

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

2011 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Ralph Okerlund**

House Sponsor: Michael E. Noel

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

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

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This resolution:

- ▶ strongly expresses to the United States Congress and the United States Secretary of the Interior the Legislature's and Governor's continuing support of the Central Utah Project; and

- ▶ urges continued federal funding to complete the project.

**Special Clauses:**

None

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

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

WHEREAS, the purpose of the project was, and continues to be, the development of Utah's portion of the upper Colorado River water for the benefit of counties in central and south-central Utah and the people of the entire state;



28 WHEREAS, since 1965 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;

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 Utah's portion 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.

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**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.