

**RESOLUTION WELCOMING THE WORLD TO
UTAH - 2002 OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES**

2002 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Sponsor: Ben C. Ferry

Patrice M. Arent

This concurrent resolution of the Legislature and the Governor welcomes the world to Utah and to the 2002 Olympic Winter Games and extends best wishes to all who come to participate in, to attend, to assist in the presentation and administration of the Games, and to enjoy world class athletic competition.

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

WHEREAS, the 2002 Olympic Winter Games will be hosted in Salt Lake City and conducted in various venues in surrounding areas from February 8-24, 2002;

WHEREAS, the 2002 Paralympic Winter Games will also be hosted in Salt Lake City and conducted in various venues in surrounding areas from March 7-16, 2002;

WHEREAS, the state of Utah is pleased and honored to host 3,500 athletes and officials from 80 countries for the 2002 Olympic Winter Games and 1,100 athletes and officials from 40 countries for the 2002 Paralympic Winter Games;

WHEREAS, the state will be hosting many citizens, dignitaries and leaders from many parts of the world;

WHEREAS, over three and one half billion people throughout the world will follow the athletic competitions and related Olympic events and be inspired by the personal sacrifices, achievements, and spirit of those participating in the Olympic Games;

WHEREAS, much effort and resources have been expended to ensure that the 2002 Olympic Winter Games are a safe and incomparable athletic experience and a tremendous success for all those who have journeyed to the Games;

WHEREAS, many throughout the state of Utah are working diligently to make the 2002 Olympic Winter Games a resounding success and reflect the spirit of this great state;

WHEREAS, many students in elementary and secondary schools throughout the state have

been involved in Olympic-related projects, including the Fleece Blankets Project to give 4,800 blankets to the athletes participating in the Olympic and Paralympic Games;

WHEREAS, volunteers have been recruited and trained to provide the very best assistance to those attending the 2002 Olympic Winter Games, including many with proficient language skills and knowledge and appreciation for different world cultures;

WHEREAS, the Salt Lake Organizing Committee for the 2002 Olympic Winter Games has diligently addressed the numerous vast details involved in organizing and hosting such an enormous, international event;

WHEREAS, the cities, counties, communities, organizations, and citizens throughout the state have unitedly joined together to invest years in preparation to host and support this event;

WHEREAS, the Olympic movement provides a peaceful means for nations to set aside political differences and to join in a united pursuit of athletic excellence;

WHEREAS, the Olympic movement symbolizes peace and the spirit of brotherhood that can exist among nations;

WHEREAS, the peace and goodwill which encircles the Olympic movement will be felt by all those who attend in person and by all those who participate through different forms of media from around the world; and

WHEREAS, preparations are almost complete and the citizens of the state of Utah are ready to host the world:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein, welcome the world to the state of Utah for the 2002 Olympic Winter Games and the 2002 Paralympic Winter Games.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor express gratitude, friendship, love, and peace to our world visitors and hope they will enjoy the great athletic competition, Utah's citizens, and the wonderful scenery, culture, and heritage of which its citizens are so proud.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor recognize the efforts of many throughout the state, including students, volunteers, communities, and organizers, who have

worked so diligently to ensure that the 2002 Olympic Winter Games and the 2002 Paralympic Winter Games are a tremendous success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Salt Lake Organizing Committee for the 2002 Olympic Winter Games, the United States Olympic Committee, the International Olympic Committee, and to the national Olympic Committee of each of the participating nations.