

1                   **JOINT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A MOUNTAIN**  
2                   **PARTNERSHIP WITH KYRGYZSTAN**

3                                   2012 GENERAL SESSION

4                                   STATE OF UTAH

5                   **Chief Sponsor: John L. Valentine**

6                   House Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

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8   **LONG TITLE**

9   **General Description:**

10           This joint resolution of the Legislature expresses support for the state of Utah to  
11   become a member of the Mountain Partnership.

12   **Highlighted Provisions:**

13           This resolution:

14           ▶ expresses support for the state of Utah to become a member of the Mountain  
15   Partnership;

16           ▶ urges residents of the state to work together with other Mountain Partnership  
17   members, both in Utah and worldwide, to promote cooperation between mountain  
18   communities, with the goal to create new development opportunities, and to join  
19   together to share knowledge and expertise on critical issues such as water,  
20   infrastructure, industry, education, and social services; and

21           ▶ expresses support for the state's membership in the Mountain Partnership as a way  
22   to help preserve mountain environments and to enrich and enhance the livelihood of  
23   mountain people worldwide.

24   **Special Clauses:**

25           None

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



28 WHEREAS, Utah is interested in learning about the environments, needs, and cultures  
29 of other communities and recognizes that mountain communities play a vital role in the world's  
30 culture and economy and have ecological systems that provide large quantities of resources  
31 ranging from forestry, agriculture, rich biological diversity, areas of recreation, tourism, and  
32 social heritage for the rest of the world;

33 WHEREAS, Utah and other mountain regions and communities with mountain  
34 climates can share mutually beneficial knowledge, experiences, and historical data about  
35 development and industry;

36 WHEREAS, the Mountain Partnership is a voluntary alliance of partners dedicated to  
37 improving the lives of mountain people and protecting mountain environments around the  
38 world;

39 WHEREAS, the Mountain Partnership acts as a mechanism to bring together nations,  
40 cities, groups, and organizations from across the world to contribute ideas and create an open  
41 dialogue among its members regarding progress in these mountain communities;

42 WHEREAS, the goals of the Mountain Partnership include strengthening knowledge  
43 about the ecology and sustainable development of mountain ecosystems and improving  
44 livelihood, conservation, and stewardship across the world's mountain regions;

45 WHEREAS, as a developed, mountainous region, Utah can be of service to developing  
46 mountain communities across the world by engaging in new dialogue with other nations on key  
47 mountain region issues;

48 WHEREAS, the Mountain Partnership has initiated many legislative, educational, and  
49 cultural exchanges;

50 WHEREAS, members of the Mountain Partnership have applauded the support and  
51 efforts of Utah Valley University and have given financial support and internship opportunities  
52 to its students;

53 WHEREAS, joining the Mountain Partnership will increase interest in our region of the  
54 United States among overseas nations and among many developing mountain nations;

55 WHEREAS, the interest of these developing mountain nations in Utah's proven and  
56 established water and resource management, tourism, and sanitation systems could create new  
57 jobs and dialogue between Utah residents and other members of the Mountain Partnership;

58 WHEREAS, joining the Mountain Partnership would increase the attention given to

59 Utah's higher education and student efforts to support the Mountain Partnership;

60 WHEREAS, in the fall of 2012, Utah Valley University will be co-sponsoring, with the  
61 International University of Kyrgyzstan, a major international conference, "Conflict and Peace  
62 in the Mountain Regions," which is supported by the United Nations, World Bank, the U.S.  
63 State Department, Pentagon, and the Mountain Partnership, as well as many others;

64 WHEREAS, one panel at the conference will include members of legislatures from  
65 around the world;

66 WHEREAS, joining the Mountain Partnership in no way obligates Utah to any financial  
67 responsibility;

68 WHEREAS, Utah can serve as a beacon for sustainable mountain growth in North  
69 America and work together with the members of the Mountain Partnership and mountain  
70 communities, both in North America and globally, on promoting interests and ideals of  
71 mountain communities and their unique way of life;

72 WHEREAS, Salt Lake City, Park City, Orem, and Provo, together with institutions  
73 such as Utah Valley University, have joined the Mountain Partnership, have contributed to the  
74 promotion of the Mountain Partnership's goals, and are acknowledged by global mountain  
75 communities for major initiatives such as two international Women of the Mountains  
76 conferences at Utah Valley University; and

77 WHEREAS, the contribution of members of the Mountain Partnership from the state of  
78 Utah have helped Utah's future generations of leaders to be prepared professionally for global  
79 employment opportunities and the further advancement of their careers:

80 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah  
81 expresses support for the state of Utah to become a member of the Mountain Partnership.

82 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah urges residents  
83 of the state to work together with other Mountain Partnership members, both in Utah and  
84 worldwide, to promote cooperation between mountain communities, with the goal to create  
85 new development opportunities, and to join together to share knowledge and expertise on  
86 critical issues such as water, infrastructure, industry, education, and social services.

87 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah expresses  
88 support for the state's membership in the Mountain Partnership as a way to help preserve  
89 mountain environments and to enrich and enhance the livelihood of mountain people

90 worldwide.

91 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Mountain

92 Partnership and to Utah Valley University.

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**Legislative Review Note**  
**as of 2-13-12 1:11 PM**

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**