



House of Representatives *State of Utah*

UTAH STATE CAPITOL COMPLEX • 350 STATE CAPITOL
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March 2, 2026

Mr. Speaker:

The Rules Committee reports a favorable recommendation on **H.R. 8**, RESOLUTION ADMONISHING AND CENSURING JUDGE DON M. TORGERSON, by Representative M. MacPherson, with the following amendments:

Amendment 1

1 Line 29 through 44:

29 images and videos of prepubescent children being raped or sexually assaulted;

30 WHEREAS, Judge Torgerson, after reviewing two of the illicit videos that were in the

31 defendant's possession involving the sexual assault of children, commented, "I've seen
worse";

32 { WHEREAS, at the hearing, Judge Torgerson sentenced the 22-year old defendant to
112 }

33 { days already served in jail, despite the presentence investigation report's
recommended 210 }

34 { days of jail time and the prosecutor's request for prison time to reflect the defendant's
}

35 { horrendous crimes; }

36 WHEREAS, Judge Torgerson commented that the served time was a lot of jail time for
37 someone the defendant's age "who comes from some level of privilege";

38 WHEREAS, Judge Torgerson stated that the defendant could help others in the defendant's

39 situation and had more of a voice than some because the defendant comes from a background

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HR0008

Action Class
H

Action Code
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40 of some privilege {, indicating that this opportunity was a consideration for issuing a
41 lighter }

41 {sentence} ;

42 WHEREAS, while public officials, including judges, may occasionally misspeak or poorly
43 phrase their thoughts when speaking extemporaneously, at those times the correct course of
44 action is to take responsibility for any misstatements and apologize;

2 *Line 63 through 71:*

63 political affiliation. . .":

64 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Utah House of Representatives strongly
65 condemns Judge Torgerson's statements minimizing the severity of child rape.

66 {BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Utah House of Representatives condemns
67 Judge }

67 {Torgerson's calculation that a defendant's privilege qualifies the defendant for a
68 lighter }

68 {sentence despite the defendant's heinous actions victimizing vulnerable children.}

69 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Utah House of Representatives finds Judge
70 Torgerson's conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice and brings his judicial office
71 into disrepute.

Respectfully,

Jordan D. Teuscher
Chair

Voting: 8-0-0