

# Resolution Encouraging the Integration of Agriculture into Residential Development

## 2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Scott D. Sandall**

## LONG TITLE

### **General Description:**

This resolution promotes the integration of agricultural features into the fabric of traditional residential neighborhoods.

## Highlighted Provisions:

This resolution:

- recognizes the importance of agriculture to Utah's past, present, and future;
- encourages municipalities, counties, developers, and builders to be flexible and creative in local planning to allow the integration of agriculture, including working farms, community gardens, orchards, edible landscapes, educational spaces, and other food-producing elements, into the fabric of traditional residential neighborhoods; and
- expresses the Senate's support for incorporating agricultural principles into residential development wherever feasible.

### **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

## Other Special Clauses:

None

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the state of Utah:*

WHEREAS, agriculture has played a foundational role in the history, economy, culture, and identity of the state of Utah, contributing to food security, stewardship of land and water, and strong rural and urban communities alike;

WHEREAS, Utah's agricultural heritage reflects values of self-reliance, community cooperation, conservation, and respect for the land that continues to benefit residents across the state;

WHEREAS, Utah is experiencing sustained population growth and residential development, and some level of continued growth is inevitable to meet housing needs for current and future residents;

31        WHEREAS, thoughtful planning and innovative design can allow residential growth to  
32 occur in ways that honor Utah's agricultural roots while enhancing quality of life, community  
33 connection, and environmental stewardship;

34        WHEREAS, "agrihoods" are residential developments that intentionally integrate  
35 agriculture, including working farms, community gardens, orchards, edible landscapes,  
36 educational spaces, or other food-producing elements into the fabric of traditional residential  
37 neighborhoods;

38        WHEREAS, agrihoods may promote access to fresh food, foster community engagement,  
39 support local agriculture, provide educational opportunities, and create distinctive, resilient  
40 neighborhoods;

41        WHEREAS, agrihood principles can be applied at many scales and in many forms,  
42 including neighborhood farms, shared garden spaces, orchards, preservation of productive  
43 farmland, integration of agricultural uses into open space planning, and partnerships with local  
44 farmers or agricultural organizations; and

45        WHEREAS, encouraging flexibility and creativity in land use planning can help  
46 municipalities, counties, developers, and builders adapt agricultural elements to local  
47 conditions, market realities, and community needs:

48        NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate recognizes and affirms the  
49 importance of agriculture to the state's past, present, and future, and acknowledges the value of  
50 incorporating agricultural principles into residential development where feasible.

51        BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate encourages municipalities, counties,  
52 developers, builders, planners, and other stakeholders to consider agrihood concepts and  
53 agricultural integration when planning and approving new residential growth, consistent with  
54 local goals, private property rights, and existing law.

55        BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate encourages innovation and collaboration in  
56 residential design that blends housing, open space, and agricultural uses in ways that  
57 strengthen communities, enhance sustainability, and reflect Utah's agricultural heritage.

58        BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that nothing in this resolution is intended to create a legal  
59 requirement, mandate, or regulatory obligation, but rather to express legislative support and  
60 encouragement for voluntary adoption of agrihood principles and agricultural integration in  
61 residential development.

62        BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be shared with the Utah  
63 League of Cities and Towns, the Utah Association of Counties, the Property Rights Coalition,  
64 and the Land Use Task Force as an expression of the Senate's awareness of, and support, for

65 agrihood concepts.