

1                                   **RESOLUTION URGING FEDERAL FUNDING**  
2                                   **TO FIGHT GRASSHOPPER AND CRICKET**  
3                                   **INFESTATIONS**

4                                   2001 GENERAL SESSION

5                                   STATE OF UTAH

6                                   **Sponsor: Darin G. Peterson**

7   **This concurrent resolution of the Legislature and the Governor urges the United States**  
8   **Congress to appropriate the funds necessary to fight cricket and grasshopper infestation in**  
9   **the state of Utah.**

10 *Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein:*

11           WHEREAS, 1.25 million acres of land in the state of Utah is infested with crickets and  
12 grasshoppers;

13           WHEREAS, \$22.5 million in crop losses have occurred in Box Elder and Tooele counties  
14 alone, with an additional \$5 million in damages in 16 other counties resulting from the infestation;

15           WHEREAS, crickets and grasshoppers have migrated from federal land, where no  
16 insecticides were sprayed, to surrounding private lands;

17           WHEREAS, on March 15, 2000, Governor Leavitt issued a declaration of agricultural  
18 emergency, sought federal disaster relief, and issued a letter to the United States Department of  
19 Agriculture seeking federal commodity credit corporation funds for the relief of affected Utah  
20 farmers;

21           WHEREAS, during 1999 and 2000, available state funds and limited federal assistance  
22 were used to treat affected lands, but little progress was made because the bulk of the federal  
23 assistance came late in the treatment season;

24           WHEREAS, the cricket and grasshopper infestation will be larger in 2001, with continued  
25 large economic losses to property owners and agricultural operators;

26           WHEREAS, available state funds will be insufficient to adequately control the situation;  
27 and



28 WHEREAS, since the problem originated on federal lands, the federal government should  
29 fund a substantial portion of the effort to eliminate the infestation and assist those whose  
30 livelihood has been devastated:

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the  
32 Governor concurring therein, urges the United States Congress to provide funds sufficient to  
33 relieve Utahns of the devastating economic impact of the state's cricket and grasshopper  
34 infestation.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the  
36 United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the United States  
37 Department of Agriculture, and the members of Utah's congressional delegation.

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**Legislative Review Note**  
**as of 2-9-01 9:49 AM**

A limited legal review of this legislation raises no obvious constitutional or statutory concerns.

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**