
ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION No. 2—COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND MINING

PREFILED JANUARY 30, 2015

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources,
Agriculture, and Mining

SUMMARY—Urges the United States Congress and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to take certain actions to reduce the impact of common ravens on the greater sage grouse population in this State. (BDR R-33)

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.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION—Urging the United States Congress and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to take certain actions to reduce the impact of common ravens on the greater sage grouse population in this State.

1 WHEREAS, The greater sage grouse (*Centrocercus*
2 *urophasianus*) is a species of bird that inhabits much of the
3 sagebrush habitat in Nevada as well as other western states; and
4 WHEREAS, The United States Fish and Wildlife Service has
5 determined that the greater sage grouse is warranted for listing as
6 endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act of
7 1973, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1531 et seq.; and
8 WHEREAS, Through the enactment of Senate Concurrent
9 Resolution No. 15, File Number 48, Statutes of Nevada 2005, at
10 page 3022, the members of the 73rd Session of the Nevada
11 Legislature found that the listing of the greater sage grouse as an
12 endangered or threatened species would have a devastatingly
13 negative impact on Nevada’s land development, land use, water use,
14 mining, recreational activities and local economies; and



1 WHEREAS, The common raven (*Corvus corax*) is a species of
2 bird that inhabits Nevada and much of the western United States,
3 Mexico, Canada, Europe and Asia; and

4 WHEREAS, The International Union for Conservation of Nature
5 estimates the global population of the common raven as greater than
6 16 million and trending upwards, thus classifying it as a species of
7 least concern; and

8 WHEREAS, A known cause of decline in the sage grouse
9 population is egg depredation by the common raven, and research
10 conducted at Idaho State University has suggested that reductions in
11 the raven population significantly increase sage grouse nest success;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, The common raven is a protected species under
14 regulations adopted pursuant to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of
15 1918, 16 U.S.C. §§ 703 et seq., which drastically curtails the ability
16 of this State to manage the population of the common raven in order
17 to protect sage grouse nests; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE OF THE STATE OF
19 NEVADA, JOINTLY, That the members of the 78th Session of the
20 Nevada Legislature urge the United States Congress to amend the
21 Migratory Bird Treaty Act or take any other appropriate action to
22 ensure that the common raven is not a protected species under that
23 Act; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the members of the 78th Session of the Nevada
25 Legislature urge the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to:

26 1. Work with the Nevada Department of Wildlife to decrease
27 common raven populations in this State; and

28 2. Adopt regulations allowing the State of Nevada to manage
29 the common raven population and reduce the number of common
30 ravens in this State; and be it further

31 RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and
32 transmit a copy of this resolution to the Vice President of the United
33 States as the presiding officer of the Senate, the Speaker of the
34 House of Representatives, each member of the Nevada
35 Congressional Delegation, and the Director of the United States Fish
36 and Wildlife Service; and be it further

37 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon
38 passage.

