

House Joint Resolution to Approve the Transfer of Land

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Casey Snider

Senate Sponsor: Scott D. Sandall

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This resolution approves the transfer of state controlled lands.

Highlighted Provisions:

This resolution:

- acknowledges that the state and the United States government have disputed the ownership of 22,311 acres along the Great Salt Lake;
 - describes the terms of a negotiated settlement between the state and United States government for the transfer of the disputed lands along the Great Salt Lake;
 - describes the process for a state agency to obtain approval from the Legislature for the transfer of 500 or more acres of state controlled lands to the United States government;
- and
- approves the transfer of 22,311 acres along the Great Salt Lake to the United States government.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

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

WHEREAS, the state of Utah and the United States government have disputed the ownership of 22,311 acres used for wildlife refuge along the Great Salt Lake;

WHEREAS, the state of Utah through the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands, created in Utah Code Section 65A-1-4, has negotiated a settlement with the United States government that resolves the dispute of ownership;

28 WHEREAS, the negotiated settlement provides for the transfer of 22,311 acres of state
29 sovereign lands (acquired lands) to the United States government for agreed upon
30 consideration to the state of Utah, which shall be used exclusively for the benefit of the Great
31 Salt Lake;

32 WHEREAS, the negotiated settlement provides that the United States government shall
33 provide public use and access to the acquired lands consistent with federal law and regulation;

34 WHEREAS, the negotiated settlement provides that the state of Utah reserves and retains
35 all mineral interests, including subsurface and suspended minerals within the waters or brines
36 of the Great Salt Lake; and

37 WHEREAS, in accordance with Utah Code Subsection 63L-2-201(2), a state agency shall
38 submit to the Legislature, for the Legislature's approval or rejection, an agreement to sell or
39 transfer to the United States government 500 or more acres of state controlled lands:

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah approves
41 the agreement negotiated by the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands for the transfer of
42 22,311 acres along the Great Salt Lake to the United States government.