

1 **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION HONORING FORMER CHIEF**

2 **JUSTICE CHRISTINE M. DURHAM**

3 2018 GENERAL SESSION

4 STATE OF UTAH

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34

35 **LONG TITLE**

36 **General Description:**

37 This resolution honors the legacy and service of former Utah Supreme Court Chief
38 Justice Christine M. Durham.

39 **Highlighted Provisions:**

40 This resolution:

- 41 ▶ honors former Chief Justice Christine M. Durham for:
 - 42 • her many accomplishments and awards that bring distinction to the state of
 - 43 Utah; and
 - 44 • her many years of dedicated service to the judiciary and the citizens of the state
 - 45 of Utah.

46 **Special Clauses:**

47 None

48

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

50 WHEREAS, former Justice Christine M. Durham was born in Los Angeles, spending
51 her formative years in Southern California, Washington D.C., and France;

52 WHEREAS, Justice Durham earned her Bachelor of Arts degree, with honors, from
53 prestigious Wellesley College in Massachusetts;

54 WHEREAS, Justice Durham earned her Juris Doctorate degree from Duke University,
55 where she is an emeritus member of the Board of Trustees;

56 WHEREAS, after graduation from law school, Justice Durham taught law, worked as a
57 research associate, drafted legislation, and opened her own office representing indigent
58 defendants, among other activities;

59 WHEREAS, after a number of years in private practice, Justice Durham was the first
60 woman appointed to a court of general jurisdiction in the state of Utah;

61 WHEREAS, Justice Durham was the first woman appointed to the Utah Supreme Court
62 and served with distinction for 35 years, from 1982 until 2017;

63 WHEREAS, Justice Durham was the first woman to serve as Chair of the Utah Judicial
64 Council and served for 10 years, from 2002 to 2012;

65 WHEREAS, Justice Durham was the first woman elected to serve as Chief Justice of
66 the Utah Supreme Court and was Chief Justice for 10 years, from 2002 to 2012;

67 WHEREAS, Justice Durham taught as an adjunct professor for many years at the
68 University of Utah's college of law, teaching state constitutional law;

69 WHEREAS, Justice Durham is a past Chair of the American Bar Association's Council
70 on Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, the entity that accredits American law schools;

71 WHEREAS, Justice Durham helped create and lead the Utah Coalition for Civic
72 Character and Service Education and served on the Utah Commission on Civic Education;

73 WHEREAS, Justice Durham served on the American Bar Association's President's
74 Task Force on the Future of Legal Education;

75 WHEREAS, Justice Durham served on the Advisory Board for the Educating
76 Tomorrow's Lawyers Project of the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal
77 System;

78 WHEREAS, Justice Durham currently serves on the Board of Trustees of the
79 University of the People, an accredited tuition-free online institution;

80 WHEREAS, Justice Durham has been active in judicial education, was a founder of the
81 Leadership Institute in Judicial Education, and has been recognized nationally for her work in
82 judicial education and efforts to improve the administration of justice;

83 WHEREAS, Justice Durham is a past President of the National Association of Women
84 Judges and received the association's 1997 Honoree of the Year award;

85 WHEREAS, Justice Durham served on the governing board of the American Bar
86 Association's Commission on Women in the Profession;

87 WHEREAS, Justice Durham is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation;

88 WHEREAS, Justice Durham is an emeritus member of the Board of Overseers for the
89 Rand Corporation's Institute for Civil Justice;

90 WHEREAS, Justice Durham received the Transparent Courthouse Award from the
91 Institute for the Advancement of the Legal System for contributions to judicial accountability
92 and administration;

93 WHEREAS, Justice Durham served on the governing board of the American Inns of
94 Court Foundation;

95 WHEREAS, Justice Durham served on the governing board of the Appellate Judges
96 Conference of the American Bar Association;

97 WHEREAS, Justice Durham served on the governing board of the Federal Judicial
98 Conference's Advisory Committee on the Rules of Civil Procedure;

99 WHEREAS, Justice Durham is an emeritus member of the Council of the American
100 Law Institute;

101 WHEREAS, Justice Durham received the William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial
102 Excellence, one of our nation's highest judicial honors;

103 WHEREAS, Justice Durham received the Eighth Annual Dwight D. Opperman Award
104 for Judicial Excellence from the American Judicature Society;

105 WHEREAS, Justice Durham served for 12 years on the Utah Constitutional Revision
106 Commission;

107 WHEREAS, Justice Durham is a past President of the Conference of Chief Justices of
108 the United States;

109 WHEREAS, Justice Durham received honors throughout her career, including honorary
110 degrees from five Utah universities;

111 WHEREAS, Justice Durham's many accomplishments, awards, and tireless dedication
112 to the judiciary has brought great distinction to the state of Utah; and

113 WHEREAS, Justice Durham has served with excellence and distinction the citizens of
114 Utah in the judiciary for 39 years:

115 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the
116 Governor concurring therein, honors Justice Christine M. Durham for her many
117 accomplishments and awards that bring distinction to the state of Utah.

118 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor honor Justice
119 Christine M. Durham for her many years of dedicated service to the judiciary and the citizens
120 of Utah.

121 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be presented to Justice
122 Christine M. Durham.