

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING
Wednesday, April 20, 1977

The twenty-second meeting of the Natural Resources Committee was called to order on the above date at 2:15 p.m.

Senator Gary Sheerin was in the Chair.

PRESENT: Chairman Sheerin
Senator Echols
Senator Dodge
Senator Neal
Senator Glaser

OTHERS

PRESENT: Roland D. Westergard, State Engineer
John Winters, Nevada Interstate Compact
Ugo Giorgi, Nevada Interstate Compact

Bills considered included: AJR47, AJR42, SCR40, SJR26 and AJR41.

AJR 47 Urges Congress to ratify California-Nevada Interstate Compact.

ROLAND WESTERGARD, State Engineer, testified in support of this resolution. He said it sets forth the history of the Compact that was passed by two sessions of the Nevada Legislature and one session of the California Legislature. It has been introduced in Congress the past three sessions. The Compact has been the subject of absolutely no action on behalf of federal interest, but with the water situation the way it is now throughout the West, perhaps with some Western people presently in executive offices, this Compact could have a chance of moving along. He thought it might be helpful to have the Legislature endorse some sort of action in support of the Compact.

SENATOR DODGE elaborated on the history of the Compact, saying it involves water rights on the Walker, Carson and Truckee Rivers

MR. WESTERGARD said the Compact contains allocations for water in California and Nevada, covering existing uses of water supplies in both states. Water would be recognized for the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation on the Truckee River as set forth in the degree. Percentage of the water split on the Truckee is 90 per cent Nevada and 10 per cent California. The allocation on the Carson River is 80 per cent to Nevada and 20 per cent to California. Water from the Walker River is allocated 65 per cent to Nevada and 35 per cent to California. The Compact provides for the establishment of a permanent commission to administer the Compact. It will ultimately provide for how much water

California can deplete before it gets to Nevada. The merit of this is that after 13 years, the two states are able to reach an agreement.

Senator Glaser moved to "DO PASS."
Senator Dodge seconded the motion.

Aye: Senator Sheerin
Senator Echols
Senator Dodge
Senator Glaser

Nay: Senator Neal

AJR 42 Memorializes Congress to enact legislation requiring Bureau of Land Management to hold local public hearings, issue economic impact statements and obtain congressional approval before adopting regulations.

Senator Neal moved to "DO PASS."
Senator Dodge seconded the motion.
The motion carried unanimously.

SCR 40 Declares legislature's support of planning by desert research institute of University of Nevada System for production, use and conservation of energy.

Senator Neal moved to "DO PASS."
Senator Dodge seconded the motion.
The motion carried unanimously.

SJR 26 Memorializes Congress to contract with Nevada to administer federal lands.

SENATOR DODGE gave a brief overview of this bill. He said this could be a means of causing federal lands to have a multiple use under contractual state management.

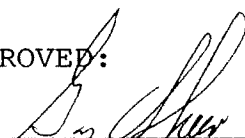
Senator Dodge moved "DO PASS."
Senator Neal seconded the motion.
The motion carried unanimously.

AJR 41 Memorializes Congress and Department of the Interior to suspend projects on Pyramid Lake and portions of Truckee River.

The Committee decided to reschedule hearing on this Resolution until next Wednesday so that testimony could be heard on it.

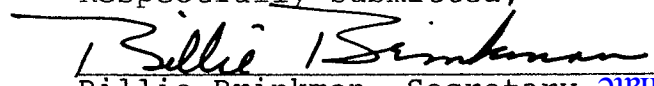
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

APPROVED:



Gary A. Sheerin, Chairman

Respectfully submitted,



Billie Brinkman, Secretary Senate

A. J. R. 47

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 47—ASSEMBLYMEN DINI,
SERPA, RHOADS, HOWARD, GLOVER, MOODY AND JAC-
OBSEN

APRIL 7, 1977

Referred to Committee on Environment and Public Resources

SUMMARY—Urges Congress to ratify California-Nevada
Interstate Compact. (BDR 1874)

EXPLANATION—Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [] is material to be omitted.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION—Urging the Congress of the United States
to ratify the California-Nevada Interstate Compact.

- 1 WHEREAS, After many years of negotiation, the states of California
2 and Nevada reached final agreement in 1971 on the California-Nevada
3 Interstate Compact; and
4 WHEREAS, Under section 10 of Article I of the Constitution of the
5 United States, and as provided in article 22 of the compact, ratification
6 by the Congress of the United States is required before the compact may
7 become effective; and
8 WHEREAS, Valuable natural resources would be conserved and impor-
9 tant agricultural interests would be benefited by congressional ratification;
10 now, therefore, be it
11 *Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of Nevada, jointly,*
12 That the legislature hereby urges the Congress of the United States to
13 ratify the California-Nevada Interstate Compact; and be it further
14 *Resolved,* That copies of this resolution be prepared and transmitted
15 forthwith by the legislative counsel to the Vice President of the United
16 States as presiding officer of the Senate, to the Speaker of the House of
17 Representatives, and to all members of the Nevada congressional delega-
18 tion; and be it further
19 *Resolved,* That this resolution shall become effective upon passage and
20 approval.

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Original bill is on file at
the Research Library.

A. J. R. 42

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 42—ASSEMBLYMEN GOMES, WEISE, RHOADS, SERPA, MURPHY, HOWARD, JACOBSEN, GLOVER, POLISH, BREMNER, MOODY, HICKEY, HARMON, SENA, MAY, ROBINSON, BANNER, DREYER, CRADDOCK, CHANEY, BENNETT, JEFFREY, SCHOFIELD AND HORN

MARCH 28, 1977

Referred to Committee on Environment and Public Resources

SUMMARY—Memorializes Congress to enact legislation requiring Bureau of Land Management to hold local public hearings, issue economic impact statements and obtain congressional approval before adopting regulations. (BDR 1608)

EXPLANATION—Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [] is material to be omitted.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION—Memorializing the Congress of the United States to enact legislation requiring the Bureau of Land Management to hold local public hearings, issue economic impact statements and obtain congressional approval before adopting regulations.

- 1 WHEREAS, The Bureau of Land Management of the United States
- 2 Department of the Interior manages over 48 million acres, or 69 percent,
- 3 of the land in the State of Nevada; and
- 4 WHEREAS, The Bureau of Land Management has repeatedly shown a
- 5 lack of concern for the citizens of the State of Nevada whose lives and
- 6 livelihoods are tied to these lands; and
- 7 WHEREAS, The Bureau of Land Management has adopted and continues to
- 8 adopt regulations pursuant to the Administrative Procedure
- 9 Act, 5 U.S.C. §§ 500 et seq., without holding oral public hearings, or by
- 10 holding public hearings at places remote from the citizens who are most
- 11 affected by the regulations; and
- 12 WHEREAS, The Bureau of Land Management proposes to adopt new
- 13 regulations governing mining, grazing and other beneficial uses of the
- 14 public lands which would have a harsh impact on the lives and livelihoods
- 15 of directly affected citizens of the State of Nevada, and it is evident that
- 16 the rulemaking authority of the Bureau of Land Management should be
- 17 curtailed; now, therefore, be it
- 18 *Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of Nevada, jointly,*
- 19 That the Congress of the United States is hereby memorialized to enact
- 20 legislation requiring the Bureau of Land Management in the United
- 21 States Department of the Interior, before it adopts any regulation, to hold

Original bill is 2 pages long.
Contact the Research Library for
a copy of the complete bill.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 40—
SENATOR GIBSON

APRIL 16, 1977

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources

SUMMARY—Declares legislature's support of planning by desert research institute of University of Nevada System for production, use and conservation of energy. (BDR 1912)

EXPLANATION—Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [] is material to be omitted.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Declaring the support of the legislature for planning by the desert research institute of the University of Nevada System for production, use and conservation of energy.

- 1 WHEREAS, Nevada and the rest of the nation face increasingly difficult
2 choices relating to the production, use and conservation of energy; and
3 WHEREAS, Such choices may be made easier by a regional assessment
4 of the possibilities for production, use and conservation of energy in
5 Nevada and the Great Basin; and
6 WHEREAS, The Federal Government, through its energy agencies,
7 encourages programs of regional assessment of possibilities for produc-
8 tion, use and conservation of energy; and
9 WHEREAS, The desert research institute of the University of Nevada
10 System has developed a proposed research program to acquire data and
11 information relating to a regional assessment of possibilities for pro-
12 duction, use and conservation of energy in Nevada and the Great Basin;
13 and
14 WHEREAS, This program has been developed in cooperation with the
15 California Energy Commission, the Utah Energy Consortium, the United
16 States Energy Research and Development Administration and other state
17 and regional agencies concerned with energy development; now, there-
18 fore, be it
19 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of Nevada, the Assembly concur-*
20 *ring,* That the legislature, recognizing the need to develop a program to
21 assess possibilities for production, use and conservation of energy in
22 Nevada and the Great Basin, declares its support for the proposed
23 research program developed by the desert research institute of the Uni-
24 versity of Nevada System in cooperation with other state and federal
25 agencies; and be it further
26 *Resolved,* That the legislature requests the support of all appropriate
27 state, regional and federal energy agencies in providing financial and
28 informational assistance for the program.

Original bill is on file at
the Research Library.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 26—SENATORS DODGE,
BLAKEMORE AND GLASER

APRIL 16, 1977

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources

SUMMARY—Memorializes Congress to contract with Nevada to
administer federal lands. (BDR 1879)

EXPLANATION—Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [] is material to be omitted.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION—Memorializing the Congress of the United
States to direct certain federal agencies to contract with Nevada for the admin-
istration of certain federal lands.

- 1 WHEREAS, The Federal Government possesses over 60 million acres or
2 87 percent of the land in the State of Nevada, the seventh largest state in
3 the Union, and only 11 percent of this land is dedicated to and used for
4 national purposes; and
5 WHEREAS, The United States Department of the Interior manages over
6 48 million acres or 69 percent of the land in the State of Nevada through
7 the Bureau of Land Management, and none of this land is dedicated to or
8 used for national purposes; and
9 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Agriculture manages over
10 5 million acres or 7.2 percent of the land in the State of Nevada through
11 the U.S. Forest Service, and this activity is only tenuously related to any
12 national purpose; and
13 WHEREAS, The sound political theory of the founding fathers of this
14 Union was that the Federal Government should manage national affairs
15 and the several States should manage local affairs, and that this theory
16 was to be effectuated through the Constitution of the United States; and
17 WHEREAS, James Madison explained these intentions of the founding
18 fathers in *The Federalist No. 45*, in which he wrote, "The powers reserved
19 to the several States will extend to all the objects, which, in the ordinary
20 course of affairs, concern the lives, liberties and properties of the people;
21 and the internal order, improvement and prosperity of the state"; and
22 WHEREAS, The massive presence of the Bureau of Land Management
23 and the Forest Service in the State of Nevada is a presence without a pur-
24 pose, which has contributed very little to the internal order, improvement
25 or prosperity of this state; and
26 WHEREAS, This presence without purpose has been and continues to
27 be a source of constant friction and animosity between the people of the
28 State of Nevada and their Federal Government; and

Original bill is 3 pages long.
Contact the Research Library for
a copy of the complete bill.