
EMERGENCY REQUEST OF SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 17—ASSEMBLYMAN PERKINS

MAY 31, 2005

Declared an Emergency Measure

SUMMARY—Urges Base Realignment and Closure Commission to reconsider and reject recommendations of Department of Defense concerning Naval Air Station Fallon, Nevada Air National Guard at Reno-Tahoe International Airport and Hawthorne Army Depot. (BDR R-1475)

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

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

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION—Urging the Base Realignment and Closure Commission to reconsider and reject the recommendations of the Department of Defense concerning Naval Air Station Fallon, Nevada Air National Guard stationed at Reno-Tahoe International Airport and Hawthorne Army Depot.

- 1 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Defense conducted
2 base realignments and closures in 1988, 1991, 1993 and 1995,
3 resulting in the closure of 97 major bases, the realignment of 55
4 major bases and the closure or realignment of 235 minor bases
5 across the United States; and
6 WHEREAS, Congress authorized base realignments and closures
7 for 2005 in the National Defense Authorization Act of 2002, and, on
8 May 13, 2005, the Department of Defense issued its
9 recommendations for closures and realignments; and
10 WHEREAS, Included in those recommendations are the proposed
11 realignments of Naval Air Station Fallon and the Nevada Air
12 National Guard stationed at Reno-Tahoe International Airport, and
13 the proposed closure of Hawthorne Army Depot; and



1 WHEREAS, It is critical to the State of Nevada that the Base
2 Realignment and Closure Commission reconsider and reject these
3 recommendations as set forth by the Department of Defense; and

4 WHEREAS, The Department of Defense has recommended
5 realignment of Naval Air Station Fallon which will result in the
6 disestablishment of the Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance
7 Department Fallon and the Naval Air Depot North Island
8 Detachment Fallon; and

9 WHEREAS, The realignment of the Nevada Air National Guard,
10 152nd Airlift Wing, stationed at Reno-Tahoe International Airport,
11 is tantamount to a closure in that the recommendation to move eight
12 C-130H aircraft, the Guard's only planes, to another base, would
13 leave the Guard's engineering, construction and supply units in
14 Nevada, but significantly reduce the need for these units; and

15 WHEREAS, The removal of these planes will eliminate
16 approximately 260 full-time military and civilian jobs, and will most
17 likely cause 283 others who fulfill their traditional Air Guard duties
18 at this station to lose their positions at the station; and

19 WHEREAS, Not only will the realignment leave the Guard with
20 no flying mission, but it will leave Nevada's Adjutant General and
21 the Guard with limited ability to provide Homeland Security and
22 disaster assistance to Nevada and surrounding states in the event of
23 an emergency or natural disaster; and

24 WHEREAS, The justification for this realignment states that the
25 Nevada Air National Guard was unable to expand beyond ten
26 C-130s, a statement that is not true—the Air Guard signed an
27 agreement 4 years ago with the Airport Authority of Washoe
28 County which provides for a land swap that would give the Guard
29 four more planes, an agreement that the Air Force and National
30 Guard Bureau still have on hold, an agreement that would allow up
31 to twelve planes at the station; and

32 WHEREAS, The final recommendation by the Department of
33 Defense, which will cause considerable adverse impact
34 economically to the State of Nevada, is the proposed closure of
35 Hawthorne Army Depot located in Mineral County; and

36 WHEREAS, The estimated savings of \$59.2 million to the
37 Federal Government as the result of this closure is small compared
38 to the damage to the local economy that will be caused by the
39 closure of the Depot, Hawthorne's primary employer; and

40 WHEREAS, Hawthorne Army Depot plays a unique role in our
41 nation's security, offering a remote location for weapons' training
42 and storage of munitions and is the premier resource, recovery and
43 recycling center for conventional ammunition; and

44 WHEREAS, In its Base Closure and Realignment Report, the
45 Department of Defense includes Hawthorne Army Depot within the



1 Reno-Sparks Metropolitan Statistical Area and notes that the loss of
2 326 jobs is less than 0.1 percent of the economic area employment,
3 yet the Report fails to note that Hawthorne is located 133 miles from
4 Reno-Sparks; and

5 WHEREAS, In reality, because Hawthorne is a town of
6 approximately 3,300 and is the economic base for a county with an
7 estimated population of 4,800, this closure will directly affect 10
8 percent of the city's population, not including the local businesses
9 which now benefit from the presence of the Depot, including those
10 employed by the Depot and also their families and the troops who
11 travel to Hawthorne for training; and

12 WHEREAS, As in the past, and now, as our nation faces new
13 security threats, the political leaders and residents of the State of
14 Nevada have and will continue to support the military to meet the
15 challenges they face; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE OF THE STATE OF
17 NEVADA, JOINTLY, That the Nevada Legislature strongly urges the
18 Base Realignment and Closure Commission to reconsider the
19 realignment of Naval Air Station Fallon and the Nevada National
20 Air Guard, 152nd Airlift Wing, and the closure of Hawthorne Army
21 Depot, and reject those recommendations as a significant threat to
22 national security; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and
24 transmit a copy of this resolution to each member of the Base
25 Realignment and Closure Commission, the President of the United
26 States, the Vice President of the United States as the presiding
27 officer of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives
28 and each member of the Nevada Congressional Delegation; and be it
29 further

30 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon
31 passage.



