

1                                   **JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING**  
2                                   **UNREINFORCED MASONRY BUILDINGS**

3                                   2008 GENERAL SESSION

4                                   STATE OF UTAH

5                                   **Chief Sponsor: Larry B. Wiley**

6                                   Senate Sponsor: Fred J. Fife

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8 **LONG TITLE**

9 **General Description:**

10                   This joint resolution of the Legislature urges the Utah Seismic Safety Commission to  
11 inventory unreinforced masonry buildings in Utah and recommend how to address the  
12 problem.

13 **Highlighted Provisions:**

14                   This resolution:

- 15                   ▶ urges the Utah Seismic Safety Commission to compile an inventory of unreinforced
- 16 masonry buildings in the state;
- 17                   ▶ urges the Commission to use the data to determine the extent of the problem in the
- 18 state; and
- 19                   ▶ urges the Commission to recommend priorities to address the problem in a manner
- 20 that will most effectively protect the lives, property, and economy of the state.

21 **Special Clauses:**

22                   None

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

25                   WHEREAS, the state of Utah is susceptible to powerful, damaging earthquakes;

26                   WHEREAS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency has ranked Utah sixth in  
27 projected annualized earthquake loss in the United States;



28 WHEREAS, much of the existing building stock within the state was constructed under  
29 codes and standards that did not recognize this hazard;

30 WHEREAS, more than 80% of the state's population is located in areas subject to large  
31 earthquakes;

32 WHEREAS, a major seismic event could result in catastrophic loss of life, property,  
33 and business in the state;

34 WHEREAS, one of the state's primary responsibilities is to safeguard the safety and  
35 welfare of its citizens;

36 WHEREAS, unreinforced masonry buildings are among the most dangerous structures  
37 in a strong earthquake;

38 WHEREAS, there is a large, but not quantified, inventory of unreinforced masonry  
39 buildings in seismically active areas in the state; and

40 WHEREAS, recognizing and anticipating future catastrophic events, and preparing to  
41 recover from them is in the best interests of the citizens and the state:

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature urges the Utah Seismic  
43 Safety Commission to compile an inventory of unreinforced masonry buildings so that the  
44 quantity and extent of the problem in Utah can be determined.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges the Utah Seismic Safety  
46 Commission to recommend priorities to address the problem in a manner that will most  
47 effectively protect the lives, property, and economy of the state.

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Utah  
49 Seismic Safety Commission and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

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**Legislative Review Note**  
as of 1-21-08 10:47 AM

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**

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**H.J.R. 7 - Joint Resolution Recognizing Unreinforced Masonry Buildings**

**Fiscal Note**

2008 General Session

State of Utah

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**State Impact**

Enactment of this bill will not require additional appropriations.

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**Individual, Business and/or Local Impact**

Enactment of this bill likely will not result in direct, measurable costs and/or benefits for individuals, businesses, or local governments.

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