

1                                   **RESOLUTION SUPPORTING OBESITY**

2   **AWARENESS**

3   2008 GENERAL SESSION

4   STATE OF UTAH

5   **Chief Sponsor: D. Chris Buttars**

6   House Sponsor: Paul Ray

---

---

7

8                   **LONG TITLE**

9                   **Committee Note:**

10                   The Health and Human Services Interim Committee recommended this bill.

11                   **General Description:**

12                   This concurrent resolution of the Legislature and the Governor designates Obesity  
13 Awareness Months in Utah and urges obesity education and prevention.

14                   **Highlighted Provisions:**

15                   This resolution:

16                   ▶ designates January, February, and March 2008 as Obesity Awareness Months in the  
17 state; and

18                   ▶ urges healthcare suppliers, communities, businesses, and schools throughout the  
19 state to develop awareness campaigns and voluntary programs that focus on obesity  
20 and its prevention.

21                   **Special Clauses:**

22                   None

---

---

23

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

25                   WHEREAS, Utah's leaders have a responsibility to encourage and promote healthy  
26 lifestyles for the citizens of this state, including communicating information about healthy diet,  
27 the importance of physical activity, and the availability of clinical treatment;



28 WHEREAS, in recent years poor health, in the form of obesity and inactivity, has  
29 increased dramatically throughout the world;

30 WHEREAS, more than half of all American adults are overweight, representing  
31 approximately 69 million people;

32 WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control, in the year 2000,  
33 approximately 19.8% of adults in the U.S. were classified as "obese," an increase of 61% since  
34 1991;

35 WHEREAS, only 22% of American adults get recommended regular physical activity  
36 of any intensity during leisure time, and only 15% get the recommended amount of vigorous  
37 activity;

38 WHEREAS, obesity can lead to a 50% - 100% increase in risk of death to an individual  
39 from all causes;

40 WHEREAS, over 280,000 American die each year from obesity-related diseases;

41 WHEREAS, 15% of all children and adolescents are now overweight, nearly double  
42 what it was two decades ago;

43 WHEREAS, in 1980, fewer than 4% of childhood diabetes cases were Type 2 Diabetes,  
44 but that number has since risen to approximately 20%, and of the children diagnosed with Type  
45 2 Diabetes, 85% are obese;

46 WHEREAS, because the prevalence of Type 2 Diabetes has tripled in the last 30 years,  
47 more people will live with diabetes longer, with greater chances of developing disabling,  
48 life-threatening complications from diabetes;

49 WHEREAS, the direct costs of inactivity and obesity account for approximately 9.4%  
50 of national health care expenditures, with costs reaching at least 39.3 billion dollars; and

51 WHEREAS, citizens will be made more aware of the growing problems related to  
52 obesity and inactivity if given pertinent information, and if good examples are set by leaders in  
53 the community:

54 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the  
55 Governor concurring therein, designate the months of January, February, and March 2008 as  
56 Obesity Awareness Months in the state of Utah.

57 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor urge healthcare  
58 suppliers, communities, businesses, and schools throughout the state to develop obesity

59 awareness campaigns and voluntary programs appropriate to their settings which focus on the  
60 causes of obesity, the symptoms and long-term consequences associated with obesity, healthy  
61 alternative food choices, and appropriate physical fitness programs for weight control and  
62 clinical surgical options to decrease coronary heart disease, diabetes, and cancer, and to  
63 improve lifestyle.

64 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to each of Utah's  
65 Chambers of Commerce, the Utah State Board of Education, the Utah State Board of Regents,  
66 and the Utah League of Cities and Towns.

---

---

**Legislative Review Note**

as of **9-28-07 8:36 AM**

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**

---

---

**S.C.R. 1 - Resolution Supporting Obesity Awareness**

**Fiscal Note**

2008 General Session

State of Utah

---

---

**State Impact**

Enactment of this bill will not require additional appropriations.

---

**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.

---