

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

4 2023 GENERAL SESSION

5 STATE OF UTAH

6 **Chief Sponsor: Wayne A. Harper**

7 House Sponsor: Ken Ivory

8
9 **LONG TITLE**

10 **General Description:**

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

13 **Highlighted Provisions:**

14 This resolution:

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

21 **Special Clauses:**

22 None

23
24 *Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein:*

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

26 WHEREAS, Utah's law enforcement officers are integral to the safety of our cities and
27 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 and law enforcement should calmly and respectfully cooperate with each
53 other;

54 WHEREAS, law enforcement agencies and law enforcement agency leadership must be
55 committed to thoroughly investigating legitimate complaints and concerns brought to them by
56 citizens; and

57 WHEREAS, to meet these ends, the Utah Law Enforcement Legislative Committee has

58 proposed the creation of the Listen and Explain, Cooperate and Communicate Campaign,
59 which would facilitate cooperation between citizens and law enforcement:

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

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