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Clark No. 7

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# State of Nevada Senate

Seventy-second Session

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May 6, 2003

Dear Chairwoman Kincaid-Chauncey and Clark County Commissioners,

I am writing in full support of your proposed resolution advocating the acquisition of the former James Hardie gypsum mine lands and subsequent transfer of those lands, once restored, to the BLM to be managed as part of the Red Rock Conservation Area. You are to be commended for your leadership and perseverance on this important issue.

As you know, I am sponsoring a companion bill in the legislature, SB 358, which would freeze the current rural zoning in the area while your proposed acquisition is being negotiated. This is an important intermediate step for two reasons: First, the current owner is much more likely to be a willing seller if he is denied the ability to more densely develop the land. Second, such limitations will prevent the fair market value from skyrocketing and thus save taxpayer dollars.

I believe this three-pronged, county-state-federal, collaborative approach to preserving Red Rock is the appropriate way to proceed; and I look forward to continuing to work with you to save our natural treasure for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Dina Titus  
State Senator, District 7