

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 381—ASSEMBLYMEN HICKEY,
HARDY; HAMBRICK, KIRKPATRICK AND STEWART

MARCH 18, 2013

JOINT SPONSORS: SENATORS HARDY, HUTCHISON,
DENIS; PARKS AND ROBERSON

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources,
Agriculture, and Mining

SUMMARY—Encourages the Office of Historic Preservation of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and Partners in Conservation to collaborate to identify and develop programs for the preservation and protection of the historical culture of St. Thomas, Nevada. (BDR S-909)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to historic preservation; encouraging the Office of Historic Preservation of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to collaborate with Partners in Conservation to identify and develop programs for the preservation and protection of the historical culture of St. Thomas, Nevada; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

- 1 This bill recognizes the cultural significance of St. Thomas, Nevada, and
 - 2 encourages the identification and development of programs for the preservation and
 - 3 protection of the historical culture of St. Thomas.
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* A B 3 8 1 R 1 *

1 WHEREAS, The first settlements in Clark County were
2 established in 1865 at St. Thomas, Nevada, and officially vacated in
3 1938 when the rising waters created from the Hoover Dam flooded
4 the town; and

5 WHEREAS, St. Thomas contains unique, culturally important
6 resources; and

7 WHEREAS, The flooding of St. Thomas has alienated the
8 residents of Clark County from their heritage, threatening the
9 protection and preservation of the town's cultural resources for
10 the enjoyment of future generations; and

11 WHEREAS, The National Park Service requires accommodation
12 for traditionally associated groups whose traditions are closely tied
13 to the resources in a park area; and

14 WHEREAS, The National Park Service has encouraged park
15 managers to be proactive with such traditionally associated groups
16 regarding the protection and preservation of their cultural heritage;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Local governments in the communities surrounding
19 Northeast Clark County have publicly expressed their desire to
20 promote the cultural heritage of St. Thomas and the original settlers
21 of Clark County by establishing Traditionally Associated Group
22 status with the National Park Service at the Lake Mead National
23 Recreation Area; and

24 WHEREAS, Partners in Conservation, a nonprofit corporation,
25 has demonstrated a desire to help identify and develop programs for
26 the preservation and protection of the historical culture of St.
27 Thomas; now, therefore

28
29 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
30 SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

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32 **Section 1.** The Legislature hereby finds and declares that:

33 1. St. Thomas contains unique, culturally important resources.

34 2. To preserve, protect and promote for the benefit of present
35 and future generations the unique, culturally important resources of
36 St. Thomas, the Nevada Legislature hereby encourages the Office of
37 Historic Preservation of the State Department of Conservation and
38 Natural Resources to collaborate with Partners in Conservation to
39 identify and develop programs for the preservation and protection of
40 the historical culture of St. Thomas, including, without limitation,
41 programs related to culturally developed waters, natural resource
42 pathways, culturally associated resource sites and living history
43 projects relating to pioneer cultural resources.

44 **Sec. 2.** The provisions of this act must not be construed to
45 affect or prohibit any planning for or the development or use of any



- 1 water resource in this State, including, without limitation, the
- 2 attainment of full capacity for the storage of water in Lake Mead.
- 3 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

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* A B 3 8 1 R 1 *