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ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3—ASSEMBLYMEN  
PETERS, WATTS; AND THOMAS

FEBRUARY 22, 2023

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JOINT SPONSORS: SENATORS DONATE AND SCHEIBLE

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Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Proposes to amend the Nevada Constitution to establish certain rights relating to the environment. (BDR C-156)

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.

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ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION—Proposing to amend the Nevada Constitution to establish certain rights relating to the environment.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

1 Article 1 of the Nevada Constitution sets forth certain inalienable rights of an  
2 individual. (Nev. Const. Art. 1) This joint resolution proposes to amend the Nevada  
3 Constitution by adding a new section which: (1) guarantees each person the right to  
4 a clean and healthy environment; (2) mandates a trust obligation of the State to  
5 conserve, protect and maintain certain environmental resources; (3) requires the  
6 State fulfill its trust obligation equitably for all beneficiaries regardless of race,  
7 ethnicity, gender, geography or wealth; and (4) prohibits the State, whether through  
8 action, inaction or the action of others, from causing the unreasonable degradation,  
9 diminution or depletion of the environment.  
10 If this joint resolution is passed by the 2023 Legislature, it must also be passed  
11 by the next Legislature and then approved and ratified by the voters in an election  
12 before the proposed amendment to the Nevada Constitution becomes effective.

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1 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
2 NEVADA, JOINTLY, That a new section, designated Section 25, be  
3 added to Article 1 of the Nevada Constitution to read as follows:

4 *Sec. 25. 1. Each person has an inherent, inalienable,*  
5 *indefeasible and self-executing right to a clean and healthy*



1 *environment, including pure water, clean air, healthy*  
2 *ecosystems, and a stable climate, and to the preservation of*  
3 *the natural, cultural, scenic and healthful qualities of the*  
4 *environment.*

5 *2. The State of Nevada's natural resources, among*  
6 *them its waters, air, flora, fauna, climate and public lands,*  
7 *are the common property of all the people, including both*  
8 *present and future generations. The State, including each*  
9 *branch, agency and political subdivision, shall serve as*  
10 *trustee of these resources. The State shall conserve, protect*  
11 *and maintain these resources for the benefit of all people.*

12 *3. The State, including each branch, agency and*  
13 *political subdivision, shall equitably protect these rights for*  
14 *all people regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, geography*  
15 *or wealth and shall act with prudence, loyalty, impartiality*  
16 *and treat equitably all beneficiaries in fulfilling the trust*  
17 *obligations of the State.*

18 *4. The State shall take no action that would cause*  
19 *unreasonable degradation, diminution or depletion of the*  
20 *environment, through direct state action, or inaction, or*  
21 *through the action of others.*

22 And be it further

23 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon  
24 passage.

