

1 **JOINT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE RETENTION OF**
2 **PUBLIC EDUCATORS**
3 2016 GENERAL SESSION
4 STATE OF UTAH

5 **Chief Sponsor: Rebecca P. Edwards**

6 Senate Sponsor: _____

8 **LONG TITLE**

9 **General Description:**

10 This joint resolution supports the retention of public educators by directing revenue
11 generated from public lands towards a fund to increase educator salaries.

12 **Highlighted Provisions:**

13 This resolution:

- 14 ▶ recognizes the shortage of credentialed public educators in the state of Utah;
- 15 ▶ acknowledges that public education is a critical component of Utah's prosperity; and
- 16 ▶ directs that net revenue generated from the management of public lands that have

17 been transferred to the state of Utah be deposited into a new fund for the purpose of
18 increasing public educator salaries.

19 **Special Clauses:**

20 None

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

23 WHEREAS, in all states east of the state of Colorado, the federal government controls
24 4% of the land;

25 WHEREAS, in the states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana,
26 Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming, the federal government still
27 controls a significant amount of land;



28 WHEREAS, the federal government manages and controls 64.5% of Utah's 54.3
29 million acres of land;

30 WHEREAS, the paucity of state and private land in Utah severely constrains the size
31 and diversity of the state's economy and educational opportunities;

32 WHEREAS, in 2012 the Legislature passed H.B. 148, Transfer of Public Lands Act and
33 Related Study, which seeks to transfer to the state of Utah the title of public lands in the state
34 currently managed by the federal government;

35 WHEREAS, in the event that federally controlled and managed lands are transferred to
36 the state of Utah, the state would be the recipient of any revenue generated from the lands;

37 WHEREAS, public education is a critical component of Utah's prosperity, and state
38 revenue invested in public schools is an investment in Utah's children and future economic
39 success; and

40 WHEREAS, the state of Utah is experiencing a growing shortage of credentialed
41 educators while the population of students in the public education system continues to grow:

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that 60% of any new, recurring net revenue
43 derived from the management of transferred public lands shall be deposited into a new fund
44 and disbursed for the purpose of increasing public primary and secondary educator salaries.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the revenue described above continue to be
46 deposited into the fund and disbursed until educators' starting salaries have increased by a
47 minimum of 25% from the current starting salary.

Legislative Review Note
Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel