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Press Release 13-048, 19 September 2013

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### For Immediate Release

## Utah Governor Declares Sept. 22-28 as ESGR Week in Utah

SALT LAKE CITY — Utah Governor Gary R. Herbert will declare Sept. 22-28, 2013, as Employer Support of Guard and Reserve (ESGR) Week in Utah to coincide with National ESGR Week. To commemorate this declaration, Lt. Gov. Greg Bell will officially kick off ESGR Week at a ceremony Monday, Sept. 23, at 1 p.m. in the Utah State Capitol's Gold Room.

ESGR, a Department of Defense office, was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between reserve-component servicemembers and their civilian employers and to assist in the resolution of conflicts arising from an employee's military commitment.

The text of the proclamation reads as follows:

*Whereas, National Guard and Reserve forces comprise nearly half of our nation's military strength, and are essential to America's national security. Reserve Component forces stand ready to answer the call to serve, whether serving alongside active-duty counterparts all across the globe or responding to humanitarian crises at home and abroad; and*

*Whereas, employers provide critical support to members of the National Guard and Reserve; allowing citizen-warriors to serve whenever the nation calls, often foregoing financial gain and making sacrifices in the process; and*

*Whereas, employer support is stronger than ever, more than 41 years after President Richard Nixon authorized the Secretary of Defense to establish the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve; and*

*Whereas, our nation is in debt to the citizen-warriors departing the comforts of home to ensure our freedoms remain intact. Likewise, America pays special tribute to the commitment of dedicated and supportive employers who continue to make service in the reserve components possible; and*

*Now, therefore, I, Gary R. Herbert, Governor of the State of Utah, do hereby declare September 22 - 28 National Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve week.*

