

28 short-term air quality issues;

29 WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently reclassified the
30 Wasatch Front from a "moderate" to a "serious" nonattainment area, based on the Clean Air
31 Act's air quality health standards;

32 WHEREAS, although vehicle contribution to air pollution has decreased over time and
33 will continue to decline with both the implementation of Tier III fuel and automobile standards
34 from 2017 to 2025, and rapidly increasing fuel economy standards, fossil fuel combustion
35 engines continue to account for approximately 48% of emissions that lead to poor air quality in
36 Utah;

37 WHEREAS, as Utah's population continues to grow, so will the challenge of reducing
38 tailpipe emissions;

39 WHEREAS, as of the 2015-16 school year, there were 2,895 school buses among the
40 41 school districts and charter schools in Utah, traveling approximately 32 million miles during
41 the school year;

42 WHEREAS, most of the school buses being used by school districts and charter schools
43 burn diesel fuel;

44 WHEREAS, numerous studies have concluded that the younger a person is, the more
45 susceptible that person is to the dangers of diesel exhaust fumes, resulting in increased health
46 risks associated with lung disease, cancer, and heart disease;

47 WHEREAS, the concentration of numerous idling diesel school buses around schools
48 contributes to poor air quality, impacting the health of children and other members of the
49 community;

50 WHEREAS, inversions settle into the valleys along the Wasatch Front during the
51 school year, trapping exhaust fumes and fine particulate matter in the air we breathe;

52 WHEREAS, numerous efforts have been made over the past several years to remove
53 older diesel school buses in Utah and replace them with clean fuel alternatives such as
54 compressed natural gas (CNG), clean diesel, electricity, propane, or hybrid capability;

55 WHEREAS, one CNG school bus saves the equivalent of the emissions produced by 35
56 cars on the road;

57 WHEREAS, Jordan School District began acquiring CNG school buses ~~5~~ **20** 29 ~~5~~
57a years ago;

58 WHEREAS, Jordan School District currently has the state's largest fleet of CNG school