

28 worthy of monument designation;

29 WHEREAS, Utah was the first state to provide for resource land management plans --
30 signaling Utah's commitment to thoughtful management;

31 WHEREAS, the state and federal government share interests, along with the tribes, in
32 preserving sensitive areas and artifacts and in creating certainty in managing national
33 monuments;

34 WHEREAS, for an extended period of time, Utah has been the center of controversial
35 and divisive unilateral national monument decisions;

36 WHEREAS, although Utah's congressional delegation and ~~H~~→ many ←~~H~~ state and local
36a leaders

37 publicly opposed the designation of the Bears Ears National Monument, in December 2016,
38 President Obama designated the Bears Ears National Monument, limiting public access to 1.35
39 million acres in San Juan County and affecting over 100,000 acres of land held by the School
40 and Institutional Trust Lands Administration to which Utah should have a legal right to access;

41 WHEREAS, the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument was created in 1996 by
42 President Clinton without input or support from Garfield or Kane counties, their citizens, their
43 public officials, or the state and without consideration of roads, local economies, customs,
44 culture, and heritage;

45 WHEREAS, the designation of lands as monuments has reduced the ability of the state
46 to actively manage for land health issues such as vegetation treatments, erosion control, water
47 management, grazing management, wildlife management activities, and invasive plant control;

48 WHEREAS, ~~H~~→ many people in rural Utah believe that ←~~H~~ national monuments create
48a a tourism economy that fails to offset the
49 negative impacts of reduced natural resources related jobs;

50 WHEREAS, Utah has an interest in protecting areas of interest in a way that also
51 protects the economy, development, custom, culture, heritage, educational opportunities,
52 health, and well-being of local communities;

53 WHEREAS, both Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and Bears Ears
54 National Monument were reduced in size in 2017, and new management plans have been
55 written accordingly;

56 WHEREAS, President Biden issued an executive order on his first day in office calling
57 for a study of enlarging both monuments;

58 WHEREAS, changing the size of these national monuments every four to eight years