

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING UTAH RUSSIA DAYS**

1998 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Sponsor: John L. Valentine**

Gary F. Cox

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OF THE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF JUNE 12 AS "RUSSIA DAYS IN UTAH"; URGING THE CITIZENS OF UTAH TO CELEBRATE EXCHANGES OF CULTURE, THE ARTS, COMMERCE, AND POLITICAL DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND THE STATE OF UTAH.

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

WHEREAS the Ambassador of the Russian Federation, the Honorable Yuli M. Vorontsov, met in Utah with Governor Leavitt and members of the Legislature in 1997;

WHEREAS these representatives of Russia and Utah discussed ways to encourage closer cooperation and greater friendship between their respective sovereign states;

WHEREAS many commercial, educational, cultural, religious, and governmental entities in the state of Utah have ongoing enterprises, relations, and exchanges with corresponding entities in the Russian Federation;

WHEREAS these entities wish to continue and expand their relations with the Russian Federation;

WHEREAS ongoing friendly relations, conducted in a spirit of mutual respect and understanding, will help further a stable democracy and economy in Russia, as well as greater understanding in both the state of Utah and the Russian Federation;

WHEREAS the citizens of the Russian Federation and the state of Utah share common values and goals of friendship and cooperation based on mutual respect and trust;

WHEREAS the citizens of the Russian Federation and the state of Utah also feel a deep appreciation for each other's noble heritage;

WHEREAS both cultures, while springing from distinct histories, were conceived and nurtured in trial and hardship;

WHEREAS both peoples have a profound respect for thrift, industry, the work ethic, self-reliance, culture, education, and the arts; and

WHEREAS June 12 is celebrated as a national holiday in Russia as the "Declaration on State Sovereignty of the Russia Federation," Russian Independence Day:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein, designate the week of June 12, 1998, as "Russia Days in Utah."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor urge the citizens of Utah to celebrate exchanges of culture, the arts, commerce, and political dialogue for the mutual benefit, understanding, and uplifting of our peoples.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the United States Department of State, the Embassy of the Russian Federation, the Consulate General of the Russian Federation in San Francisco, the Russian-American Chamber of Commerce, the State Board of Regents, the Department of Community and Economic Development, the On-Site Inspection Agency, the Utah-Russia Institute, and the members of Utah's congressional delegation.