

Concurrent Resolution Regarding Nuclear Energy

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Derrin R. Owens

House Sponsor: Colin W. Jack

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This resolution expresses support and intent for Utah to pursue Agreement State status with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for additional elements of the nuclear fuel cycle.

Highlighted Provisions:

This resolution:

- highlights Utah's support for nuclear energy development and deployment; and
expresses Utah's intent to pursue agreement state status for additional elements of the nuclear fuel cycle.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

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

WHEREAS, under Section 274 of the Atomic Energy Act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 2021, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is authorized to enter into agreements with states to assume regulatory authority over certain nuclear materials and activities;

WHEREAS, Utah desires to expand its regulatory authority to include elements of the nuclear fuel cycle that are not prohibited by federal statute;

WHEREAS, increased state participation in these regulatory areas would enhance local oversight, improve coordination with industry and federal partners, and support Utah's broader energy development goals;

WHEREAS, certain elements of the nuclear fuel cycle may be appropriate for state management;

WHEREAS, Utah intends to work collaboratively with the Nuclear Regulatory

29 Commission to develop the technical, legal, and administrative framework necessary to  
30 support an Agreement State application for additional eligible portions of the fuel cycle;

31 WHEREAS, the governor, through the support and facilitation of the Division of Waste  
32 Management and Radiation Control, may submit a letter of intent to the Nuclear Regulatory  
33 Commission to begin the process toward establishing that status; and

34 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the importance of maintaining high standards for  
35 nuclear safety and environmental protection while enabling states to participate responsibly in  
36 regulatory oversight:

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the  
38 Governor concurring therein, expresses intent to pursue Agreement State status for elements of  
39 the nuclear fuel cycle not expressly prohibited and encourages the Nuclear Regulatory  
40 Commission to clarify which portions of the fuel cycle are reserved by statute versus policy.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature supports the governor and the  
42 Department of Environmental Quality in coordinating with the Nuclear Regulatory  
43 Commission to initiate the Agreement State application process for eligible activities.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to the chairman of the  
45 Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the governor of Utah, and Utah's congressional delegation.