

Resolution from the Utah County Republican Party 2024 Convention

Calling for the State of Utah to Resign from ERIC

April 20, 2024

Whereas, the Utah Republican Party platform states that the proper function of government is to protect unalienable, God-given rights of life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness; and

Whereas, the Electronic Registration Information Center (hereafter, ERIC), is a 501(c)(3) non-governmental organization (NGO), which has no physical office, and its [website](#) states that the listed address is a mailing address only and that employees work from home, making it difficult to enforce transparency or accountability, which may be a [violation of HB491](#), recently signed by the governor and filed with the Lt. Governor's office; and

Whereas, ERIC operates outside of the state of Utah and has 24 states, including Utah, as members; and

Whereas, the Utah Lt. Governor's Office provides ERIC with every registered voter's most sensitive personally identifiable information (PII) including social security number, date of birth, and current address, as well as every Utah driver's most sensitive PII, without first obtaining their consent or advising them that this data transfer is taking place; and

Whereas, the Utah Lt. Governor's Office provides ERIC the PII of law enforcement officers, judges, and prosecutors, who have made their records private under [Utah Code section 63G-2-303](#) along with the information of other high risk Utahns that is withheld under [Utah Code 20A-2-104](#), without first obtaining the consent of or even notifying these individuals; and

Whereas, there is significant research that shows the ease at which it is possible to re identify deidentified data that only includes quasi and non-identifying data, including hashes; and

Whereas, the Utah State Auditor and the Utah State Chief Information Officer do not oversee ERIC to ensure that Utahns most sensitive data is properly used and protected; and

Whereas, when the Utah State Elections Office was asked, "Has Eric ever provided Utahns PII to any non-governmental organization that is carrying out voter registration or other voter related activities," the written response from the Elections Office was "This question will need to be directed to ERIC;"* and

Whereas, there are numerous technologies, using data science and publicly available data sources—without sharing PII with other states and NGOs—that would allow the state to determine with high degrees of accuracy whether or not an individual has died or moved out of state; and there is, therefore, no reason to incur the risk and expense of sharing PII with other states and NGOs; and

Whereas, in the past two years nine Republican-led States including Florida, Texas, Iowa, and Ohio have [resigned](#) from ERIC leaving ERIC's total membership at 24 states and the District of Columbia,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Utah County Republican Party Convention calls on Utah Lieutenant Governor Deidre Henderson and Director of Elections Ryan Cowley to immediately tender Utah's resignation from ERIC and, failing that, for the legislature to prohibit any transfer of voter registration or driver license information to ERIC or any other NGO, without the prior consent of each individual voter and driver and to prohibit the use of taxpayer funds to fund any ERIC activities; and for the Lt. Governor's office and/or the legislature to instruct ERIC to scrub their records of any data related to persons living within the state of Utah and/or Utah citizens living elsewhere, and provide proof that they have complied with the deletion of those records; and

Be it further resolved that the Utah County Republican Party Convention calls on the Utah Attorney General to investigate ERIC and any other private NGOs that may have brokered Utah's voter registration and driver license data for partisan or any other benefit.

Upon passage the Utah County Republican Party Chair shall ensure a copy of this resolution is posted on the Party website for not less than 2 years and emailed to SCC members of the Utah Republican Party, Republican members of the Utah Legislature and elected members of the Executive Branch, including the Lt. Governor and Attorney General.

Sponsor: Kristen Chevrier

Co-sponsors: Mike Carpenter; Matthew Hailstone; Aaron Bullen; Crystal Muhlestein; Ben Summerhalder; Annie Taylor; Debbi Raleigh; Larry Raleigh; Sydell Shorter; Logan Carpenter; Heather Fry; Charles Wood; Brooks Benson; Bryce Rich; Helena Kleinlein; Eleni Wilding; Candice Ward; Chalise Seipert; Sherry Petersen; Cathy Young; Natalie Clawson; Terry Peterson; Stephanie Grant; Jennifer Eaves; Spencer Dean; Jody Hansen; Pam Ogden; Tiffany Barker; Wendy Hart; Michelle Steele; Erik Schull; Mark Colley; Katrina Kennedy; Bennett Cookson; Keri Guinn; Nathan Guinn; Michelle Smith; Sharon Memmott; Rene Pond; Leslie Richman; Karen Adamson; Lowell Nelson; Fred Roberts; Katrina Brittner; Lyndon Brittner; Linda Spencer; Tony Kretschmer; Karen Ketch; Janice Payne Hymus; Marilyn Momeny; Lyman Momeny, Elissa Van Marter; Deanna Holland; Bryon Tabet; Karen Zea; Chad Shattuck; Mistie Shattuck; Dr. Janet Eyring; Sherilyn Colby; Rob Crawley; Josh Chevrier; David Eberting (62)

Submitted April 14th, 2024

*Written in an email dated Tuesday, May 3, 2023, from Ryan Cowley in response to questions asked about ERIC. Available on request.