ULCT RESOLUTION 2016—1

(A) Resolution Title/Subject:

A resolution of the Utah League of Cities and Towns regarding the regulation of fireworks.

(B) We the members of the Utah League of Cities and Towns find:

1. Whereas, we the members of the Utah League of Cities and Towns find that although State law prohibits cities and towns from adopting ordinances or regulations for the sale and discharge of fireworks that conflict with State regulations, many Cities and Towns attempt to enact regulations for the discharge of fireworks the best they knew how and in an effort to decrease fire danger as well as personal or property loss; and

2. Whereas, Cities and Towns throughout the State of Utah determine that the private discharge of aerial fireworks as allowed by State law in 2011 creates serious concerns for public safety, placing both persons and property at high risk; and

3. Whereas, Cities and Towns further realize that because current State law determines how restrictive local governments can be in regulating fireworks in their own respective jurisdictions, being able to regulate the discharge of fireworks within local government jurisdictions is very difficult if not impossible for local governments in their efforts to provide for their own public safety.

Now, therefore, we the members of the Utah League of Cities and Towns recommend that:

1. UCA 11-3-8 be amended which currently prohibits cities and towns from adopting ordinances or regulations that conflict with UCA 53-7-220 through 53-7-225, in such a way as to allow individual cities and towns to adopt ordinances or regulations that appropriately address the needs and concerns of each city or town and which are not any more liberal than what State law allows.

Sonja Norton
Mayor of Vernal

Ken Bassett
City Manager of Vernal