

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 12—SENATOR JACOBSEN (BY REQUEST)

FEBRUARY 25, 1999

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources

SUMMARY—Encourages Congress to support establishment of working partnership between federal land management agencies and local governments on issues relating to grazing of livestock on public lands. (BDR R-1248)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State or on Industrial Insurance: No.

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

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION—Encouraging Congress to support the establishment of a working partnership between federal land management agencies and local governments on issues relating to the grazing of livestock on public lands.

- 1 WHEREAS, The livestock industry comprises a significant portion of the
- 2 rural economy of the State of Nevada; and
- 3 WHEREAS, Recent declines in the authorization of the grazing of
- 4 livestock on public lands in this state and throughout the West have had
- 5 measurable negative impacts on the economic viability of ranchers and
- 6 rural communities; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Studies by federal agencies have revealed that public lands
- 8 have improved or are improving through the use of controlled grazing of
- 9 livestock on public lands; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Recent management policies and directives established by
- 11 federal agencies including the Bureau of Land Management of the United
- 12 States Department of the Interior and the Forest Service of the United
- 13 States Department of Agriculture have resulted in significant and costly
- 14 reductions in the number of livestock allowed to graze on public lands in
- 15 this state; and
- 16 WHEREAS, These reductions are having a negative effect on the value of
- 17 ranches and the economic viability of ranchers who depend on the use of
- 18 public land for the successful production of livestock, resulting in an
- 19 adverse effect on the economic condition of the State of Nevada; and
- 20 WHEREAS, Continuation of these federal policies will have adverse
- 21 effects that are far reaching and costly, including an increase in wildfires, a

1 diminished tax base, loss of wildlife habitat and a decrease in economic
2 activity; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA,
4 JOINTLY, That the members of the Nevada Legislature do hereby
5 encourage the United States Congress to support all efforts for the
6 establishment of a working partnership between federal land management
7 agencies, local governments and other interested parties on issues relating
8 to the use of public lands; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That this legislative body supports all efforts to review the
10 methodologies and practices that have been employed by public land
11 management agencies which have resulted in the unnecessary reduction in
12 the use of public lands by ranchers for the grazing of livestock; and be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That the Nevada Association of Counties is hereby
15 encouraged to develop a statewide database to further demonstrate the
16 cumulative losses to this state and its counties because of the reduction in
17 the use of public land for the grazing of livestock; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a
19 copy of this resolution to the Vice President of the United States as
20 presiding officer of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
21 Representatives, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture,
22 each member of the Nevada Congressional Delegation and the Executive
23 Director of the Nevada Association of Counties; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon passage and
25 approval.