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MOCK-UP

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 7
FIRST REPRINT

PREPARED FOR ASSEMBLY NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND MINING
MAY 6, 2003

PREPARED BY THE RESEARCH DIVISION

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT SHOWS PROPOSED AMENDMENTS IN CONCEPTUAL FORM. THE LANGUAGE AND ITS PLACEMENT IN THE OFFICIAL AMENDMENT MAY DIFFER.

EXPLANATION: Matter in (1) *blue bold italics* is new language in the original bill; (2) *green bold italic underlining* is new language proposed in this amendment; (3) ~~red strikethrough~~ is deleted language in the original bill; (4) ~~green bold double strikethrough~~ is language proposed to be deleted in this amendment and (5) ~~green bold dashed underlining~~ is deleted language in the original bill that is proposed to be retained in this amendment.

1 WHEREAS, The provisions of 16 U.S.C. §§ 1131 et seq., commonly
2 referred to as the Wilderness Act, establish the National Wilderness
3 Preservation System, which consists of areas of federal public land that are
4 designated by Congress as wilderness areas; and

5 WHEREAS, Congress has designated approximately 2 million acres of
6 certain federal public lands in Nevada as wilderness areas; and

7 WHEREAS, A reasonable amount of wilderness provides for a
8 diverse spectrum of recreation opportunities in Nevada, is consistent with
9 tourism, and provides a place for Nevadans to escape the pressures of
10 urban growth, and

11 WHEREAS, If an area of federal public land is designated as a
12 wilderness area, it must be managed in a manner that preserves the
13 wilderness character of the area and ensures that the area remains
14 unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as a wilderness area; and

15 WHEREAS, In conjunction with the provisions of the Wilderness Act,
16 the Bureau of Land Management of the Department of the Interior
17 manages approximately 3.86 million acres of federal public lands in
18 Nevada identified as wilderness study areas; and

19 WHEREAS, Until a wilderness study area is designated by Congress as
20 a wilderness area or released, the wilderness study area must be managed

This language is intended to recognize the value of wilderness, particularly for urban residents.

Original Exhibit on file at the Legislative
Council Bureau Research Library

ASSEMBLY NATURAL RES., AGRICULTURE & MINING
DATE: 5/7/03 ROOM: 3141 EXHIBIT C1-3
SUBMITTED BY: Linda Eissmann

1 in a manner that does not impair its suitability for preservation as a
2 wilderness area; and

3 WHEREAS, Because ~~a considerable amount~~ 2 million acres of federal
4 public land in Nevada has been designated as wilderness areas and
5 approximately 8.6 percent of the federal public land in Nevada that is
6 managed by the Bureau of Land Management has been identified as
7 wilderness study areas and because such designation or identification is
8 believed to impose ~~imposes~~ significant restrictions concerning the
9 management and use of such land, including land used for mining,
10 ranching and recreation, the Legislative Commission appointed a
11 subcommittee in 2001 to conduct an interim study of wilderness areas and
12 wilderness study areas in this state; and

13 WHEREAS, During the 2001-2002 legislative interim, the subcommittee
14 met several times throughout this state and facilitated important and wide-
15 ranging discussions among many agencies, organizations and persons with
16 diverse interests, perspectives and expertise concerning wilderness areas
17 and wilderness study areas; and

18 WHEREAS, Although the subcommittee obtained valuable information
19 concerning the selection, management and use of wilderness areas and
20 wilderness study areas in this state, and although Congress recently
21 enacted the Clark County Conservation of Public Land and Natural
22 Resources Act of 2002, Public Law 107-282 (2002), which released
23 approximately 224,000 acres in Clark County from its current status as a
24 wilderness study area, additional study of these issues is still needed as a
25 significant majority of the federal public land in Nevada that had been
26 previously designated as a wilderness area or identified as a wilderness
27 study area remains designated or identified as such; now, therefore, be it

28 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE ASSEMBLY
29 CONCURRING, That the Legislative Committee on Public Lands is hereby
30 directed to continue the study of wilderness areas and wilderness study
31 areas in this state, and that the Legislative Commission is hereby directed
32 to appoint two additional members of the Senate and two additional
33 members of the Assembly who are representative of various geographical
34 areas of this state to the Legislative Committee on Public Lands for the
35 purposes of this study; and be it further

36 RESOLVED, That the study must include, without limitation:

37 1. An examination of the manner in which wilderness areas and
38 wilderness study areas are selected, managed and used, and the laws,
39 regulations and policies of the Federal Government relating to that
40 selection, management and use;

41 2. Consideration of whether areas of this state are suitable for possible
42 designation by Congress as wilderness areas; and

43 3. A review of any other issues or subjects concerning the
44 establishment, management or use of a wilderness area or wilderness study

These are technical corrections to the measure.

This softens the statement that wilderness study areas impose significant restrictions

1 area in this state, as deemed necessary by the subcommittee; and be it
2 further

3 RESOLVED, That in conducting the study, the Legislative Committee
4 on Public Lands shall seek input from various governmental agencies,
5 organizations and persons concerning wilderness areas and wilderness
6 study areas in this state; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That any recommendations that result from the study
8 relating to the manner in which Congress designates wilderness areas or
9 identifies wilderness study areas must be submitted to each member of the
10 Nevada Congressional Delegation; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Committee on Public Lands shall
12 submit a report of the results of the study and any recommendations for
13 legislation to the 73rd Session of the Nevada Legislature.

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