JOINT RESOLUTION REGARDING SCHOOL CHAPLAINS
2024 GENERAL SESSION
STATE OF UTAH
Chief Sponsor: Keven J. Stratton
Senate Sponsor:
LONG TITLE
General Description:
This resolution encourages creating guidelines and policies for volunteer school
chaplains.
Highlighted Provisions:
This resolution:
 highlights the role chaplains have had throughout the history of the United States;
and
 encourages LEAs, schools, and the State Board of Education to work
collaboratively to create guidelines and policies regarding volunteer school
chaplains.
Special Clauses:
None
Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
WHEREAS, chaplains have played an integral and storied role in the history of the
United States from the country's founding until current day;
WHEREAS, the Founding Fathers understood the importance of the support and
guidance chaplains provide in a multitude of different ways;
WHEREAS, one of the first requests George Washington made during the
Revolutionary War was to ask the Continental Congress to establish a Chaplain Corps within

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29WHEREAS, George Washington ordered, "Let vice and immorality of every kind be30discouraged as much as possible in your brigade; and, as a chaplain is allowed to each31regiment, see that the men regularly attend during worship";32WHEREAS, the United States Army Chaplain Corps was established on July 29, 1775,33and recently celebrated the Corps' 248th anniversary in 2023;34WHEREAS, the United States Senate appointed a committee to recommend a candidate35to be the Senate Chaplain in April of 1789;36WHEREAS, the United States Senate elected the Right Reverend Samuel Provoost to37be the first Chaplain of the Senate on April 25, 1789;38WHEREAS, Article I, Section 2 of the United States Constitution establishes that "The39House of Representatives shall chuse their Speaker and other Officers";40WHEREAS, the United States House of Representatives elected the first Chaplain of41the House, Reverend William Linn, on May 1, 1789, and has continued to elect a Chaplain of42the House ever since;43WHEREAS, chaplain's services are utilized in a variety of settings including military44bases, police departments, prisons, boarding schools, universities, hospitals, and hospice care45centers, among others;46WHEREAS, the duties of chaplains, which include providing guidance, spiritual47guidance, comfort, counseling, and support, benefit individuals of all different religious and48wHEREAS, the use of volunteer school chaplains can provide benefits to LEAs and49WHEREAS, the use of	28	the Continental Army;
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- 59 chaplains and the role they have had throughout the history of the United States and encourages
- 60 LEAs, schools, and the State Board of Education to look to the Founding Fathers and their use
- 61 of chaplains as inspiration while developing policies and guidelines for volunteer school
- 62 chaplains.