

1 **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING CANYONLANDS**
2 **NATIONAL PARK'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY**

3 2014 GENERAL SESSION

4 STATE OF UTAH

5 **Chief Sponsor: David P. Hinkins**

6 House Sponsor: Joel K. Briscoe

8 **LONG TITLE**

9 **General Description:**

10 This concurrent resolution of the Legislature and the Governor recognizes the 50th
11 anniversary of Canyonlands National Park.

12 **Highlighted Provisions:**

13 This resolution:

14 ▶ recognizes the 50th anniversary of Canyonlands National Park, with ceremonies to
15 be held on September 12, 2014, in the Needles District of the Canyonlands National
16 Park.

17 **Special Clauses:**

18 None

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

21 WHEREAS, on September 12, 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed Public Law
22 88-590, which created Canyonlands National Park;

23 WHEREAS, September 12, 2014, marks 50 years since the establishment of
24 Canyonlands National Park;

25 WHEREAS, the Green River and the Colorado River divide Canyonlands National
26 Park into land districts known as the Needles, the Maze, and Island in the Sky;

27 WHEREAS, Canyonlands National Park is known for its canyons, buttes, and spires
28 that provide inspiration, solitude, and adventure;

29 WHEREAS, Canyonlands National Park offers multiuse recreational opportunities,

30 including hiking, biking, river rafting, and jeeping;

31 WHEREAS, Canyonlands National Park visitation has increased from 19,400 visitors
32 in 1965 to approximately 500,000 visitors per year;

33 WHEREAS, Canyonlands National Park encompasses 337,598 acres in four counties --
34 San Juan, Grand, Wayne, and Garfield;

35 WHEREAS, in 1983, the 45th Legislature of the state of Utah passed H.J.R. 32 to
36 honor Bates E. Wilson, known as the "Father of Canyonlands";

37 WHEREAS, Bates E. Wilson was instrumental in the establishment of Canyonlands
38 National Park and became its first superintendent;

39 WHEREAS, the family of Bates E. Wilson founded the "Friend of Arches and
40 Canyonlands Park: The Bates Wilson Legacy Fund," a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization whose
41 mission is to connect people to places in ways that continue Bates Wilson's values of
42 exploration, collaboration, and stewardship of the state's southeast national parks and
43 monuments; and

44 WHEREAS, the Friends of Arches and Canyonlands Parks, as an official partner with
45 the National Park Service Southeast Utah Group, agreed to assist the park service with
46 planning and funding for a year-long celebration of Canyonlands National Park, culminating in
47 a commemorative ceremony on September 12, 2014, in the Needles District of Canyonlands:

48 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state Utah, the
49 Governor concurring therein, recognizes the 50th anniversary of Canyonlands National Park,
50 with ceremonies to be held on September 12, 2014, in the Needles District of Canyonlands.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Department
52 of Natural Resources, the United States Department of the Interior, the San Juan County
53 Commission, the Grand County Commission, the Wayne County Commission, the Garfield
54 County Commission, the family of Bates E. Wilson, the Friends of Arches and Canyonlands
55 Parks, and the members of Utah's congressional delegation.