

SENATE BILL NO. 329—SENATOR RHOADS

MARCH 8, 1999

JOINT SPONSOR: ASSEMBLYMAN CARPENTER

Referred to Committee on Finance

SUMMARY—Makes prospective contingent appropriation to Division of State Parks of State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to assist in construction of California Immigrant Trail Interpretive Center in Elko County. (BDR S-1254)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State or on Industrial Insurance: Contains Appropriation not included in Executive Budget.

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

AN ACT making a prospective contingent appropriation to the Division of State Parks of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to assist in the construction of a California Immigrant Trail Interpretive Center in Elko County; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

- 1 WHEREAS, There is a strong movement in the United States today to
- 2 recognize and understand the history of our country and the events that
- 3 contributed to the development of the United States; and
- 4 WHEREAS, From 1840 to the completion of the transcontinental railroad
- 5 in 1869, over 300,000 people traveled across this state on the route known
- 6 as the California Trail; and
- 7 WHEREAS, The immigrants traveling on the California Trail added to the
- 8 population base for the development of the western area of the American
- 9 continent and in so doing, their numbers discouraged England and Russia
- 10 in their efforts to colonize the Pacific Coast of the Continent; and
- 11 WHEREAS, The early settlers of the State of Nevada were direct
- 12 descendants of the immigrants who traveled the California Trail; and
- 13 WHEREAS, Even today visual evidence of portions of the California
- 14 Trail remain, and from the borders of Idaho and Utah to the eastern border
- 15 of California, the trail and its subtrails are identifiable; and

1 WHEREAS, In order to preserve, demonstrate and display the historical
2 significance of the California Trail, an Interpretive Center for the California
3 Trail is needed at a site in Elko County, designated the "Hastings Cutoff,"
4 that is adjacent to the trail and subtrail of the Donner-Reed Party; and

5 WHEREAS, It has been demonstrated that other trail interpretive centers
6 in the West have contributed significantly to the tourism industry in the
7 populated centers along their respective trails; and

8 WHEREAS, Other trail interpretive centers have been built with the
9 primary funding coming from the Federal Government after a
10 demonstration of local and state governmental support; and

11 WHEREAS, The Board of County Commissioners of Elko County has
12 committed \$1,000,000 to assist in the construction of a California
13 Immigrant Trail Interpretive Center in Elko County, contingent upon the
14 commitments required by subsection 2 of section 1 of this act; and

15 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors of the City of Elko has committed
16 \$2,000,000 to assist in the construction of a California Immigrant Trail
17 Interpretive Center in Elko County, contingent upon the commitments
18 required by subsection 2 of section 1 of this act; and now, therefore,
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20 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
21 SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:
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23 **Section 1.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the state general
24 fund to the Division of State Parks of the State Department of Conservation
25 and Natural Resources the sum of \$3,000,000 to assist in the construction
26 of a California Immigrant Trail Interpretive Center in Elko County.

27 2. The appropriation made by subsection 1 is contingent upon:

28 (a) An authorization and appropriation of money by the Federal
29 Government to build the California Immigrant Trail Interpretive Center in
30 Elko County; and

31 (b) An agreement by the Federal Government to own and operate the
32 California Immigrant Trail Interpretive Center in Elko County.

33 **Sec. 2.** Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by section 1
34 of this act must not be committed for expenditure after the project is
35 completed and reverts to the state general fund as soon as all payments of
36 money committed have been made.

37 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2001.