

Resolution for Community Involvement In Nominating School Board Members

WHEREAS, U.S. District Judge Clark Waddoups on September 6th 2014, found the current method of nominating state school board candidates to be unconstitutional; and,

WHEREAS, the State School Board makes and influences decisions with political impact, such as federal intrusion into our schools, funding priorities, and the role of parents in education; and,

WHEREAS, the State School Board sets the core curriculum, and can decide what areas of education will be emphasized or ignored, such as globalism, environmentalism, American exceptionalism, the impact of our Founding Fathers, religious freedom, state and family sovereignty, private property, Second Amendment, limited government, and other topics that impact the social outlook of students; and,

WHEREAS, state school board nominees are currently selected by an unelected panel—unaccountable to the People, in a process that tends to favor an education establishment that is heavily influenced by the agenda of national organizations; and,

WHEREAS, local school boards determine how to implement the curriculum and administer local policies directly implementing principles such as social justice, moral dimensions of education, parental involvement, tax policy, and other policies with social and political impact; and ,

WHEREAS, choosing state and local school board members via partisan election is not about partisanship in education, but is about promoting the selection of candidates whose principles match those of the community and parents; and,

WHEREAS, the decisions of state and local school boards involve a majority of our state's budget, but those candidates do not pass through an intense vetting process of careful scrutiny by interested representatives selected by the community; and,

WHEREAS, the Republican Party has an excellent vetting system by which grassroots-elected delegates can identify candidates who will best adhere to the principles in our party platform, most notably the principles of fiscal responsibility and local control of education,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, legislators affiliated with the Utah Republican Party are encouraged to enact and support legislation that would make candidates for Utah's State Board of Education and school districts subject to partisan nomination and election; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT delegates to the Utah Republican Party Convention are encouraged to research and vet state and local school board candidates, in order to identify the candidate(s) who will best support limited government and local control of education.