

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO 2012 HB 148 TRANSFER OF PUBLIC LANDS ACT

Whereas, The Act is expected to be found unconstitutional, making ongoing efforts a poor return on investment for Utah and while preventing legislation of other important issues;

Whereas, If successful, an estimated \$432M annual income from the acquired lands would be necessary to manage these and meet existing commitments. This would require transfer of mineral rights, substantial development and favorable market prices. Revenue from both natural gas and oil would fluctuate, peak in 2022, and then decline;

Whereas, Utah would incur potentially significant federal regulatory agency compliance costs for these lands (e.g., Endangered Species Act) in perpetuity;

Whereas, Loss of public access secondary to development is expected and has already occurred with Utah trust lands; and

Whereas, The public would lose its right to provide input in land management decisions; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Women's State Legislative Council of Utah opposes 2012 HB 148 – Transfer of Public Lands Act.

Dated this 11th day of February 2015

Kari Malkovich, President
Women's State Legislative Council of Utah

Gay Lynn Bennion, Director
Energy/Natural Resources/Agriculture & Environment
Legislative Study Committee

Resources:

- 1 2012 HB 148 – Legislative Review
- 2 University of Utah, Utah State University & Weber State University, An Analysis of a Transfer of Federal Lands to the State of Utah xxvi (2014)
- 3 Stegner Center White Paper No 2014-2
- 4 Stegner Center White Paper No. 2015-01