

**JOINT RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE  
UTAH COMPACT**

2013 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Lynn N. Hemingway**

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

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This joint resolution of the Legislature expresses support for the Utah Compact.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

► expresses support for the Utah Compact and its guiding principles that can positively impact the tone of the immigration discussion within the state.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

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*Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

WHEREAS, the Utah Compact is a declaration of five principles to guide Utah's immigration discussion;

WHEREAS, the Utah Compact is being supported by numerous business and religious leaders;

WHEREAS, immigration is a federal policy issue between the United States Government and other countries, not Utah and other countries;

WHEREAS, Utah's congressional delegation and others at the federal level should lead



28 efforts to strengthen federal laws and protect the nation's borders;

29 WHEREAS, reasonable policies should be adopted in Utah to address immigrants in  
30 the state;

31 WHEREAS, the rule of law and law enforcement's professional judgment and  
32 discretion should be supported;

33 WHEREAS, local law enforcement resources should focus on criminal activities, not  
34 civil violations of federal laws;

35 WHEREAS, strong families are the foundation of successful communities, and policies  
36 that unnecessarily separate families should be opposed;

37 WHEREAS, policies that support families and improve the health, education, and  
38 well-being of all Utah children should be supported;

39 WHEREAS, Utah is best served by a free market philosophy that maximizes individual  
40 freedom and opportunity;

41 WHEREAS, immigrants play an important economic role as workers and taxpayers,  
42 and Utah's immigration policies should reaffirm the state's global reputation as a welcoming  
43 and business friendly state;

44 WHEREAS, a humane approach should be adopted that acknowledges the reality that  
45 immigrants are integrated into communities across Utah and reflect our unique culture, history,  
46 and spirit of inclusion;

47 WHEREAS, the way Utah's citizens treat immigrants will say more about us as a free  
48 society and less about our immigrant neighbors; and

49 WHEREAS, Utah should always be a place that welcomes people of goodwill:

50 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah  
51 expresses its support for the Utah Compact and its guiding principles that can positively impact  
52 the tone of the immigration discussion within the state.

53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Utah League  
54 of Cities and Towns and the Utah Association of Counties.

**Legislative Review Note**  
as of 12-5-12 9:18 AM

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**