

**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE 150TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE GOLDEN SPIKE**

2019 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Joel Ferry**

Senate Sponsor: Scott D. Sandall

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This concurrent resolution of the Legislature and the Governor commemorates the 150th anniversary of the Golden Spike site.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This resolution:

- ▶ recognizes the historic significance of the completion of the first transcontinental railroad to the state and the nation;
- ▶ recognizes the efforts of the people of Box Elder County and Utah, many of whom have dedicated countless hours to the Golden Spike National Historic Site; and
- ▶ recognizes the 150th anniversary of the Golden Spike ceremony and the completion of the transcontinental railroad.

**Special Clauses:**

None

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

WHEREAS, on May 10, 1869, at Promontory Summit, Utah, a ceremonial golden spike was driven into the final tie joining the Union Pacific Railroad and Central Pacific Railroad lines, marking the completion of the first transcontinental railroad across the nation;

WHEREAS, the transcontinental railroad was a significant accomplishment for the



28 people of Utah and the nation;

29 WHEREAS, the construction of the first transcontinental railroad involved 15,000  
30 workers and took almost six years;

31 WHEREAS, Chinese, Irish, and other immigrant laborers were responsible for much of  
32 the labor necessary to complete the railroad;

33 WHEREAS, Mormon settlers in Utah provided significant labor and capital toward the  
34 construction of the transcontinental railroad, including much of the grading work to complete  
35 both the Central Pacific and Union Pacific lines through Utah;

36 WHEREAS, the transcontinental railroad accelerated the settlement of the American  
37 West, allowing goods and people to move from coast to coast more safely, more efficiently,  
38 and more economically;

39 WHEREAS, the transcontinental railroad reduced the cost and time of travel from the  
40 east to the west side of the United States from \$1000 to \$150 and from six months to  
41 approximately one week;

42 WHEREAS, the transcontinental railroad paved the way for the economic growth of the  
43 United States, shipping \$50 million worth of freight from coast to coast each year by 1880;

44 WHEREAS, it took until 96 years after the completion of the transcontinental railroad  
45 for the Golden Spike site to be recognized for its important role in the nation's history and  
46 heritage and established as the Golden Spike National Historic Site;

47 WHEREAS, the preservation and recognition of the site can be attributed to the diligent  
48 and persistent efforts of the people of Box Elder County and Utah, many of whom have  
49 dedicated countless hours of service to the Golden Spike site; and

50 WHEREAS, May 10, 2019, will be the 150th anniversary of the completion of the  
51 transcontinental railroad and the Golden Spike ceremony:

52 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature, the Governor  
53 concurring therein, recognizes and expresses gratitude for the tireless efforts of the people of  
54 Box Elder County, the state of Utah, and the Spike 150 Commission who have educated the  
55 citizens of Utah and the United States about the historic events that occurred on May 10, 1869,  
56 in Promontory Summit, Utah, and have protected and preserved the site for future generations.

57 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature, the Governor concurring therein,  
58 commemorates the 150th anniversary of the Golden Spike ceremony and the completion of the

59 transcontinental railroad.