

**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON PROVIDING CONTINUING
FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE DELIVERY
OF BASIC SERVICES TO DUTCH JOHN, UTAH**

2011 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Melvin R. Brown

Senate Sponsor: Kevin T. Van Tassell

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This concurrent resolution of the Legislature and the Governor urges the United States Government and the Secretary of the Interior to provide continued financial assistance to defray the costs of administration and basic community services for residents of Dutch John, Utah.

Highlighted Provisions:

This resolution:

► urges the United States Government and the Secretary of the Interior to provide continued financial assistance of \$500,000 per year for 15 years to Daggett County to defray the costs of administration and basic community services for the residents of Dutch John, Utah.

Special Clauses:

None

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

WHEREAS, the Dutch John Federal Property Disposition and Assistance Act of 1998 disposed of certain federal properties located in Dutch John, Utah, and provided for assistance to Daggett County for the delivery of basic services to the Dutch John community, and for other purposes;

WHEREAS, for the purpose of defraying costs of administration and provision of basic

community services, an annual payment of \$300,000, as adjusted by the Secretary of the Interior for changes in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers published by the Department of Labor, has been provided from the Upper Colorado Basin Fund authorized by Section 5 of the Act of April 11, 1956 (70 Stat. 107, chapter 203; 43 U.S.C. 620d), to Daggett County, Utah, or in accordance with Subsection (c), to Dutch John, Utah, for a period not to exceed 15 years beginning the first January 1 that occurs after the date of the effective date of this resolution;

WHEREAS, these payments for the purpose of defraying costs of administration and provision of basic community services will terminate December 31, 2013;

WHEREAS, Dutch John was established in 1958 by the Bureau of Reclamation to provide housing and serve project construction needs for the construction of Flaming Gorge Dam;

WHEREAS, permanent structures for housing, administrative offices, maintenance, and other public purposes continue to be owned and maintained by the Bureau of Reclamation;

WHEREAS, during construction of the dam, more than 2,000 people were housed in the town;

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Reclamation and the United States Forest Service, responsible for land management at Dutch John and surrounding Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area, continue to provide basic services and facilities for the community;

WHEREAS, basic services for Dutch John, as well as the operating and administrative costs for the town prior to 1998, were financed by the Bureau of Reclamation and the United States Forest Service, then reimbursed by annual power sales revenue;

WHEREAS, the federal costs of providing the full range of community facilities and services in Dutch John had substantially grown over the years, and in 1998 approached \$1 million annually;

WHEREAS, currently, Daggett County is providing these basic community services to Dutch John, such as road maintenance, water, and sewer;

WHEREAS, to offset these costs, while a traditional community tax base was being

established in Dutch John, Daggett County received an annual subsidy that is to last for 15 years from public power revenues;

WHEREAS, the Dutch John Federal Property Disposition and Assistance Act of 1998 anticipated that in the initial 15-year period commercial developments would be established that would help finance local services;

WHEREAS, the commercial developments that were anticipated to occur in Dutch John to help finance local services have not been established; and

WHEREAS, Daggett County is more than 85% federally owned, thus limiting the ability of the county to raise needed property taxes to support the unincorporated community of Dutch John:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein, urge the United States Government and the Secretary of the Interior to provide continued financial assistance to the unincorporated community of Dutch John, Utah, in the amount of at least \$500,000 annually, as adjusted by the Secretary of the Interior for changes in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers published by the Department of Labor, from the Upper Colorado River Basin Fund for a period not to exceed 15 years, for the purpose of defraying costs of administration and the provision of basic community services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the United States Secretary of the Interior, the members of Utah's congressional delegation, the United States Forest Service, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the Daggett County Commission.