

1                   **JOINT RESOLUTION APPROVING SETTLEMENT**  
2                   **AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES**

3                                   2023 GENERAL SESSION

4                                   STATE OF UTAH

5                                   **Chief Sponsor: Jerry W. Stevenson**

6                                   House Sponsor: Val L. Peterson

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8                   **LONG TITLE**

9                   **General Description:**

10                   This resolution approves a proposed settlement agreement.

11                   **Highlighted Provisions:**

12                   This resolution:

13                   ▶ approves the proposed settlement agreement related to the United States' claims  
14 against the state of Utah in United States, ex. rel. Williams, v. State of Utah, et. al.,  
15 United States District Court, District of Utah, Case No. 2:15-cv-00054.

16                   **Special Clauses:**

17                   None

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

20                   WHEREAS, Reginald Williams, a Utah Department of Corrections inmate, filed a qui  
21 tam action against the state of Utah and certain current and former state employees ("State  
22 Defendants") in the United States District Court for the District of Utah, Case No.  
23 2:15-cv-00054 ("Williams Lawsuit");

24                   WHEREAS, Williams alleged violations of the federal False Claims Act related to the  
25 state's use of certain federal grant funds received between 2009 and 2011;

26                   WHEREAS, pursuant to the False Claims Act, the United States intervened in the case  
27 adding fraud claims and seeking repayment of all of the grant amounts plus treble damages,  
28 totaling more than \$50,000,000;

29                   WHEREAS, the parties attended a settlement conference with the court and reached a

30 proposed agreement to settle the claims brought by the United States ("Settlement  
31 Agreement");

32 WHEREAS, under the Settlement Agreement, the state agrees to pay the United States  
33 \$1,550,000 and the United States agrees to release all claims asserted, or that could have been  
34 asserted, in the Williams Lawsuit;

35 WHEREAS, pursuant to Utah Code Section [63G-10-302](#), the governor has approved  
36 the Settlement Agreement;

37 WHEREAS, Utah Code Section [63G-10-303](#) requires approval from the Legislature for  
38 any settlement agreement that legally binds the state to take action that might cost government  
39 entities more than \$1,000,000 to implement; and

40 WHEREAS, the cost of implementing the Settlement Agreement will exceed  
41 \$1,000,000:

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature approves the Settlement  
43 Agreement.