

# HCR3 N.A.M.E.S. RESOLUTION

## Native American Mascots and Equality in Schools

### CLARIFICATION

There are currently 3 bill topics dealing with changes from historical names – HB278 “Name Change Process for Dixie State University”, SB10 “Place Name Amendments”, and this resolution, HCR3 “Concurrent Resolution regarding Native American Mascots and Equality in Public Schools”. **Each is distinct.**

### WHAT THE RESOLUTION DOES

HCR3 is a **non-binding resolution**, and it does not create any state mandates. Rather, the resolution encourages three actions:

- Encourages schools to create their **own, local process** for retiring Native American mascots.
- Encourages state and local school boards to provide **curriculum** on the history and culture of Native Americans.
- Encourages **all Utahns to learn** about the history and heritage of our Native American neighbors.

### WHY IT'S IMPORTANT

- The resolution has support from the **Navajo Nation and leaders from the Ute Mountain Ute and Shoshone tribes.**
- Hundreds of other tribal governments, organizations, and Native American citizens have called for the retirement of Native American mascots, including:
  - Utah League of Native American Voters, National Congress of American Indians, National Indian Education Association, Society of Indian Psychologists, PANDOS, etc.
- Substantial research shows these mascots have **tangible negative impacts on our Native American students:**
  - Native mascots are psychologically detrimental –they depress self-esteem and community worth, and increase stress and depression (1).
  - They increase negative stereotypes and prejudice towards Native Americans (2).
  - These negative psychological effects are linked to the high rates of Native American suicide and violence against Native peoples.
- Many highly-regarded scientific associations recommend the retiring of Native mascots, including:
  - American Psychological Association, American Sociological Association, American Counseling Association, American Anthropological Association, National Education Association, etc.
- These mascots also **negatively impact our non-Native American students** (APA 2005).
  - Non-native students learn incorrect and damaging stereotypes and are being misled about Native American peoples and cultures.
  - Students are losing out on the opportunity to learn about Native American culture.
  - Students are learning that disregard for our values of equality and respect is acceptable.

(1). Davis-Delano et al. 2020; LaRocque et al. 2011; Hornyik 2010; Fryberg et al. 2008

(2). Angle et al. 2017; Burkley et al. 2017; Chaney et al. 2011; Freng et al. 2011; Steinfeldt et al. 2010; Clark et al. 2011; Gonzalez 2005; Kraus et al. 2019