

1                                   **JOINT RESOLUTION URGING FOOTBALL**

2   **PLAYOFF**

3   2009 GENERAL SESSION

4   STATE OF UTAH

5   **Chief Sponsor: Scott K. Jenkins**

6   House Sponsor: Brad L. Dee

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8                   **LONG TITLE**

9                   **General Description:**

10                   This joint resolution of the Legislature urges the National Collegiate Athletic  
11 Association to abandon the Bowl Championship Series (BCS) structure in favor of a  
12 college football playoff system.

13                   **Highlighted Provisions:**

14                   This resolution:

15                   ▶ urges the National Collegiate Athletic Association to abandon the Bowl  
16 Championship Series (BCS) structure in favor of a college football playoff system  
17 to ensure that the best college football team is crowned as champion.

18                   **Special Clauses:**

19                   None

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

22                   WHEREAS, the University of Utah football team finished the 2008 football season as  
23 the only undefeated football team in Division I-A, with a perfect 13-0 record;

24                   WHEREAS, the University of Utah football team capped a season-long string of  
25 victories at the Sugar Bowl with an impressive 31-17 win over the University of Alabama,  
26 which held the number one ranking in the nation for five weeks;

27                   WHEREAS, during the regular season, the Mountain West Conference had three teams



28 in the Top 25 and had a 6-1 record against Pac-10 teams;

29 WHEREAS, in the 2008 season, the University of Utah football team defeated six bowl  
30 teams, defeated three teams ranked in the Top 25, and won seven games away from home;

31 WHEREAS, as the matter currently stands, the University of Utah could go undefeated  
32 indefinitely and still not compete for a national title;

33 WHEREAS, the Bowl Championship Series (BCS) began in 1998 with the intent of  
34 crowning a definitive national champion;

35 WHEREAS, the BCS relies on a combination of polls and computer rankings to  
36 determine which teams play in the BCS national championship game and help set the lineups  
37 for the most prestigious bowl games;

38 WHEREAS, although the BCS may be an improvement over past championship  
39 determinations, the system is still widely acknowledged as falling short of its goal of  
40 establishing a definitive college football champion;

41 WHEREAS, many experts have candidly criticized the flaws in the BCS system and  
42 often use the 2008 University of Utah football team as the strongest argument for the failings of  
43 the system; and

44 WHEREAS, a national playoff is the only way to be certain that the team crowned as  
45 national champion has earned the designation on the gridiron:

46 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah  
47 strongly urges the National Collegiate Athletic Association to abandon the Bowl Championship  
48 Series (BCS) structure for determining the Division I-A national football champion in favor of  
49 a playoff system so that all can be assured that the best college football team is the one  
50 crowned as national champion.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the National  
52 Collegiate Athletic Association, the BCS, the University of Utah football team, and to the  
53 members of Utah's congressional delegation.

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**S.J.R. 11 - Joint Resolution Urging Football Playoff**

**Fiscal Note**

2009 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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