

Kirk A. Cullimore proposes the following substitute bill:

Joint Resolution Emphasizing State Authority in Election Governance

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Kirk A. Cullimore

House Sponsor:

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This resolution calls upon Utah's members of the United States Congress to uphold the principles of federalism.

Highlighted Provisions:

This resolution:

- highlights the interests of the individual states of the United States to regulate elections;
- and
- calls upon Utah's members of the United States Congress to uphold the principles of federalism in relation to the ability of states to govern election processes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

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

WHEREAS, Utah Constitution Article I, Section 2, recognizes that "All political power is inherent in the people; and all free governments are founded on their authority for their equal protection and benefit";

WHEREAS, the Tenth Amendment to the United States Constitution affirms that any powers not delegated to the federal government are reserved to the states or the people, reinforcing the principle of federalism;

WHEREAS, the states have long served as laboratories of democracy, uniquely positioned to establish election laws and policies that reflect the needs and interests of their citizens;

WHEREAS, a robust system of state-led election governance strengthens self-government, promotes accountability, and preserves the integrity of the electoral process by ensuring that the people of each state determine how best to protect their representation and participation in

30 democratic processes;

31 WHEREAS, the Framers of the United States Constitution recognized the role of the states
32 in structuring election laws and mechanisms, understanding that a one-size-fits-all federal
33 approach is neither necessary nor desirable;

34 WHEREAS, the people of Utah and other states have a vested interest in ensuring that their
35 electoral processes remain responsive to their needs and are free from disproportionate
36 influence by entities or individuals that may not reflect the priorities of the electorate;

37 WHEREAS, the principle of self-governance requires that states retain the ability to
38 establish laws governing the influence of money in elections, consistent with their unique
39 circumstances and policy considerations; and

40 WHEREAS, the constitutional amendment process provides an avenue for reaffirming the
41 role of the states in overseeing elections and ensuring that their authority in this realm is
42 preserved:

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah calls
44 upon the six members representing Utah in the United States Congress to uphold the principles
45 of federalism and to be proponents of appropriate action, including, if necessary, a
46 constitutional amendment that affirms the authority of states to govern their election processes
47 and establishes the ability of the states to enact policies regarding campaign finance and
48 election influence, in a manner consistent with established constitutional principles.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be prepared and submitted to
50 the six members representing Utah in the United States Congress.