

**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING SUPPORT FOR
THE LISTEN AND EXPLAIN, COOPERATE AND
COMMUNICATE CAMPAIGN**

2023 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Wayne A. Harper

House Sponsor: Ken Ivory

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This resolution supports the creation of the Listen and Explain, Cooperate and Communicate Campaign.

Highlighted Provisions:

This resolution:

- ▶ highlights the importance of a relationship of trust between law enforcement and the community members they serve;
- ▶ details what elements must be in place to strengthen the relationship between law enforcement and community members; and
- ▶ supports the creation of the Listen and Explain, Cooperate and Communicate Campaign.

Special Clauses:

None

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

WHEREAS, public safety is paramount to a thriving and healthy society;

WHEREAS, Utah's law enforcement officers are integral to the safety of our cities and towns, our counties, and our state;



28 WHEREAS, positive interactions and civility, including respectful dialogue and
 29 communication during police interactions by all parties, is paramount to building relationships
 30 of trust;

31 WHEREAS, Sir Robert Peele, the father of modern policing, wrote in 1829 about the
 32 importance of the partnership between the police and the community, arguing the police at all
 33 times should maintain a relationship with the public that gives reality to the historic tradition
 34 that the police are the public and the public are the police;

35 WHEREAS, Sir Robert Peele also stressed the responsibility of the law enforcement
 36 profession to continually be proactive and collaborative with the citizens they are sworn to
 37 protect, stating the ability of the police to perform their duties is dependent upon public
 38 approval of police existence, actions, behavior, and the ability of the police to secure and
 39 maintain public respect;

40 WHEREAS, Utah's residents are also responsible to be good partners with their law
 41 enforcement agencies within their respective communities;

42 WHEREAS, when citizens trust and cooperate with law enforcement, use of force
 43 incidents are reduced and safety is increased for everyone involved;

44 WHEREAS, the Utah Legislature has made legislation designed to enhance the safety
 45 of the general public and the wellness and safety of Utah's law enforcement officers a clear
 46 priority;

47 WHEREAS, recent events nationally and locally have strained the relationship between
 48 our law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve;

49 WHEREAS, a reduction in use of force incidents is dependent upon repairing the
 50 strained relationship between law enforcement and community members;

51 WHEREAS, in order for the relationship between citizens and law enforcement to be
 52 strengthened, citizens $\hat{S} \rightarrow$ **and law enforcement** $\leftarrow \hat{S}$ should calmly $\hat{S} \rightarrow$ **and respectfully** $\leftarrow \hat{S}$
 52a cooperate with $\hat{S} \rightarrow$ **[law enforcement and respectfully**

53 **communicate concerns with their law enforcement agency leadership and]** **each other;**

53a **WHEREAS,** $\leftarrow \hat{S}$ law enforcement
 54 agencies $\hat{S} \rightarrow$ **and law enforcement agency leadership** $\leftarrow \hat{S}$ must be committed to thoroughly
 54a investigating legitimate complaints and concerns
 55 brought to them by citizens; and

56 WHEREAS, to meet these ends, the Utah Law Enforcement Legislative Committee has
 57 proposed the creation of the Listen and Explain, Cooperate and Communicate Campaign,
 58 which would facilitate cooperation between citizens and law enforcement:

59 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor
60 concurring therein, supports and encourages the creation of the Listen and Explain, Cooperate
61 and Communicate Campaign.

62 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor encourage Utah's
63 law enforcement agencies to use this campaign as a means to train their officers to actively and
64 intently listen to citizens concerns during all interactions and then reasonably and respectfully
65 explain, when possible, what action will take place according to the law or agency policy.