

1 **IMMIGRATION JOINT RESOLUTION**

2 2011 GENERAL SESSION

3 STATE OF UTAH

4 **Chief Sponsor: Ross I. Romero**

5 House Sponsor: _____

6

LONG TITLE

7 **General Description:**

8 This joint resolution of the Legislature urges Congress to reform an outdated and
9 ineffective federal immigration system and recommends that implementation of state
10 immigration regulation proposals on certain immigration issues be delayed until after
11 January 28, 2013, to allow time for federal immigration reform to pass.

12 **Highlighted Provisions:**

13 This resolution:

14 ▶ strongly urges the United States Congress to address federal immigration reform
15 and to incorporate an increased and complementary role for states for reasons of
16 greater efficiency and coordination; **§→ [and] urges that Utah's legislative leaders and Utah's**
17 **congressional delegation formally meet collaboratively to discuss the proper role of each in**
18 **developing and implementing immigration policy; and ←§**

19 ▶ recommends that state immigration regulation proposals concerning immigration
20 enforcement, state work permits, guest worker programs that go beyond the current
21 federal program, business licenses, professional licenses, Driving Privilege Cards,
22 in-state tuition requirements, and variations on these issues be delayed until after
23 January 28, 2013, to allow federal immigration reform to take place.

24 **Special Clauses:**

25 None

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

27 WHEREAS, the United States Constitution and United States Supreme Court decisions



59 WHEREAS, mandating a voluntary federal E-Verify system on Utah employers would
60 impose added costs and administrative burdens on businesses;

61 WHEREAS, attempts to revoke or limit the Driving Privilege Card would complicate
62 processes for all applicants, similar to changes that increased waiting times for all applicants in
63 2010;

64 WHEREAS, the Driving Privilege Card has been shown effective in limiting the
65 number of uninsured drivers on Utah roads;

66 WHEREAS, a revocation of the Driving Privilege Card would result in less revenue for
67 the state;

68 WHEREAS, maintaining in-state tuition for qualifying students helps Utah develop a
69 more educated populace and workforce;

70 WHEREAS, restrictive Utah immigration laws could cause disruption in certain
71 markets and industries;

72 WHEREAS, restrictive Utah immigration laws could drive some small businesses out
73 of business;

74 WHEREAS, Utah immigration regulation efforts could further exacerbate societal
75 tensions at a time when economic and community challenges call for greater integration and
76 cohesion;

77 WHEREAS, the Utah Legislature has previously adopted S.B. 167, Penalties for False
78 Driver Licenses and Identification Cards (2005), S.B. 15, Workforce Services-Reporting
79 Misuse of Personal Identifying Information (2007), S.B. 81, Illegal Immigration (2008), and
80 H.B. 64, Deterring Illegal Immigration (2009), which address current state immigration
81 regulation;

82 WHEREAS, the Utah Compact is being used as a reference point for state immigration
83 regulation by Colorado, Arizona, Texas, Nebraska, Indiana, Georgia, and Florida; ~~§~~ → [and] ← ~~§~~

84 WHEREAS, federal immigration reform should include an increased and
85 complementary role for states to play that will improve efficiency and coordination ~~§~~ → [:] ;

85a **WHEREAS, Utah's legislative leaders and Utah's congressional delegation have not**
85b **formally met collaboratively to discuss immigration reform; and**

85c **WHEREAS, it would be beneficial for both the Utah Legislature and Utah's**
85d **congressional delegation to better understand the proper role of each party in developing and**
85e **implementing immigration policy: ←§**

86 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah
87 strongly urges the United States Congress to address federal immigration reform and to
88 incorporate an increased and complementary role for states for reasons of greater efficiency and
89 coordination.

90 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah recommends
91 that state immigration regulation proposals concerning immigration enforcement, state work
92 permits, guest worker programs that go beyond the current federal program, business licenses,
93 professional licenses, Driving Privilege Cards, in-state tuition requirements, and variations on
94 these issues be delayed until after January 28, 2013, to allow federal immigration reform to
95 take place.

95a **Ŝ→ BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah urges that**
95b **meetings take place between Utah's congressional delegation and Utah's legislative leadership**
95c **for the purpose of working colloaboratively to address the proper role of each in developing**
95d **and implementing immigration policy. ←Ŝ**

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

Legislative Review Note
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Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel