

Senate Joint Resolution No. 7—Committee on
Legislative Affairs and Operations

FILE NUMBER.....

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION—Urging the United States Department of State to approve
the establishment of a Mexican Consulate in Las Vegas.

WHEREAS, Hispanic settlers from Mexico were the first ethnic group to arrive in the territory that now encompasses the State of Nevada, predating all except the Native Americans; and

WHEREAS, The Hispanic cultural influence is strong in this state, dating back to 1829 when Mexican scout Rafael Rivera discovered an area that was officially named Las Vegas which is Spanish for “The Meadows”; and

WHEREAS, Since their first arrival to the region, Hispanics have forged a rich legacy in this state and contributed greatly to its growth and development; and

WHEREAS, In the past 10 years, not only was Nevada the fastest growing state in the nation, but Southern Nevada’s Hispanic population, most of which is of Mexican descent, has grown to account for more than 14 percent of the population in Southern Nevada, thus making the Las Vegas Valley one of the top five areas of Hispanic population in the country; and

WHEREAS, It is estimated that by the year 2010 this state can expect to have a Hispanic population of 20 percent, mainly concentrated in the Las Vegas Valley; and

WHEREAS, Since the Las Vegas Valley is today experiencing expansive and diversified growth in our demographic makeup and economic pursuits, and Mexico is our neighboring country and partner in business, trade and tourism, it is essential we provide for the best means of ongoing communication, safeguards and service to our residents and visitors from Nevada and the country of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, The Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs is considering Las Vegas, Nevada, as a potential location for a consulate; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, JOINTLY, That the members of the 71st session of the Nevada Legislature do hereby urge the United States Department of State to approve the establishment of a Mexican Consulate in Las Vegas to provide the best means for assisting both the residents of Southern Nevada and visitors with a variety of services; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of State of the United States Department of State, the Chief of Protocol of the United States Department of State; the Chief of the Bureau of Consular Affairs of the United States Department of State and each member of the Nevada Congressional Delegation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon passage.