

1 **CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM PROGRAM CONCURRENT**

2 **RESOLUTION**

3 2011 GENERAL SESSION

4 STATE OF UTAH

5 **Chief Sponsor: Patricia W. Jones**

6 House Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

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**LONG TITLE**

8 **General Description:**

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10 This concurrent resolution of the Legislature and the Governor recognizes the positive  
11 approach and best practices of the Crisis Intervention Team Program and encourages  
12 development of active crisis intervention team programs statewide.

13 **Highlighted Provisions:**

14 This resolution:

15 ▶ recognizes the Crisis Intervention Team ~~Program~~ **→ [Training] ←** Program **→ training ←**  
15a as the model of best  
16 practice for law enforcement intervention with persons who have a mental illness;  
17 and

18 ▶ encourages law enforcement agencies and community mental health centers to work  
19 together in conjunction with other community partners to:

- 20 • have a cadre of certified Crisis Intervention Team-trained officers in all
- 21 jurisdictions; and
- 22 • develop and maintain active crisis intervention team programs regionally
- 23 throughout the state.

24 **Special Clauses:**

25 None

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



59 mental health treatment and community services;

60 WHEREAS, the CIT program decreases the use of arrest and detention of persons  
61 experiencing a mental health crisis by providing those persons with better access to timely  
62 treatment;

63 WHEREAS, the CIT program provides an immediate response to crisis intervention  
64 situations by specially trained law enforcement officers;

65 WHEREAS, the CIT program reduces the amount of time officers would otherwise  
66 spend being out of service while awaiting assessment and disposition of the intervention,  
67 thereby resulting in cost savings;

68 WHEREAS, after the CIT program was established in Memphis, Tennessee, officer  
69 injuries sustained during responses to "mental disturbance" calls dropped by 80%;

70 WHEREAS, after the CIT program was established in Albuquerque, New Mexico, the  
71 number of crisis intervention calls requiring SWAT team involvement declined by 58%;

72 WHEREAS, according to one study, officers with CIT training were less likely to use  
73 force when dealing with mentally ill persons, and CIT-trained officers believed that  
74 nonphysical responses were more effective and physical responses less effective in dealing  
75 with a person with a mental illness than did non-CIT-trained officers;

76 WHEREAS, Utah CIT law enforcement officers are provided with effective skills to  
77 interact with persons in psychiatric crisis and to assist with **Ŝ→ [escalating] de-escalating ←Ŝ**  
77a volatile situations;

78 WHEREAS, the CIT program is also utilized by individuals with a mental illness and  
79 their family members;

80 WHEREAS, the CIT program promotes good will between law enforcement and  
81 members of the community;

82 WHEREAS, the CIT training provides officers the opportunity to spend time "touring"  
83 the mental health system and interacting with people living with mental illness and hearing  
84 from their families and providers to gain an understanding of these difficult illnesses;

85 WHEREAS, CIT-trained officers understand how the symptoms of mental illness may  
86 be manifested and affect behavior, and they are aware of the perspective of the person with the  
87 illness;

88 WHEREAS, not all law enforcement agencies in the state of Utah have CIT-trained  
89 officers; and