

**JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING UTAH'S SPORTSMEN  
AND SPORTSWOMEN**

2018 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Timothy D. Hawkes**

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

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This resolution recognizes the impact Utah's sportsmen and sportswomen have on our state's natural resources and economy.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This resolution:

▶ urges Congress to protect and enhance ~~H~~→ [federal] public ←~~H~~ lands for Utah's sportsmen and sportswomen to advance the goals of hunters, anglers, recreational shooters, and others; and

▶ urges Congress to respect the historic and current use of Utah's public land by sportsmen and sportswomen, support the time-honored Utah traditions of hunting and angling, the very backbone of conservation, and respect the administration of wildlife conservation through the sound science delivered by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and science-based policies developed by the Utah Wildlife Board.

**Special Clauses:**

None

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

WHEREAS, Utah has a rich and storied culture of hunting, fishing, trapping, and recreational shooting that dates back further than the state itself and carries forward to this day;



28 WHEREAS, Utah's sportsmen and sportswomen were among the first conservationists  
29 to support the establishment of a wildlife management agency, now referred to as the Utah  
30 Division of Wildlife Resources, to conserve fish, wildlife, and their habitats;

31 WHEREAS, through their license fees, Utah's sportsmen and sportswomen helped fund  
32 state efforts to provide for multiple uses of healthy and sustainable natural resources;

33 WHEREAS, upon realizing that license fees alone were insufficient to restore and  
34 sustain healthy fish and wildlife populations, sportsmen and sportswomen supported  
35 self-imposed excise taxes on hunting, fishing, and boating equipment, as well as firearms and  
36 ammunition, to raise additional conservation funds;

37 WHEREAS, to this day, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources is funded primarily by  
38 sportsmen and sportswomen, through this American System of Conservation Funding - a "user  
39 pays, public benefits" approach that is widely recognized as the most successful model of fish  
40 and wildlife management in the world;

41 WHEREAS, last year alone, Utah's sportsmen and sportswomen generated \$44.94  
42 million through this system to support the conservation efforts of the Utah Division of Wildlife  
43 Resources and partners;

44 WHEREAS, Utah's 493,000 hunters and anglers support the state's economy through  
45 spending more than \$1.04 billion while engaged in their pursuits;

46 WHEREAS, annually, this spending supports approximately 19,677 jobs in Utah and  
47 generates over \$62 million in state and local taxes; and

48 WHEREAS, Utah's vast public and private lands are vital in providing opportunities for  
49 Utahns to hunt, fish, trap, and recreationally shoot:

50 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah  
51 urges the United States Congress to protect and enhance access to ~~the~~ **[federal]** public ~~lands~~ lands  
51a for Utah's  
52 sportsmen and sportswomen to advance the goals of hunters, anglers, recreational shooters, and  
53 others.

54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah urges the  
55 United States Congress to respect the historic and current use of Utah's public ~~lands~~ **and private**  
55a **[land]** lands ~~lands~~ by  
56 sportsmen and sportswomen, support the time-honored Utah traditions of hunting and angling,  
57 the very backbone of conservation, and respect the administration of wildlife conservation  
58 through the sound science delivered by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and