



Gary Richard Herbert

Governor

Declaration

Whereas, the last 12 months have seen devastating earthquakes in New Zealand, China and Mexico resulting in high loss of life, buildings, and infrastructure;

Whereas, earthquakes caused nearly 227,000 deaths in the year 2010, in various countries around the world;

Whereas, more than 80% of Utah's population is located in areas subject to large earthquakes and one of the state's primary responsibilities is to safeguard the safety and welfare of its citizens;

Whereas, the Federal Emergency Management Agency has ranked Utah sixth in projected annualized earthquake loss in the United States;

Whereas, members from the Utah Seismic Safety Commission and the Structural Engineers Association of Utah spent hundreds of hours inventorying unreinforced masonry buildings in Utah, in response to the Utah State Legislature's 2008 Resolution 7, recognizing the earthquake vulnerability of this type of construction;

Whereas, the Commission's Putting Down Roots in Earthquake Country handbook and the State's Be Ready Utah website attract wide attention and we encourage residents to review and take advantage of these very important educational materials,

Whereas, the Utah Seismic Safety Commission is committed to making an inventory of all seismically hazardous schools in Utah a top priority; and

Whereas, the Utah Seismic Safety Commission has selected the month of April to focus on earthquake and disaster preparedness;

Now, Therefore, I, Gary R. Herbert, Governor of the State of Utah, do hereby declare April 3 - 9, 2011 as

Earthquake Preparedness Week

Gary R. Herbert
Governor