

26 WHEREAS, California v. United States, 438 U.S. 645, 653 (1978), states that, "The  
27 history of the relationship between the Federal Government and the States in the reclamation of  
28 the arid lands of the Western States is both long and involved, but through it runs the consistent  
29 thread of purposeful and continued deference to state water law by Congress";

30 WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 8 of the Reclamation Act of 1902, state law governs  
31 the distribution of water from a reclamation project, except as expressly stated by Congress;

32 WHEREAS, water rights for reclamation projects were acquired pursuant to state law;

33 WHEREAS, Utah Code Section 73-1-3 states, "Beneficial use shall be the basis, the  
34 measure and the limit of all rights to the use of water in this state";

35 WHEREAS, the future of the state of Utah depends upon the proper and economical  
36 administration of water rights and the proper and economical distribution and use of water;

37 WHEREAS, water rights can be best and most economically administered by the local  
38 water users that are subject to state law and most accountable to the local water users;

39 WHEREAS, the United States Congress has always anticipated that, upon repayment,  
40 reclamation projects would be transferred to the local water users;

41 WHEREAS, water users organizations in Utah have sought, are seeking, and will  
42 continue to seek title transfer of water projects from Congress, including title to the Strawberry  
43 Valley Project, the Moon Lake Project, the Emery County Project, the Sanpete Project, and the  
44 Provo River Project; and

45 WHEREAS, transferring title to the Strawberry Valley ~~H~~→ project ←~~H~~, Moon Lake,  
45a Emery County,  
46 Sanpete, and Provo River water projects to the appropriate local water users in Utah will  
47 facilitate the proper and economical administration of water rights and the proper and  
48 economical distribution of water as contemplated by the Legislature of the state of Utah and  
49 Congress;

50 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah calls  
51 upon Utah's congressional delegation to support local water users efforts to secure title transfer  
52 of project works when interests of local irrigation companies, water districts, and cities are  
53 considered.

54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Majority  
55 Leader of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,  
56 the United States Bureau of Reclamation, the local Utah Water Users, the Utah Department of