

**JOINT RESOLUTION GRANTING LEGISLATIVE  
APPROVAL FOR THE SALE OF UTAH STATE  
DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER LAND**

2018 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Michael S. Kennedy**

Senate Sponsor: Daniel Hemmert

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This joint resolution of the Legislature authorizes the Utah State Developmental Center Board to approve the sale of land associated with the Utah State Developmental Center (USDC) for the purpose of building an east-west connector road.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This resolution:

- ▶ recognizes the important role the USDC plays in the provision of resources and support for individuals with intellectual disabilities who have complex or acute needs;
- ▶ recognizes the contributions that members of the community make to the USDC;
- ▶ recognizes the value of an east-west connector road for the environment, the economy, the local community, and individuals who visit, volunteer, and work at the USDC; and
- ▶ authorizes the USDC Board to approve the sale of land associated with the USDC for the purpose of building an east-west connector road.

**Special Clauses:**

None





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

29       WHEREAS, Utah Code Subsection [62A-5-206.6\(5\)](#) requires that the Utah State  
30 Developmental Center Board obtain the approval of the Legislature before offering real  
31 property or water rights associated with the Utah State Developmental Center (USDC) for sale,  
32 long-term lease, or other disposition;

33       WHEREAS, in 1929 the Legislature established the Utah State Training Center, later  
34 known as the USDC, to assist with the care, protection, treatment, and education of individuals  
35 with intellectual disabilities;

36       WHEREAS, like other states, Utah built the public institution in a remote location and  
37 within a broad perimeter of land that provided a physical barrier between the institution and the  
38 nearest rural homes and communities;

39       WHEREAS, since state governments first acknowledged a public interest in, and  
40 accepted some fiscal responsibility for, citizens with intellectual disabilities, states have made  
41 sweeping changes in the philosophy and practice of providing public services to those citizens;

42       WHEREAS, these paradigm shifts have resulted from a growing knowledge about  
43 intellectual disabilities, including their causes, prevention, interventions, and accommodations;

44       WHEREAS, also contributing to the paradigm shifts was an improving regard for  
45 individuals who experience intellectual disabilities, as evidenced by public laws that affirm and  
46 promote their rights, an expansion of publicly funded services, and greater inclusion by their  
47 communities;

48       WHEREAS, the USDC Board oversees and makes recommendations to the Legislature  
49 concerning the development of real property associated with the USDC for the long-term  
50 benefit and safety of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities who receive  
51 care or support from the USDC;

52       WHEREAS, each year individuals from the local community provide over 16,000 hours  
53 of volunteer service to the USDC;

54       WHEREAS, according to a 2017 Department of Transportation managed study, by the  
55 year 2040, an east-west connector road is projected to save up to 44,000 hours of driving time  
56 each year and reduce miles traveled each year by 1.8 million;

57       WHEREAS, the improved access that an east-west connector road will provide will  
58 benefit USDC volunteers, visitors, and staff members; and

59 WHEREAS, the improved access that an east-west connector road will provide will  
60 reduce response time for public safety personnel who serve the USDC, thus improving safety  
61 and security for USDC residents:

62 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature, in accordance with Utah  
63 Code Subsection [62A-5-206.6\(5\)](#), authorizes the USDC Board to approve the sale of land  
64 associated with the USDC for the purpose of building an east-west connector road, according  
65 to specifications provided by the Department of Transportation in collaboration with the USDC  
66 Board, and in consideration of the resolution passed by the USDC Board on May 17, 2017.

67 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature directs that the Department of  
68 Transportation and all other governmental entities involved in the construction of the east-west  
69 connector road take all reasonable steps to mitigate any negative impact on the Utah State  
70 Developmental Center or private property.

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