JOINT RESOLUTION APPROVING ACCEPTANCE OF FEDERAL FUNDS IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

2020 THIRD SPECIAL SESSION
STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Jerry W. Stevenson
House Sponsor: Bradley G. Last

LONG TITLE

General Description:
This joint resolution of the Legislature approves acceptance by the state of Utah of certain federal funds.

Highlighted Provisions:
This resolution:

- approves acceptance by the state of Utah of all federal funds from:
  - Public Law 116-123, the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act;
  - Public Law 116-127, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act; and
  - Public Law 116-136, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act.

Special Clauses:
None

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
WHEREAS, on March 6, 2020, Congress passed and the President signed Public Law 116-123, the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act;
WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, Congress passed and the President signed Public Law 116-127, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act;
WHEREAS, on March 27, 2020, Congress passed, and the President signed, Public Law 116-136, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act");
WHEREAS, the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations
Act provides funds to the states, primarily through the Centers for Disease Control and
Prevention, and reimburses states for certain expenditures related to efforts taken in response to
the spread of the Coronavirus disease 2019 ("COVID-19");

WHEREAS, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act provides states and counties
with a temporary Federal Medical Assistance Percentage increase to support certain medical
and social service programs in the states, and provides funds to states for providing certain
unemployment benefits and other assistance programs;

WHEREAS, the CARES Act provides federal funds to aid individuals, businesses,
states, and local governments in responding to the pandemic caused by COVID-19 for the
following purposes, among others:

- to offset certain necessary expenditures by states and revenue declines
  suffered by the states due to COVID-19;
- to expand unemployment benefits, access to unemployment benefits, and
  eligibility for unemployment benefits;
- to offer certain loan and loan guarantees to eligible states, municipalities,
  and businesses in need;
- to revitalize communities, respond to housing impacts, and expand
  community health facilities, child care centers, food banks, and senior
  services;
- to assist state and local governments in responding to immediate needs
  related to protecting citizens, assisting in community recovery, and
  certain declared disasters;
- to assist in certain emergency management efforts by state and local
  governments;
- to assist hospitals and other health-care institutions in:
  - covering unreimbursed health-care related expenses and lost
  revenue;
  - procuring personal protective equipment and other medical
supplies;

• providing certain medical needs such as vaccines and
diagnostics; and

• making certain facility improvements;

to support certain state and local efforts related to public health
preparedness and response;

• to support state child welfare services;

• to support state education systems by providing proportionate funding
to:

• elementary and secondary education institutions for actions and
activities taken in response to COVID-19;

• each state's governor to allocate, at the governor's discretion, for
emergency support grants to the education institutions that are
most negatively impacted by COVID-19; and

• higher education institutions for emergency COVID-19
responses;

• to assist certain public transit systems and airports; and

• to assist states with preparing for and responding to the effects of
COVID-19 on the 2020 presidential election;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has spread within the state and caused a significant disruption
to the economy, the health-care systems, and the education systems of the state;

WHEREAS, the state of Utah is to receive federal funds under the Coronavirus
Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act;

WHEREAS, the state of Utah is to receive a temporary Federal Medical Assistance
Percentage increase from the federal government under the Families First Coronavirus
Response Act;

WHEREAS, the state of Utah is to receive a population-based disbursement of federal
funds under the CARES Act;
WHEREAS, the state of Utah and Utah's citizens will significantly benefit from acceptance of the funds provided by the federal government under the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, and the CARES Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 63J-5-204 of the Utah Code requires that the Legislature approve a federal fund request within three months of the request if the request would "result in the state receiving total payments of $10,000,000 or more per year from the federal government":

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah approves acceptance by the state of Utah of any and all funds granted to the state of Utah from Public Law 116-123, the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, Public Law 116-127, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, and Public Law 116-136, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the resolution be sent to Governor Herbert and the members of Utah's Congressional delegation.