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**UTAH STATE OFFICE OF EDUCATION** 

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**Utah State Office of Education Announces Three-day Furlough** 

SALT LAKE CITY - State Superintendent of Public Instruction Larry K. Shumway today announced employees of

the Utah State Office of Education will be subject to three days of furlough – leave without pay – over the next

three months to help the agency comply with Gov. Gary R. Herbert's request for state agencies to reduce their

budgets by 3 percent. The furloughs apply only to the 277 full-time and 40 part-time employees of the State

Office of Education, not to local school districts or charter schools. No schools will be closed because of this

decision.

All State Office of Education employees will take their furlough days on Jan. 29, Feb. 26 and March 26.

The office will be closed on those days.

"We have already taken a number of measures, including a soft hiring freeze, to live within the State of

Utah's new budgetary constraints while still maintaining the level of service taxpayers and the schools expect,"

Shumway said. "Unfortunately in a service-based organization, staffing is one of the few areas open to us to

provide the kind of savings required in these economic times."

The furloughs are expected to generate about \$150,000 in savings, which, when combined with an

anticipated \$500,000 in savings from the hiring freeze, will bring the agency in compliance with the governor's

directive.