
EMERGENCY REQUEST OF SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 17—ASSEMBLYMAN PERKINS

MAY 31, 2005

JOINT SPONSORS: SENATORS AMODEI, BEERS, CARE, CARLTON, CEGAVSKE, COFFIN, HARDY, HECK, HORSFORD, LEE, MATHEWS, MCGINNESS, NOLAN, RAGGIO, RHOADS, SCHNEIDER, TIFFANY, TITUS, TOWNSEND, WASHINGTON AND WIENER

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



1 May 13, 2005, the Department of Defense issued its
2 recommendations for closures and realignments; and

3 WHEREAS, Included in those recommendations are the proposed
4 realignments of Naval Air Station Fallon and the Nevada Air
5 National Guard stationed at Reno-Tahoe International Airport, and
6 the proposed closure of Hawthorne Army Depot; and

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

10 WHEREAS, The Department of Defense has recommended
11 realignment of Naval Air Station Fallon which will result in the
12 disestablishment of the Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance
13 Department Fallon and the Naval Air Depot North Island
14 Detachment Fallon; and

15 WHEREAS, The realignment of the Nevada Air National Guard,
16 152nd Airlift Wing, stationed at Reno-Tahoe International Airport,
17 is tantamount to a closure in that the recommendation to move eight
18 C-130H aircraft, the Guard's only planes, to another base, would
19 leave the Guard's engineering, construction and supply units in
20 Nevada, but significantly reduce the need for these units; and

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

25 WHEREAS, Not only will the realignment leave the Guard with
26 no flying mission, but it will leave Nevada's Adjutant General and
27 the Guard with limited ability to provide Homeland Security and
28 disaster assistance to Nevada and surrounding states in the event of
29 an emergency or natural disaster; and

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

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

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



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

5 WHEREAS, In its Base Closure and Realignment Report, the
6 Department of Defense includes Hawthorne Army Depot within the
7 Reno-Sparks Metropolitan Statistical Area and notes that the loss of
8 326 jobs is less than 0.1 percent of the economic area employment,
9 yet the Report fails to note that Hawthorne is located 133 miles from
10 Reno-Sparks; and

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

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

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

29 RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and
30 transmit a copy of this resolution to each member of the Base
31 Realignment and Closure Commission, the President of the United
32 States, the Vice President of the United States as the presiding
33 officer of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives
34 and each member of the Nevada Congressional Delegation; and be it
35 further

36 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon
37 passage.



