

**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT PLANS TO  
REDUCE AIR POLLUTION IN UTAH**

2014 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Joel K. Briscoe**

Senate Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This concurrent resolution of the Legislature and the Governor recognizes air quality that exceeds established health standards as a significant public health and economic issue in Utah, urges support of Utah State Implementation Plans that address the air pollution problem in Utah, and promotes public awareness of the adverse effects of air pollution on individual health and economic development.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This resolution:

- ▶ recognizes air pollution as a serious public health and economic issue impacting Utah;
- ▶ expresses support for the goals, objectives, and rules identified in the Utah State Implementation Plans for PM2.5 adopted by the Utah Air Quality Board;
- ▶ urges individuals, communities, schools, governments, and businesses to implement policies to reduce emissions of air pollutants;
- ▶ urges that long-term effort be continued to improve air quality through focused work to understand the causes and to identify effective controls to reduce air pollution; and
- ▶ expresses support for initiatives that educate Utahns about solutions to Utah's air pollution challenges.



28 **Special Clauses:**

29 None



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

32 WHEREAS, many Utah residents live in areas that exceed the established standards for  
33 levels of air pollution in the ambient air;

34 WHEREAS, fine particles less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM2.5) are formed,  
35 trapped, and concentrated in Utah's valleys that are prone to winter cold-pool temperature  
36 inversions;

37 WHEREAS, children, elderly adults, and those with underlying health conditions are  
38 impacted to a greater extent by pollutants in the air;

39 WHEREAS, health studies document the impacts of pollutants on Utah's citizens,  
40 including adverse health outcomes during and following periods of elevated PM2.5;

41 WHEREAS, economic development is adversely impacted by the perception of poor air  
42 quality;

43 WHEREAS, weather conditions are variable from year to year and the established  
44 standard for PM2.5 is based on a three-year average of the 98% highest concentration measured  
45 in each year, averaged over three years;

46 WHEREAS, portions of seven Utah counties were designated in 2009 as nonattainment  
47 for the PM2.5 24-hour standard established in 2006;

48 WHEREAS, the Utah Air Quality Board convened a broad stakeholder group that met  
49 over a two-year period to develop and refine air quality chemistry models, daily inventories of  
50 emissions, available controls, and compliance strategies that formed the basis for rules to  
51 reduce emissions from transportation, area, and point sources;

52 WHEREAS, in 2012, the Air Quality Board adopted a State Implementation Plan (SIP)  
53 for the Logan, or Cache Valley, nonattainment area;

54 WHEREAS, in 2013, the Air Quality Board adopted a SIP for the Provo (includes Utah  
55 Valley) and Salt Lake (includes Salt Lake, Davis, and portions of Tooele, Weber, and Box  
56 Elder counties) nonattainment areas;

57 WHEREAS, each selected control strategy was evaluated to demonstrate that it was the  
58 best available in terms of reduction of pollutants of interest, economic feasibility, energy

59 impacts, environmental impacts, and implementation schedule;

60 WHEREAS, through administrative rule, the Air Quality Board identified reasonable  
61 controls that, when combined, reduce daily emissions of directly emitted PM2.5 and precursors  
62 to the secondary formation of PM2.5 with reductions of daily emissions by over 64 tons per  
63 day in the Salt Lake nonattainment area, and 13 tons per day in the Provo nonattainment area,  
64 by 2019;

65 WHEREAS, the regulatory requirements for SIP development do not allow credit for  
66 controls that are intermittent, episodic, or voluntary; and

67 WHEREAS, additional actions that meet these criteria can add to the benefits of the  
68 prescriptive plan and accelerate attainment of the standard:

69 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the  
70 Governor concurring therein, recognizes air pollution as a serious public health and economic  
71 issue impacting Utah.

72 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor express support  
73 for the goals, objectives, and rules identified in the Utah State Implementation Plans for PM2.5  
74 adopted by the Utah Air Quality Board in 2012 and 2013.

75 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor urge individuals,  
76 communities, schools, governments, and businesses to implement policies to reduce emissions  
77 of air pollutants.

78 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor urge that  
79 long-term effort be continued to improve air quality through focused work to understand the  
80 causes and to identify effective controls to reduce air pollution.

81 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor express support  
82 for initiatives that educate Utahns about solutions to Utah's air pollution challenges.

83 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Utah  
84 Division of Air Quality, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and the members  
85 of Utah's congressional delegation.

**Legislative Review Note**  
**as of 2-10-14 3:07 PM**

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**