

1                   **JOINT RESOLUTION REGARDING MOVING THE STATE**

2                                   **PRISON**

3   2014 GENERAL SESSION

4   STATE OF UTAH

5                                   **Chief Sponsor: Brad R. Wilson**

6                                   Senate Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

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**LONG TITLE**

8 **General Description:**

9                   This joint resolution of the Legislature addresses the relocation of the Utah State Prison.

10 **Highlighted Provisions:**

11                   This resolution:

- 12                   ▶ concludes that it is in the best interests of the state to move the state prison from its
- 13                   current location in Draper;
- 14                   ▶ resolves that the prison should be relocated from its current location;
- 15                   ▶ identifies factors that should be given careful, serious, and deliberate consideration
- 16                   in the process of relocating the prison; and
- 17                   ▶ directs that a copy of the resolution be given to various persons.

18 **Special Clauses:**

19                   None

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

21                   WHEREAS, the question of whether to move the Utah State Prison from its current  
22                   location in Draper has received much attention and study, including the work of the Prison  
23                   Relocation and Development Authority (PRADA) over the past two years and an in-depth  
24                   study commissioned by PRADA;

25                   WHEREAS, the decisions of where and how to relocate prison facilities must be given



28 careful, serious, and deliberate consideration, taking into account many important factors,  
29 including:

30 a. whether to locate new prison facilities on land already owned by the state or on land  
31 that is currently in public or private ownership but that the state may acquire or lease;

32 b. the efforts of the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice to evaluate criminal  
33 justice policies to increase public safety, reduce recidivism, and reduce prison population  
34 growth should be supported;

35 c. new prison facilities should be conducive to future inmate programming that  
36 encourages a reduction in recidivism;

37 d. the location of new prison facilities should help facilitate an adequate level of  
38 volunteer and staff support that will allow for a correctional program that is commensurate  
39 with the high standards that should be maintained in the state;

40 e. new prison facilities should be located within a reasonable distance of  
41 comprehensive medical facilities;

42 f. new prison facilities should be located to be compatible with surrounding land uses  
43 for the foreseeable future;

44 g. new prison facilities should be supported by one or more appropriations from the  
45 Legislature;

46 h. the preparation of performance specifications for new prison facilities, to facilitate a  
47 high quality correctional program, and for the use of the current prison site should be designed  
48 to maximize the overall value to taxpayers;

49 i. construction should be phased in over a period of time;

50 j. every reasonable effort should be made to maximize efficiencies and cost savings  
51 that result from building and operating newer, more efficient prison facilities;

52 k. access to courts, visiting and public access, expansion capabilities, emergency  
53 response factors, and the availability of infrastructure should be given careful and serious  
54 consideration; and

55 l. the land on which the current prison is located in Draper should be used, disposed of,  
56 or redeveloped through an orderly, competitive, and open process, with the goal of maximizing  
57 the economic development potential of the property and achieving the greatest benefit to the  
58 state's taxpayers;

59 WHEREAS, the citizens of the state will be best served by a relocation of the current  
60 prison facilities, as these and other relevant factors guide the decisions of where and how to  
61 move the current prison facilities; and

62 WHEREAS, considering all relevant factors, including the substantial expense that will  
63 be required in coming years to maintain, replace, expand, and upgrade existing prison facilities  
64 at the Draper location, the cost savings to be realized over time from new, more efficient  
65 facilities, the opportunity to tailor new facilities to any improved correctional programs, and  
66 the substantial economic and other benefits from changing the use of the current prison  
67 property, it is sound public policy and in the best interests of the state to move the prison  
68 facilities from their current location in Draper:

69 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the state of Utah, that  
70 the Utah State Prison facilities currently located in Draper should be relocated from that site to  
71 one or more other suitable locations in the state.

72 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the relocation of prison facilities should be guided  
73 by the principles stated in paragraphs a through l of this resolution.

74 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Utah  
75 Department of Corrections, the Prison Relocation and Development Authority, and the  
76 members of Utah's congressional delegation.

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**Legislative Review Note**  
**as of 2-13-14 4:02 PM**

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**