



NEWS RELEASE

Utah State Board of Education

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Board of Education Endorses Proposal to Stabilize Public Education Funding

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah — The Utah State Board of Education (USBE) voted today in support of two bills that have significant impacts on public education. House Bill 357 (H.B. 357) and Senate Joint Resolution 9 (S.J.R. 9) aim to protect, grow, and stabilize public education (K-12) funding.

[H.B. 357, 1st Substitute](#) will require moving Minimum School Program funding to a constitutionally protected account for K-12 education, automatically adjust education funding for enrollment growth and inflation, and reserve revenues to meet educational funding commitments during economic downturns.

[S.J.R. 9, 1st Substitute](#) will allow the use of income tax revenue to support services for children and individuals with disabilities.

“We need to address the revenue imbalances in our state,” said Utah State Board of Education Vice-Chair, Brittney Cummins, “This proposal keeps revenues at current levels, provides for a strong education base budget and enables growth in education funding even during economic downturns.”

“We have an opportunity with this proposal to ensure stability in education funding, which currently relies on historically unstable income tax revenues that lack any sort of safeguards.

Additionally, it allows Utah voters to decide,” said Utah State Board of Education Chair Mark Huntsman.

If the measures are approved by the Legislature, the Constitutional amendment would only take effect if Utahns approve it during the 2020 general election.

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