

**RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING MEDIATION**

2005 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Sponsor: Carlene M. Walker**

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This joint resolution of the Legislature urges state and local government entities to use alternative dispute resolution.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This resolution:

► urges state and local governments, special districts, and their governmental partners to use alternative dispute resolution as a preferred option of preventing and resolving conflicts, reducing litigation costs, and resolving disputes.

**Special Clauses:**

None

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

WHEREAS, the Legislature is committed to ensuring that state and local governments, special districts, and their governmental partners utilize the most efficient and effective means of resolving disputes for the citizens of the state of Utah;

WHEREAS, to be effective in addressing the wide array of issues that face the citizens of Utah, government needs to employ a variety of strategies and problem-solving tools;

WHEREAS, alternative dispute resolution methods offer an opportunity to prevent and resolve disputes in a collaborative manner;

WHEREAS, alternative dispute resolution has proven successful in preventing and resolving public and private conflicts;

WHEREAS, alternative dispute resolution techniques can be used to resolve permitting, procurement, contract, and other disputes prior to parties initiating administrative or judicial

proceedings; and

WHEREAS, Utah Code Title 63, Chapter 46c, Governmental Dispute Resolution Act, authorizes and encourages public agencies in Utah to utilize alternative dispute resolution procedures:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah urges state and local governments, special districts, and their governmental partners to use alternative dispute resolution as a preferred option of preventing and resolving conflicts, reducing litigation costs, and resolving disputes for the benefit of the citizens of the state of Utah.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to each department in Utah state government, each county and city governing body, and each special district in the state of Utah.