

1                   **JOINT RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO ELIMINATE**  
2                   **TRANSPORTATION EARMARKING THAT OVERRIDES**  
3                   **STATE TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES**

4                                   2008 GENERAL SESSION

5                                   STATE OF UTAH

6                                   **Chief Sponsor: Julie Fisher**

7                                   Senate Sponsor: Scott K. Jenkins

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9                   **LONG TITLE**

10                   **General Description:**

11                   This joint resolution of the Legislature urges the United States Congress to eliminate  
12                   the practice of earmarking transportation funds, which restricts the ability of states to  
13                   address their transportation priorities.

14                   **Highlighted Provisions:**

15                   This resolution:

16                   ▶ urges Congress to end the practice of earmarking transportation funds granted to  
17                   states for transportation needs because it significantly restricts a state's ability to  
18                   fund its own transportation priorities.

19                   **Special Clauses:**

20                   None

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

23                   WHEREAS, the United States Congress, through the federal budget process, can  
24                   specify how states spend the highway funds they receive through federal appropriations;

25                   WHEREAS, earmarking funds requires states to fund the programs, projects, and  
26                   initiatives that Congress considers priorities;

27                   WHEREAS, the transportation projects that Congress chooses to earmark for a state



28 often do not reflect the priorities of the state's elected officials;

29 WHEREAS, earmarking federal funds frequently hampers the ability of a state to  
30 complete transportation projects that it considers most vital because limited funding is diverted  
31 by earmarking to less critical projects;

32 WHEREAS, Congress should provide states more control in determining how federal  
33 taxes, paid by its citizens, are used when those funds return to the state in the form of  
34 transportation funding; and

35 WHEREAS, eliminating earmarking of transportation funds would enable a state to  
36 make its transportation priorities a reality:

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah  
38 urges the United States Congress to eliminate the practice of earmarking transportation funds  
39 that it grants to states.

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

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**Legislative Review Note**  
**as of 1-21-08 10:50 AM**

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**

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**Fiscal Note****H.J.R. 8 - Joint Resolution Urging Congress to Eliminate Transportation  
Earmarking That Overrides State Transportation Priorities**

2008 General Session

State of Utah

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**State Impact**

Enactment of this bill will not require additional appropriations.

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**Individual, Business and/or Local Impact**

Enactment of this bill likely will not result in direct, measurable costs and/or benefits for individuals, businesses, or local governments.

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