

**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OPPOSING
NUCLEAR TESTING**

2005 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Sponsor: Michael E. Noel

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LONG TITLE

General Description:

This concurrent resolution of the Legislature and the Governor strongly urges the Federal Government not to resume nuclear testing at its Nevada Test Site.

Highlighted Provisions:

This resolution:

- ▶ recalls the devastation caused to the health of thousands of citizens by previous nuclear testing at the Federal Government's Nevada Test Site; and
- ▶ strongly urges the Federal Government not to resume nuclear testing at its Nevada Test Site.

Special Clauses:

None

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

WHEREAS, nuclear testing began at the Federal Government's Nevada Test Site in 1951;

WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of Energy's Nevada Operations Office, 45 of the 515 announced nuclear weapons tests that occurred between 1961 and 1984 released radioactivity beyond the testing site;

WHEREAS, many Utahns and many other citizens living downwind of those tests suffered as a result of being "active participants" in the nation's nuclear testing program;

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the state of Utah supports a strong military defense, but not at the expense of its citizens through renewed nuclear testing;

WHEREAS, as part of its recognition of the 50th Anniversary of nuclear testing at the Nevada Test Site in the 2001 General Session, the 54th Legislature of the state of Utah expressed "the fervent desire and commitment to assure that such a legacy will never be repeated";

WHEREAS, surviving "downwinders" who continue to suffer today know their fight against renewed nuclear testing will not benefit them personally because it is too late for them;

WHEREAS, surviving downwinders fight renewed nuclear testing for the sake of their children and grandchildren;

WHEREAS, a resumption of nuclear testing at the Federal Government's Nevada Test Site would mean a return to the mistakes and miscalculations of the past which have marred many Utahns;

WHEREAS, a resumption of nuclear testing essentially means the creation of a new generation of downwinders;

WHEREAS, a resumption of nuclear testing at the Federal Government's Nevada Test Site would verify the axiom that those who fail to learn from the mistakes of the past are doomed to repeat them;

WHEREAS, the resumption of nuclear testing at the Federal Government's Nevada Test Site would signify a dramatic step backward in the United States of America's resolve to learn from its tragic nuclear testing legacy;

WHEREAS, the "Wind Wall" is a planned monument to pay tribute to the people who lost their lives to nuclear testing, those who are battling downwinder-related diseases now, and for those who have lost loved ones because of nuclear testing;

WHEREAS, it is intended that the Wind Wall be placed in or near Washington County, Utah, as residents of that county were the most impacted by nuclear fallout; and

WHEREAS, the state of Utah has an obligation to its citizens, especially those who have

suffered so much, to do all in its power to ensure that the lingering wounds from nuclear testing are not reopened to afflict both current and future generations:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein, strongly urge that the United States Government not resume nuclear testing at its Federal Government's Nevada Test Site.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, Downwinders, Inc., and the members of Utah's congressional delegation.