

1 **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE**
2 **DEVELOPMENT OF A MULTI-STATE PASSENGER RAIL**
3 **COMMISSION**

4 2021 GENERAL SESSION

5 STATE OF UTAH

6 **Chief Sponsor: Luz Escamilla**

7 House Sponsor: Sandra Hollins

8
9 **LONG TITLE**

10 **General Description:**

11 This concurrent resolution encourages the creation of a multi-state passenger rail
12 commission and the expansion of Utah's rail infrastructure.

13 **Highlighted Provisions:**

14 This resolution:

- 15 ▶ recognizes the benefits of railway investment and expanded rail infrastructure;
- 16 ▶ highlights the Southern Rail Commission as a model for interstate rail cooperation;
- 17 ▶ requests that Utah's federal delegation to the United States Congress support the

18 creation of a multi-state passenger rail commission; and

- 19 ▶ calls on the Utah League of Cities and Towns, the Utah Association of Counties, the

20 Department of Transportation, and the Governor's Office of Economic

21 Development to support this multi-state passenger rail commission as well as the

22 overall expansion of Utah's rail infrastructure.

23 **Special Clauses:**

24 None

25
26 *Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein:*

27 WHEREAS, railway investment can spur economic growth by inducing travel and



28 tourism spending;

29 WHEREAS, expanded rail infrastructure can promote economic opportunity by
30 fostering a business environment that attracts investment and creates jobs;

31 WHEREAS, expanded rail infrastructure can encourage individuals to travel by rail,
32 reducing air pollution, highway wear, and traffic crashes;

33 WHEREAS, the United States Congress, in 1982, enabled the formation of an interstate
34 rail compact between Louisiana, Mississippi, and contiguous states that led to the creation of
35 the Southern Rail Commission; and

36 WHEREAS, the Southern Rail Commission engages and informs public and private rail
37 interests to support and influence Southeast rail initiatives:

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the
39 Governor concurring therein, requests that Utah's federal delegation to Congress support the
40 creation of a multi-state passenger rail commission for western states along the lines of the
41 Southern Rail Commission.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor call on the Utah
43 League of Cities and Towns, the Utah Association of Counties, the Department of
44 Transportation, and the Governor's Office of Economic Development to support the creation of
45 this multi-state passenger rail commission and, more broadly, encourage the expansion of
46 passenger rail infrastructure in Utah.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the members of
48 Utah's congressional delegation, the Utah League of Cities and Towns, the Utah Association of
49 Counties, the Department of Transportation, and the Governor's Office of Economic
50 Development.