

**Concurrent Resolution Supporting the Transfer of Federally Managed Lands**

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Raymond P. Ward**

Senate Sponsor: Don L. Ipson

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This resolution is related to the disposition of federally managed lands for affordable housing.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This resolution:

- acknowledges that Utah's growth has intensified housing affordability challenges;
- recognizes that affordable housing is critical to workforce stability and community retention;
- notes that unreserved lands managed by the federal government are located near existing communities and infrastructure;
- recognizes that limited and targeted disposition of unreserved lands may support moderate income housing needs;
- affirms that any land disposition should preserve the public interest and responsible land stewardship;
- urges Congress to allow limited use of unreserved lands near existing communities and infrastructure for moderate income housing; and
- encourages Congress to support land transfers or exchanges in line with responsible stewardship.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

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

28 WHEREAS, the state of Utah continues to experience significant population and economic  
29 growth, which has intensified housing supply challenges and increased costs for  
30 moderate-income households across the state;

31 WHEREAS, housing affordability impacts communities statewide and has implications for  
32 workforce availability, economic stability, and the ability of families to remain in the  
33 communities where they live and work;

34 WHEREAS, the state contains many federally managed lands, some of which are classified  
35 as unreserved land, located within or immediately adjacent to existing municipal boundaries,  
36 including near established infrastructure such as roads, water, sewer, and power systems;

37 WHEREAS, certain unreserved lands that lack a designated federal purpose may be  
38 uniquely suited, due to the location of the land, for limited, targeted consideration to address  
39 local housing needs without expanding development into remote or environmentally sensitive  
40 areas;

41 WHEREAS, strategic and narrowly tailored sales, transfers, or exchanges of unreserved  
42 lands may provide an opportunity to support the development of moderate-income housing  
43 while making efficient use of existing infrastructure and minimizing public costs; and

44 WHEREAS, careful and targeted disposition of federally managed lands can support local  
45 housing needs while preserving the broader public interest in responsible land stewardship:

46 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the  
47 Governor concurring therein, urges the United States Congress to consider authorizing limited  
48 and targeted sales, transfers, or exchanges of unreserved lands managed by the federal  
49 government for the purpose of facilitating moderate-income housing.

50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor urge that  
51 consideration be limited to unreserved lands located within or immediately adjacent to existing  
52 municipal boundaries or population centers within county boundaries, where development of  
53 moderate income housing can occur in a focused and efficient manner.

54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor encourage the United  
55 States Congress to allow flexibility in the form of land exchanges or transfers, where  
56 appropriate, to facilitate moderate-income housing while maintaining responsible stewardship  
57 of federally managed lands.

58 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the members of  
59 Utah's congressional delegation.