

ST. GEORGE REGIONAL HOSPITAL
1380 E. Medical Center Drive
St. George, Utah 84790

435-251-1000

January 11, 2021

Dear Senator,

On behalf of Intermountain St. George Regional Hospital, we respectfully ask that you honor the recommendations of the DSU Board of Trustees and the Utah Board of Higher Education to change the name of Dixie State University.

Over the past century, our local hospital and university have grown up together. Our history is intermingled as we have proactively partnered to build programs of learning that would create promising careers for students and beneficially support medical needs. As St. George and the surrounding area rapidly grew into one of the nation’s premier retirement and vacation communities, the need for excellent healthcare has required ongoing change. Accelerated healthcare needs were at the root of collaboration that brought about the Russell Taylor Health Sciences Building on Intermountain’s River Road Campus in 2008, and the addition of programs continues. This partnership has blessed healthcare in our community tremendously through the excellent nurses, lab techs, imaging technologists, emergency medical services personnel, surgical techs, respiratory therapists and other medical professionals who are well-trained and provide compassionate care. There are not words to convey the depth of gratitude we feel for DSU.

Last summer our hospital board also grappled with the heart-wrenching issues surrounding removal of the locally beloved word “Dixie” from our hospital name. We know how difficult this change is. Many of us have deep, local ties and love this community with all our hearts. We stand firmly with DSU in their desire to provide students who are recruited locally and nationally with a clear, positive, NCAA Division 1-compatible, mission-connected brand that is not perceived negatively by nearly half of the African Americans who may consider attending. This brand change is necessary to best build university strength and growth moving forward. Please pass legislation paving the way for this advancement and thank you for all you are doing to help make Utah great.

Sincerely,



Mitch Cloward, Administrator
St. George Regional Hospital

