

Resolution on Punishing People for Their Beliefs
Proposed for consideration at the May 4th, 2019 Convention
of the Utah State Republican Party

Whereas, in its recent 2019 General Session, the Utah State Legislature passed Senate Bill 103 (SB103), “Victim Targeting Penalty Enhancements”;

Whereas SB103 subjects a defendant to enhanced penalties if the defendant intentionally selects a victim “because of the defendant's belief or perception regarding the victim's personal attribute or a personal attribute of another individual or group of individuals with whom the victim has a relationship”; and

Whereas allowing government to punish people for their beliefs is dangerous to liberty, and contrary to the principle of equal treatment under the law;

Now therefore, be it resolved that the Utah State Republican Party requests that the Utah State Legislature:

- Reject proposals to punish people for their beliefs; and
- Work to repeal any existing Utah Code that would punish people for their beliefs.

Be it further resolved that the Utah State Republican Party instructs the Chairman to authenticate and send copies of this resolution:

- to all Republican members of the Utah State Legislature; and
- to Governor Herbert.

Note on intent of this resolution:

This resolution is not intended to oppose criminal punishment for criminal actions. Nor is it intended to oppose penalty enhancements for malicious premeditation to hurt another person. This resolution is only intended to oppose punishing a person for his or her beliefs, whatever those beliefs may be.

Proposed by:

Brent Odenwalder (Weber County)

Co-sponsors:

Marcy Underdahl (Carbon County)

Greg Frazier (Davis County)

Julianne Blaney (Utah County)

Lowell Nelson (Utah County)

Larry Meyers (Washington County)

Lynda Penrod Pipkin (Weber County)

Roy Purkiss (Weber County)