A Resolution to Support Immigration Enforcement Activities

WHEREAS, the safety and security of our residents is a top priority of the Salt Lake County Council; and

WHEREAS, the Salt Lake County Council recognizes the importance of enforcing immigration laws to address individuals unlawfully present in the United States, particularly those who have committed crimes that threaten public safety; and

WHEREAS, the federal government, is tasked with enforcing immigration laws and prioritizing the removal of illegal immigrants who have committed crimes from communities; and

WHEREAS, the incoming federal administration has expressed its commitment to enhancing enforcement of immigration laws and ensuring public safety through the removal of individuals unlawfully present in the United States who have committed crimes and pose a threat to public safety; and

WHERAS, Utah's 29 county sheriffs are elected by the people to protect public safety, preserve the peace, and manage county jails; and

WHEREAS, Utah's sheriffs have consistently requested that their federal law enforcement partners reduce unreasonable regulations and detention standards that interfere with the ability to house detainees; and

WHEREAS, in 2024 the Utah State Legislature passed HB165 to encourage federal law enforcement officers to coordinate with Utah county sheriffs; and

WHEREAS, cooperation between local governments and federal authorities is essential for the effective enforcement of laws and the protection of our communities; and

WHEREAS, on November 26, 2024, Governor Spencer Cox announced a targeted effort by state government to support the incoming presidential administration's priorities on illegal immigration, including a joint effort by the Utah Department of Public Safety and the Utah Department of Corrections to enhance coordination with federal, state and local partners to identify, incarcerate and deport more illegal immigrants who have committed crimes and pose a threat to public safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the County Council of Salt Lake County, that Salt Lake County hereby commits to:

- 1. Join efforts by Utah's sheriffs and the state government to support the incoming presidential administration's priorities on illegal immigration.
- 2. Work with federal partners, within the bounds of federal and state law, particularly in identifying and removing illegal immigrants who have committed crimes and who pose a threat to public safety.
- 3. Continue to provide necessary information and notification regarding individuals who are subject to federal immigration laws.
- 4. Support Utah's sheriffs in their requests to reduce unreasonable federal regulations and detention standards that interfere with the ability to house detainees.
- 5. Prioritize the removal of illegal immigrants who have committed crimes, especially those who have been convicted of violent felonies, serious drug offenses, repeat property crimes or other crimes that endanger the public.
- 6. Review partnerships and contracts with entities providing so-called "sanctuary" or otherwise adopting policies or practices intended to provide sanctuary to individuals unlawfully present in the United States, to the extent permitted by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall not be construed to authorize any action that would violate state law or federal law, or infringe upon the rights of any individual under the Constitution.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Salt Lake County Council directs relevant departments and agencies to demonstrate compliance with this resolution.

Adopted this 17th day of December, 2024.