of the Lawsuit

The effects of climate change are already being felt across Utah in the form of heat waves, droughts, wildfires, decreased snowpack, earlier snow melt, food security and water availability, changing landscapes, health and cultural impacts, wildlife impacts, and more. Utah's agricultural, ranching, forestry, tourism, recreation and other industries all suffer detrimental effects. Across Utah's basin and range lands, the Rocky Mountains, and the Colorado Plateau, young Utahns from across the state's diverse cultures and walks of life have a particularly compelling need to participate in the solution to the global climate crisis in order to protect Utah's many unique and diverse cultures and landscapes.

Young people are filing this lawsuit because the Utah Constitution protects the rights of all Utahns to life, liberty, property, and to equal and uniform protection and benefit under the law. Through the State of Utah's systemic actions to promote and permit fossil fuel development, the State government causes and contributes to climate change, violating the constitutional rights of young Utahns and future generations. It is wrong for the state government to prioritize fossil fuels above the health, safety, and cultures of Utah's youth and future generations.

Science indicates that bold climate action is needed to reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide levels from over 410 parts per million (ppm), to no more than 350 ppm by the year 2100. The young plaintiffs will seek a court-ordered remedy consistent with this scientific standard. If you are a Utahn, 8-21, and are interested in joining this effort as a plaintiff, please fill out our [New Client Interest Form](#), contact Our Children's Trust Plaintiff Engagement Coordinator at iris@ourchildrenstrust.org, or leave a voicemail with your name and contact information indicating your interest in the Utah lawsuit at (541)375-0158.

Information provided in response to this document will be kept confidential. Submission of any information does not create an attorney-client relationship; Our Children's Trust and Deiss Law will only establish an attorney-client relationship through a signed retainer agreement.