

1 **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CONTINUED**
2 **FEDERAL FUNDING OF THE CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT**

3 2011 GENERAL SESSION
4 STATE OF UTAH

5 **Chief Sponsor: Ralph Okerlund**

6 House Sponsor: Michael E. Noel



8 **LONG TITLE**

9 **General Description:**

10 This concurrent resolution of the Legislature and the Governor urges continued federal
11 funding of the Central Utah Project.

12 **Highlighted Provisions:**

13 This resolution:

- 14 ▶ strongly expresses to the United States Congress and the United States Secretary of
- 15 the Interior the Legislature's and Governor's continuing support of the Central Utah
- 16 Project; and
- 17 ▶ urges continued federal funding to complete the project.

18 **Special Clauses:**

19 None



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

22 WHEREAS, in 1964, people of vision and foresight created the Central Utah Water
23 Conservancy District to administer the development of the various proposed units of the
24 Central Utah Project;

25 WHEREAS, the purpose of the project was, and continues to be, the development of ~~§~~ **a**

25a **portion of** ~~←~~ **§**

26 Utah's ~~§~~ **[portion] allocation** ~~←~~ **§** of the upper Colorado River water for the benefit of counties in
26a central and

27 south-central Utah and the people of the entire state;

S.C.R. 3



28 WHEREAS, since 1965 ~~§~~ **Salt Lake, Wasatch, Uintah, Summitt, Duchesne, Sanpete,**
 28a **Piute, Garfield,** ~~§~~ Juab ~~§~~ , ~~§~~ and Utah County citizens have been paying property taxes
 29 into the Central Utah Water Conservancy District in anticipation that they would receive
 30 irrigation water from the Central Utah Project, one of several original purposes of the project ~~§~~ ,
 30a **as well as water to be used for municipal purposes** ~~§~~ ;

31 WHEREAS, Utah's congressional delegation realizes the importance of Colorado River
 32 water to the people of Utah and has fought for the authorizations and appropriations necessary
 33 to build the project;

34 WHEREAS, completion of the Central Utah Project and delivery of ~~§~~ **a portion of** ~~§~~
 34a Utah's ~~§~~ **[portion] allocation** ~~§~~ of
 35 the Colorado River water is vital to the continued, long-term prosperity of the state;

36 WHEREAS, Congress approved the Central Utah Project Completion Act in 1992;

37 WHEREAS, the 1992 Completion Act began a new era in the process by which these
 38 projects are constructed by requiring, as a condition to the federal government's further
 39 participation, that those who receive the benefits of the project contribute a significant
 40 percentage, from 35% to 50%, of the up-front design and construction costs on a concurrent or
 41 "as needed" basis;

42 WHEREAS, the 1992 Completion Act became a model for similar projects throughout
 43 the country as an example of state and federal governments acting as partners in a cooperative
 44 effort to not only complete the project but to mitigate environmental damage;

45 WHEREAS, the 1992 Central Utah Project Completion Act created the Utah
 46 Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission, which has developed and implemented
 47 a mitigation and conservation plan to address mitigation and conservation projects within the
 48 Central Utah Project that restore fish and wildlife habitats and species populations and that
 49 provide related outdoor recreation opportunities;

50 WHEREAS, the district developed a federal prepayment plan that generated
 51 \$117,000,000 in savings for district taxpayers and obtained special legislation in order to
 52 implement the plan;

53 WHEREAS, the prepayment plan has enabled the district to meet its local cost share
 54 requirements for the completion of the project without raising the district's tax rate;

55 WHEREAS, the district has determined that each of the project features is wanted and
 56 needed and meets the test of economic and environmental viability;

57 WHEREAS, although in recent years, the annual budget allocation for the Central Utah
 58 Project has averaged \$40,000,000, the United States Secretary of the Interior has reportedly

59 recommended no Central Utah Project funding in next year's budget;

60 WHEREAS, the project is nearing completion and requires continued federal
61 appropriations to complete the project; and

62 WHEREAS, construction of the remaining final features is critically important to the
63 overall project and to the people of Utah:

64 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the
65 Governor concurring therein, strongly expresses to the United States Congress and the
66 Secretary of the Interior their continuing support of the Central Utah Project as offered by the
67 federal government in the Central Utah Project Completion Act.

68 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor strongly urge the
69 federal government to provide the needed funding to complete the Central Utah Project.

70 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of
71 the United States, the Secretary of the Interior, the Chairs of the Appropriations Committees in
72 the United States Senate and House of Representatives, and the members of Utah's
73 congressional delegation.

Legislative Review Note

as of 1-3-11 10:51 AM

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel

FISCAL NOTE

S.C.R. 3, 2011 General Session

SHORT TITLE: Concurrent Resolution Supporting Continued Federal Funding of the Central Utah Project

SPONSOR: Okerlund, R.

STATE OF UTAH

STATE GOVERNMENT (UCA 36-12-13(2)(b))

Enactment of this resolution likely will not materially impact the state budget.

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS (UCA 36-12-13(2)(c))

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

DIRECT EXPENDITURES BY UTAH RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES (UCA 36-12-13(2)(d))

Enactment of this resolution likely will not result in direct, measurable expenditures by Utah residents or businesses.