

1                           **RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESSIONAL**  
2                           **NAME CHANGE OF HILL AIR FORCE BASE**

3   2006 GENERAL SESSION

4   STATE OF UTAH

5   **Chief Sponsor: LaVar Christensen**

6   Senate Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

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8   **LONG TITLE**

9   **General Description:**

10           This joint resolution of the Legislature urges Congress to change the name of Hill Air  
11 Force Base to "Reagan Hill Air Force Base."

12   **Highlighted Provisions:**

13           This resolution:

14           ▶ urges the United States Congress to change the name of Hill Air Force Base to  
15 "Reagan Hill Air Force Base" in recognition of former President Ronald Reagan's  
16 service as the 40th President of the United States and his contributions to ending the  
17 Cold War.

18   **Special Clauses:**

19           None

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

22           WHEREAS, the people of Utah desire to establish an appropriate and lasting tribute to  
23 the memory of Ronald Reagan, who is esteemed as one of America's greatest modern  
24 Presidents;

25           WHEREAS, during the Presidency of Ronald Reagan, the United States of America  
26 adopted a national policy of "peace through strength," which resulted in a significant increase  
27 in the military defense and national security of our country;



28 WHEREAS, 9,387 graves at the American Cemetery at Normandy, France, and the  
29 1,557 soldiers still listed as missing, reverently remind us of the heroic human sacrifice in  
30 defense of liberty offered by young American soldiers in World War II as well as Reagan's  
31 moving promise on the 40th anniversary of D Day when he paid tribute to the "Boys of Point  
32 DuHoc";

33 WHEREAS, those heroic rangers took the cliffs, freed a continent, and helped end a  
34 war by refusing to give up when enemy gun fire rained down upon them on the morning of the  
35 6th of June, 1944;

36 WHEREAS, 225 rangers arrived on the shores of Omaha Beach but after a day of  
37 fighting, only 90 could still bear arms;

38 WHEREAS, their efforts are symbolic of all our American Veterans and Reagan  
39 promised that, "We will always remember. We will always be proud. We will always be  
40 prepared, so we may always be free";

41 WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan continually stressed that, "Our military strength is a  
42 prerequisite to peace, but let it be clear, we maintain this strength in the hope that it will never  
43 be used";

44 WHEREAS, the beginning of the 21st century was marked by a sudden terrorist attack  
45 on our homeland that requires our nation's firm resolve and continued vigilance;

46 WHEREAS, that resolve has, at times, taken us to foreign lands and when faced with  
47 challenges to the exercise of our military strength in defense of freedom, we remember  
48 Reagan's solemn declaration that, "There is a profound moral difference between the use of  
49 force for liberation and the use of force for conquest";

50 WHEREAS, the State of Utah is proud to be the home of Hill Air Force Base, which  
51 was established by Congress in 1939 and has been a vital contributor to our Nation's military  
52 through times of war and peace;

53 WHEREAS, Hill Air Force Base was originally named by Congress "Hill Field" in  
54 honor of Major Ployer Peter Hill, Chief of the Flying Branch of the Air Corps Material  
55 Division at Wright Field in Dayton, Ohio;

56 WHEREAS, Major Hill died due to a crash of an experimental aircraft at Wright Field  
57 in Ohio;

58 WHEREAS, since its establishment in 1939, Hill Air Force Base has continually

59 increased its capabilities and kept pace with the demands placed upon it;

60 WHEREAS, during World War II, Hill Field was a vital maintenance and supply base,  
61 with around-the-clock operations geared to supporting the war effort, requiring as many as  
62 22,000 military and civilian personnel;

63 WHEREAS, these dedicated men and women rehabilitated and returned thousands of  
64 aircraft to combat;

65 WHEREAS, when North Korea invaded South Korea in 1950, Hill Air Force Base was  
66 assigned a major share of the country's war effort;

67 WHEREAS, storage and renovation of active Air Force inventory was the responsibility  
68 of Hill Air Force Base;

69 WHEREAS, Hill Air Force Base supported the war in Southeast Asia by direct air lifts  
70 of hundreds of tons of ammunition, and by 1972, Hill Air Force Base was home to the  
71 production of the Short-Range Attack Missile;

72 WHEREAS, during 1980, Hill Air Force Base had the busiest single runway of any  
73 airfield in the free world with air field traffic totaling 145,243 take offs and landings;

74 WHEREAS, during the 1980's, Hill Air Force Base was responsible for repairing  
75 ground launch cruise missiles;

76 WHEREAS, during Operation Desert Storm in 1991, Hill Air Force Base personnel at  
77 home and abroad provided critical support;

78 WHEREAS, the people of Utah respect the history of Hill Air Force Base, including the  
79 name originally selected by Congress;

80 WHEREAS, the people of Utah also desire to pay tribute to the legacy of Ronald  
81 Reagan and, thus, believe that the appropriate tribute to his memory in our state would be to  
82 add his name to Utah's prominent military base;

83 WHEREAS, the renaming of Hill Air Force Base to include the name of Ronald  
84 Reagan, 40th President of the United States, would both serve as a fitting tribute by the people  
85 of Utah to our 40th President and symbolize our country's commitment to peace through  
86 strength and the mission of the military activities in Utah, which includes the most heavily  
87 deployed National Guard of any state in America in the current military conflict in Iraq and  
88 elsewhere; and

89 WHEREAS, any change in the name of Air Force bases must be approved by the

90 United States Congress:

91 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah  
92 requests and strongly urges the United States Congress to change the name of Hill Air Force  
93 Base to "Reagan Hill Air Force Base" in recognition of Ronald Reagan's contributions to the  
94 ending of the Cold War and the fall of the Soviet Union.

95 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Majority  
96 Leader of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,  
97 the United States Air Force, Hill Air Force Base, and to the members of Utah's congressional  
98 delegation.

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**Legislative Review Note**  
**as of 1-5-06 2:15 PM**

Based on a limited legal review, this legislation has not been determined to have a high probability of being held unconstitutional.

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**

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**Fiscal Note**  
**Bill Number HJR013**

**Resolution Urging Congressional Name Change of Hill Air Force Base**

*23-Jan-06*

*4:34 PM*

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**State Impact**

Mailing requirements of this resolution can be handled within existing budgets.

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**Individual and Business Impact**

No fiscal impact.

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**Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst**