

**RESOLUTION ON THE FAMILY**

1998 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Sponsor: Evan L. Olsen**

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13 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OF THE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR  
 14 EXPRESSING STRONG SUPPORT FOR CAUSES AND ISSUES DESIGNED TO  
 15 STRENGTHEN FAMILIES; URGING UTAH'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO EXAMINE  
 16 CURRICULUM, POLICIES, AND SCHEDULES BASED ON THEIR IMPACT ON THE  
 17 FAMILY; AND EXPRESSING A DETERMINATION TO EVALUATE LEGISLATION OR  
 18 RULE AS TO ITS EFFECT ON FAMILIES.

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

20 WHEREAS the family is the basic unit of society and should be supported, strengthened,  
 21 and protected by governments, churches, schools, and all other organizations, both public and  
 22 private;

23 WHEREAS it is the family that unites Americans across religious, ethnic, class, and  
 24 political boundaries;

25 WHEREAS rather than intrude upon a family and its responsibilities, government should  
 26 preserve the environment within society that allows families to thrive;

27 WHEREAS the family is the time honored core of a stable society;

28 WHEREAS families need love, spirituality, morality, responsibility, accountability, and  
 29 opportunity in order to function properly;

1           WHEREAS today many families are denied these values or principles, and are threatened  
2 and weakened by conditions prevalent in society;

3           WHEREAS the splintering of the family often leads youth to seek the acceptance  
4 traditionally found in the family from other groups, such as gangs;

5           WHEREAS our most corrosive social problems, including crime, poverty, immorality,  
6 gangs, drug use, violence, civil disobedience, illiteracy, disrespect, and intolerance can often be  
7 driven by the disintegration of the family unit;

8           WHEREAS in many instances government programs intended to alleviate these problems  
9 not only often fall short of their goal, but also result in a heavy tax burden on families, which takes  
10 away resources and time that could be better used to care for their needs and thereby lessen these  
11 problems;

12           WHEREAS the local, state, and national government should carefully scrutinize their laws  
13 and regulations to determine whether they strengthen and sustain families, or weaken, threaten,  
14 and denigrate them;

15           WHEREAS Utah's public schools should evaluate their curriculum, policies, and schedules  
16 to determine how they impact the family; and

17           WHEREAS parents, more than governments, schools, or any other entity, are best suited  
18 to raise and nurture their children:

19           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the  
20 Governor concurring therein, support and champion those causes and issues that strengthen  
21 families through their emphasis on the responsibility, accountability, opportunity, rights, and  
22 freedoms families need to function as they should.

23           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor urge government  
24 agencies to work to ensure that their laws and regulations protect and strengthen families.

25           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor urge local, state, and  
26 national governments to evaluate their laws and regulations to determine whether they strengthen  
27 and sustain families.

28           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor urge Utah's public  
29 schools to evaluate curriculum, policies, and schedules based on their impact on families and make  
30 adjustments, where needed, to strengthen and sustain families.

31           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to the President of the

- 1 United States, the Utah Board of Education, each municipality in the state of Utah, and the
- 2 members of Utah's congressional delegation.

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**Legislative Review Note**  
**as of 12-30-97 10:25 AM**

A limited legal review of this bill raises no obvious constitutional or statutory concerns.

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**