
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 6—SENATOR HANSEN

MARCH 20, 2019

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Urges Congress to take any action necessary to ensure cooperation between this State, the Bureau of Land Management and the United States Forest Service in carrying out a program of mining reclamation in this State. (BDR R-1081)

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

~

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

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION—Urging Congress to take any action necessary to ensure cooperation between this State, the Bureau of Land Management and the United States Forest Service in carrying out a program of mining reclamation in this State.

1 WHEREAS, In 1989, the Nevada Legislature enacted the
2 provisions of chapter 519A of NRS, which provide that any land
3 that is used in exploration projects and mining operations must be
4 reclaimed in accordance with an extensive program of reclamation;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, The purpose of the program of reclamation is to
7 return the land to a safe and stable condition to ensure public safety
8 and minimize adverse visual effects after exploration projects and
9 mining operations are completed; and

10 WHEREAS, The success of reclamation efforts in this State is
11 dependent upon cooperation among state and federal agencies; and

12 WHEREAS, The Division of Environmental Protection of the
13 State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is required
14 to administer and enforce the program of reclamation in this State;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, The Division is also required to enter into a
17 memorandum of understanding with the Bureau of Land



1 Management and the United States Forest Service concerning the
2 adoption by those agencies of plans of reclamation which
3 substantially provide for the reclamation and security required under
4 chapter 519A of NRS for public lands in this State; and

5 WHEREAS, Because the activities of some operators of small
6 exploration projects and small mining operations may be managed
7 entirely by the Bureau of Land Management and the United States
8 Forest Service, the operators may also be subject to differing
9 requirements in conducting those activities on public lands,
10 including differences in the amount of land which may be disturbed
11 each year and the use of vehicles by the operators; and

12 WHEREAS, To ensure a successful program of reclamation in
13 this State, all operators should be given uniform treatment under any
14 memorandum of understanding entered into between the Division
15 and the Bureau of Land Management and the United Forest Service
16 and any applicable federal laws and regulations, including, without
17 limitation, the General Mining Law of 1872, 30 U.S.C. §§ 22 et
18 seq.; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF
20 NEVADA, JOINTLY, That the members of the 80th Session of the
21 Nevada Legislature hereby urge Congress to take any action
22 necessary to ensure, to the greatest extent practicable, cooperation
23 between this State, the Bureau of Land Management and the United
24 States Forest Service in carrying out a program of mining
25 reclamation in this State and any memorandum of understanding or
26 other agreement entered into pursuant to the program; and be it
27 further

28 RESOLVED, If required to ensure that cooperation, Congress is
29 further urged to amend the General Mining Law of 1872, 30 U.S.C.
30 §§ 22 et seq., and any other applicable federal law to ensure uniform
31 treatment of all operators of small exploration projects and small
32 mining operations on public lands in this State; and be it further

33 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and
34 transmit a copy of this resolution to the Vice President of the United
35 States as the presiding officer of the United States Senate, the
36 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each
37 member of the Nevada Congressional Delegation; and be it further

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

