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The Utah Nonprofits Association (UNA) announced today that it has concerns about proposed federal legislation (H.R. 172, H.R. 781, and S.264) that would politicize charitable nonprofits. Current law prevents charitable nonprofits from engaging in partisan, election-related activities. The proposed legislation would alter this longstanding federal law that protects charitable nonprofits and foundations – and the donating public – by allowing this type of political activity.

“Nonprofits accomplish so many wonderful things in our state. We have the privilege of engaging with our youth and helping them to dream for brighter futures. We work to preserve our lands and make sure our water and air are safe to drink and breathe. We provide housing, food and assistance for people living in poverty. We provide museums and galleries and wetlands preserves and many more things. The moment we begin to politicize our missions we begin to lose the trust the public has bestowed upon us”, indicates Kate Rubalcava, UNA Chief Executive Officer.

UNA Board Chair, Kristy Chambers adds, “larger concerns regarding donor confidence are apparent. When charitable nonprofits receive donations those donations are meant to support the work and the mission of the organization. Donations are not meant to go toward a political campaign or agenda.”

Tim Delaney, President and CEO of the National Council of Nonprofits indicates, “Nonpartisanship is vital to the work of charitable nonprofits. It enables organizations to address community challenges and invites the problem solving skills of all residents, without the distractions of party labels and the caustic partisanship that is bedeviling our country.” Mr. Delany further explains, “Nonprofits are already free to exercise their First Amendment rights to advocate for their missions. Allowing political operatives to push for endorsements would put nonprofits in a position where they become known as *Democratic* charities or *Republican* charities and put missions at risk.”

“In Utah we owe it to our residents, the nonprofits that serve them, and the larger community to remain nonpartisan”, states UNA CEO Kate Rubalcava.

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#### About the Utah Nonprofits Association

The mission of the Utah Nonprofits Association (UNA) is to unify, elevate, and strengthen nonprofits in Utah by providing access to pooled resources, training, and advocacy. As a statewide organization, nonprofit members represent all sizes and types including health and human services, education, arts and cultural, animal welfare and environmental organizations. Each year, thousands of nonprofit board members, volunteers and professional staff turn to UNA for resources to better serve their communities. Incorporated in 1990, UNA has grown both in membership and in the programs and services. Today, the organization has more than 750 members—both nonprofit organizations and community groups—representing over 6,000 statewide nonprofits in every sector, including health and human service providers, educational institutions, and arts, cultural, and environmental organizations. Visit <http://Utahnnonprofits.org> for more information.