



Media Advisory

For Immediate Release: February 2, 2015

Contact: Lisa Beaudry

Utah Senate Democrats Communications Director
801-427-2232 | LisaB@Utahsenatedemocrats.org

Senator Jim Dabakis (D-SL)

Contact <tel:801-815-3533>

Who Owns Utah's Public Lands? Solving the 32,000,000 Acres Public Land Debate

WHAT: Presentation of SB 105 before the Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Committee

When: Monday, February 2 at 2:00

Where: Room 415 of the State Capitol Building

Bill SB 105 would require the Utah Attorney General to file an all-inclusive lawsuit (directly to the Supreme Court under original jurisdiction if feasible) to settle the long-term festering issue of who owns the disputed 32,000,000 acres of Public Land in Utah.

Sen Jim Dabakis released the following statement:

"The state needs closure. We need to know with certainty and finality who owns 32,000,000 disputed acres. There will be no comprehensive land settlement until we know who owns the land! Once it is determined if this land is Public Land or it is the state that is the owner, negotiations will move fast to solve festering generational logjams! It has been years of almost fruitless negotiations because both sides think they are the boss.

Let's have the highest court in the land decide--who owns this disputed land. Under original jurisdiction if possible. As quickly as possible. Once we have a full throated decision and ownership is decided, we can solve serious issues. This bill will give all parties certainty. That's good for Utah's future."

###