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UTAH STATE OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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Utah Seeks Comments on Federal Education Law Waiver Request

SALT LAKE CITY – The Utah State Office of Education is seeking public comments on its previously announced intention to seek waivers on the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act, sometimes known as No Child Left Behind.

The U.S. Department of Education announced in October that it would grant states flexibility in meeting requirements of No Child Left Behind if states agreed to

- increase college-and career-ready expectations for all students,
- develop state-level differentiated recognition and accountability for student success
- support effective instruction and leadership, and
- reduce duplication and unnecessary burden on schools and districts.

In February, Utah will ask for flexibility in the 2013-2014 timeline for determining adequate yearly progress for schools under No Child Left Behind, flexibility in implement school improvement requirements, and flexibility in highly qualified teacher improvement plans, among other items. Twenty-seven other states have so far already sought waivers under the federal program.

Utahns are invited to read more about Utah's request and take an online survey to give their opinion on the matter through www.schools.utah.gov/main/INFORMATION/ESEA.aspx. The survey will remain open through Feb. 5.

www.schools.utah.gov