

1                   **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING UTAHNS TO**  
2                   **CONSIDER THE SMOG RATING WHEN PURCHASING A**  
3                   **VEHICLE**

4                   2017 GENERAL SESSION

5                   STATE OF UTAH

6                   **Chief Sponsor: Patrice M. Arent**

7                   Senate Sponsor: Brian E. Shiozawa

8   Cosponsor:                   Edward H. Redd

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10 **LONG TITLE**

11 **General Description:**

12           This concurrent resolution of the Legislature and the Governor encourages the citizens  
13 of the state, when purchasing a vehicle, to consider the vehicle's smog rating and other  
14 environmental impacts.

15 **Highlighted Provisions:**

16           This resolution:

- 17           ▶ recognizes how vehicle emissions impact Utah's air quality;
- 18           ▶ acknowledges the air quality benefits of purchasing a vehicle with a smog rating of  
19 eight or higher; and
- 20           ▶ encourages citizens of the state to:
- 21               • consider a vehicle's smog rating; and
- 22               • purchase a vehicle with a smog rating of eight or higher.

23 **Special Clauses:**

24           None

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



27 WHEREAS, many of Utah's residents live in areas that experience periods when fine  
28 particulate or ozone pollution exceeds federal air quality standards;

29 WHEREAS, the Wasatch Front's and Cache Valley's unique geography are major  
30 contributors to serious air pollution during winter inversions as polluted ~~air~~ → [warmer] colder ← ~~air~~  
30a air is trapped  
31 by ~~air~~ → [colder] warmer ← ~~air~~ air and hemmed in by Utah's mountain ranges;

32 WHEREAS, according to the Utah Foundation, "Studies have shown that ozone and  
33 inversion-type particulate exposure can shorten life expectancy, exacerbate cardiovascular and  
34 respiratory issues, and increase infant mortality rates";

35 WHEREAS, as Utah's population continues to grow, so will the challenges to reducing  
36 vehicle pollutants;

37 WHEREAS, vehicle miles traveled in the state of Utah are expected to double between  
38 2013 and 2040;

39 WHEREAS, areas that fail to comply with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards'  
40 pollutant standards are classified as "nonattainment" areas, and vehicle sources account for a  
41 large percentage of emissions in Utah's nonattainment counties;

42 WHEREAS, during the winter, 48% of the emissions that lead to fine particulate  
43 pollution along the Wasatch Front comes from mobile sources;

44 WHEREAS, vehicles account for 45% of the emissions that lead to summertime ozone  
45 formation;

46 WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires that a  
47 new vehicle be tested and its emissions analyzed before it is sold;

48 WHEREAS, the EPA provides a "smog rating" for vehicles that reflects tailpipe  
49 emissions that contribute to local and regional air pollution;

50 WHEREAS, smog ratings range from one to 10, with one being the most polluting to  
51 the environment and 10 being the least polluting;

52 WHEREAS, the average new vehicle sold has a smog rating of five;

53 WHEREAS, purchasing a vehicle with a smog rating of eight results in one-fifth the  
54 emissions of a vehicle with a smog rating of five;

55 WHEREAS, all new vehicles model year 2013 or newer are sold with a label featuring  
56 the vehicle's smog rating and other information regarding the vehicle's environmental impact;

57 WHEREAS, emissions standards for used vehicles can be identified by locating the

58 Vehicle Emissions Control Information label on the underside of the vehicle's hood; and

59 WHEREAS, in 2013, at Governor Gary R. Herbert's request, Envision Utah convened a

60 Clean Air Action Team that recommended as a first immediate action to "bring cleaner cars

61 and fuel to Utah as soon as possible," and further recommended to encourage the sale and

62 purchase of vehicles with a smog rating of eight or higher:

63 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the

64 Governor concurring therein, encourages citizens of the state, when purchasing a vehicle, to

65 consider the vehicle's smog rating and other environmental impacts.

66 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor encourage

67 automobile dealers to make a vehicle's smog rating known to customers when they are

68 purchasing a vehicle, just as they would fuel economy.

69 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor encourage

70 citizens to purchase a vehicle with a smog rating of eight or higher where such vehicle meets

71 the purchaser's needs.

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**Legislative Review Note**  
**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**