

1 **EFFECTIVE AND CONSISTENT**
2 **PROSECUTION OF CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR**
3 **STATEWIDE RESOLUTION**

4 2001 GENERAL SESSION

5 STATE OF UTAH

6 **Sponsor: Ron Allen**

7 **This joint resolution of the Legislature recognizes that enforcement of law and the providing**
8 **of human services in isolated or closed communities can be limited. In this resolution the**
9 **Legislature urges that both law enforcement and governmental services to those in need**
10 **should be carried out consistently throughout the state, and agencies are encouraged to**
11 **provide the training and resources to carry out these purposes.**

12 *Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

13 WHEREAS, Utah is a state where obeying and sustaining the law is an important value;

14 WHEREAS, Utah is a state where human rights are held in high regard;

15 WHEREAS, Utah is a state where the welfare of children is an issue of highest priority;

16 WHEREAS, members of socially or geographically isolated communities within Utah can
17 have difficulty obtaining assistance from law enforcement and social services agencies;

18 WHEREAS, evidence and allegations have been brought forward that would give probable
19 cause to believe that a number of state laws are being violated within these closed societies;

20 WHEREAS, these alleged violations range from welfare and tax fraud to crimes of child
21 abuse;

22 WHEREAS, enforcement of these laws can be more difficult and can require a greater
23 allocation of resources in order to investigate and prosecute when the allegations concern an
24 isolated community; and

25 WHEREAS, the social services available in this state may not be as accessible to members
26 of closed societies, and the providers of these services may not have the skills and information
27 necessary to adequately serve the members of these communities:



28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah urge
29 local and state law enforcement agencies, and the prosecutorial offices and human services
30 agencies, to make a strong and consistent effort to enforce the laws of the state not only in more
31 accessible jurisdictions and locations, but also in the more geographically or socially isolated
32 communities.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah urge these agencies
34 to provide training and resources for their staff members to enable them to effectively carry out
35 their purposes as they may involve members of closed societies.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah urge these agencies
37 to work to not only consistently uphold and enforce the laws of this state, but also to consistently
38 and effectively provide the social services established in this state to those in need.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be mailed to the governor of the state
40 of Utah, the county attorneys and county sheriffs of the state; the police chiefs of the state; the
41 director of the Department of Human Services; the members of the State Tax Commission; and
42 the executive director of the State Tax Commission.

Legislative Review Note
as of 1-29-01 1:08 PM

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

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel