

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27

**JOINT RESOLUTION CONCERNING RECYCLING**

2023 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Joel K. Briscoe**

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

---

---

**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This resolution recognizes the potential for improved recycling systems throughout the state.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This resolution:

- ▶ highlights the potential for enhanced and expanded recycling efforts and data systems due to funding opportunities sought by the Department of Environmental Quality;
- ▶ acknowledges the environmental and economic benefits of recycling; and
- ▶ encourages increased recycling efforts across the state.

**Special Clauses:**

None

---

---

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

WHEREAS, according to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Utah has developed a centralized mechanism for recycling data collection and sharing, but Utah does not mandate recycling data sharing through this centralized mechanism;

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reports that environmental benefits of recycling include waste reduction, natural resources conservation, and pollution prevention;



28 WHEREAS, the EPA reports that economic benefits of recycling include energy  
29 conservation and increased reliance on domestically sourced materials;

30 WHEREAS, in 2020, the EPA calculated that national recycling and reuse efforts  
31 created 1.17 jobs per every 1,000 tons of material recycled;

32 WHEREAS, EPA data shows that recycling one ton of office paper conserves the  
33 energy equivalent of 322 gallons of gasoline;

34 WHEREAS, EPA data shows that recycling one ton of aluminum cans conserves the  
35 energy equivalent of 1,024 gallons of gasoline;

36 WHEREAS, the Exchange Network Grant Program provides federal funding to states  
37 to facilitate better environmental outcomes and data sharing;

38 WHEREAS, in 2021, the DEQ received \$177,000 in funding from the Exchange  
39 Network Grant Program to develop an electronic information and data sharing system for solid  
40 waste and recycling facilities;

41 WHEREAS, the Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant Program provides  
42 federal grants to support the implementation of enhanced waste management and recycling  
43 strategies in the country; and

44 WHEREAS, the DEQ applied for a grant from the Solid Waste Infrastructure for  
45 Recycling Grant Program to improve Utah waste management and recycling processes:

46 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah  
47 recognizes the potential of enhanced and expanded recycling systems in the state due to the  
48 efforts of the DEQ.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature acknowledges the significant  
50 environmental and economic benefits of recycling and encourages expanded recycling efforts  
51 across the state.