

## SCR005S01 compared with SCR005

~~{deleted text}~~ shows text that was in SCR005 but was deleted in SCR005S01.

inserted text shows text that was not in SCR005 but was inserted into SCR005S01.

**DISCLAIMER:** This document is provided to assist you in your comparison of the two bills. Sometimes this automated comparison will NOT be completely accurate. Therefore, you need to read the actual bills. This automatically generated document could contain inaccuracies caused by: limitations of the compare program; bad input data; or other causes.

Senator Wayne A. Harper proposes the following substitute bill:

### CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REGARDING WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY

2015 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Wayne A. Harper**

House Sponsor: ~~{ }~~ Eric K. Hutchings

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#### LONG TITLE

##### General Description:

This concurrent resolution of the Legislature and the Governor supports partnering with Western Governors University to ~~{create Western Governors University Utah to}~~ meet the needs of Utah's adults.

##### Highlighted Provisions:

This resolution:

- ▶ expresses support for partnering with Western Governors University to ~~{create Western Governors University Utah to}~~ meet the needs of Utah's adults;
- ▶ strongly urges the Utah State Board of Regents to:
  - further recognize and endorse online, competency-based education as an

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important component of Utah's higher education system;

- ~~{include}~~ continue to promote Western Governors University ~~{Utah in all of the same promotional efforts that it exerts on behalf of each}~~ along with all other current Utah ~~{institution}~~ institutions of higher education;
- ~~{~~ • ~~display and address prominently on its website the opportunities that Western Governors University Utah provides to prospective students;~~
- ~~}~~ • work to eliminate unnecessary barriers to the delivery of education programs provided by Western Governors University; and
- ~~{work with the university, as appropriate, to }~~ integrate Western Governors University Utah's academic programs and services ~~{in}~~ into the state's higher education policy and strategy; and
- ~~{~~ • ~~present a report of its efforts to take the actions strongly urged in this resolution in the September 2015 meeting of the Utah Legislature's Education Interim Committee; and~~
- ~~→~~ urges ~~}~~ urges the Utah Department of Workforce Services, the Utah State Office of Education, the Utah Department of ~~{Workforce Services}~~ Veterans' and Military Affairs, and Utah employers to~~{}~~:
  - explore methods for promoting online competency-based educational opportunities like Western Governors University ~~{Utah}~~ for dislocated workers, veterans, members of the Utah National Guard, and other Utahns in need of higher education achievement and bachelor's degrees~~{}~~:
  - endorse and support Western Governors University as an important component of the state higher education system; and
  - increase their efforts to promote and support Western Governors University as a cost-effective option for working adults to increase their educational attainment.

### Special Clauses:

None

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

WHEREAS, Utah's adults are in need of greater access to opportunities to obtain higher education degrees;

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WHEREAS, currently, 43% of Utah's adults hold a post-secondary degree or certificate;

WHEREAS, ~~{Governor Herbert has set a goal to have 66% of Utah's population aged 25-35 achieve}~~ it is projected that 66% of Utah's jobs will require a post-secondary degree or certificate by 2020;

WHEREAS, for Utah's citizens to be competitive in the global economy, more citizens need the skills and knowledge that come with degree completion and college credentials;

WHEREAS, Western Governors University was created to provide access to affordable education and training opportunities through online, competency-based programs;

WHEREAS, Western Governors University is a nationally recognized nonprofit and independent university that is regionally and nationally accredited;

WHEREAS, Western Governors University offers online degrees based on demonstrating competency as opposed to degrees based on credit hours, clock hours, or grades;

WHEREAS, Western Governors University is fully independent and requires no ~~{state}~~ direct financial participation ~~{for it}~~ from the state to offer its curriculum to its students;

WHEREAS, Western Governors University provides a viable and self-sustaining complement to traditional learning methods through online, competency-based distance learning methods;

WHEREAS, Western Governors University was ranked first in the nation in secondary education and 16th in the nation in elementary education by the National Council on Teacher Quality;

WHEREAS, Western Governors University confers 15% of all master's degrees and 5% of all bachelor's degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education in the nation;

WHEREAS, among minorities, Western Governors University is one of the top five institutions conferring bachelor's degrees in nursing and one of the top 10 institutions conferring master's degrees in nursing in the nation;

WHEREAS, the average time to complete a bachelor's degree at Western Governors University is three years, at a cost of only \$6,000 per 12 month year;

WHEREAS, Western Governors University students are judged by employers to be very well prepared for their jobs;

WHEREAS, Western Governors University has demonstrated success in providing

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online, competency-based education to Utahns and shares the state's goals for increasing the number of citizens who have obtained high-quality bachelor's degrees through cost-effective, flexible, and quickly initiated means; and

WHEREAS, the state of Utah should take additional steps to enable Western Governors University to expand services in the state for the benefit of Utah's citizens:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein, supports partnering with Western Governors University to ~~{create Western Governors University Utah to }~~meet the needs of Utah's adults.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor strongly urge the Utah State Board of Regents to:

- further recognize and endorse online, competency-based education as an important component of Utah's higher education system;
- ~~{include}~~continue to promote Western Governors University ~~{Utah in all of the same promotional efforts that it exerts on behalf of each}~~along with all other current Utah ~~{institution}~~institutions of higher education;  
~~{~~• ~~display and address prominently on its website the opportunities that Western Governors University Utah provides to prospective students;~~
- work to eliminate unnecessary barriers to the delivery of such education programs provided by Western Governors University; and
- ~~{work with the university, as appropriate, to }~~integrate Western Governors University Utah's academic programs and services ~~{in}~~into the state's higher education policy and strategy~~{~~and  
• ~~present a report of its efforts to take the actions strongly urged in this resolution in the September 2015 meeting of the Utah Legislature's Education Interim Committee}~~.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor urge the Utah Department of Workforce Services, the Utah State Office of Education, the Utah Department of Veterans' and Military Affairs, and Utah employers to~~{}~~:

- explore methods for promoting online competency-based educational opportunities like Western Governors University ~~{Utah}~~ for ~~{those}~~ dislocated workers, veterans, members of the Utah National Guard, and

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other Utahns in need of higher education achievement and bachelor's degrees:

- endorse and support Western Governors University as an important component of the state higher education system; and
- increase their efforts to promote and support Western Governors University as a cost-effective option for working adults to increase their educational attainment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Utah State Board of Regents, the Utah Department of Workforce Services, the Utah State Office of Education, the Utah Department of Veterans' and Military Affairs, the Utah Chamber of Commerce, Western Governors University, and the members of Utah's congressional delegation.

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**Legislative Review Note**

~~as of 1-19-15 6:25 PM~~

~~Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel}~~