

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 11—ASSEMBLYMAN MABEY

MARCH 19, 2007

Referred to Committee on Elections, Procedures, Ethics,
and Constitutional Amendments

SUMMARY—Urges Congress to facilitate more frequent
redistricting. (BDR R-449)

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 Congress to facilitate
more frequent redistricting.

1 WHEREAS, In 2001, the Nevada Legislature undertook the task
2 of redistricting based on total population figures provided by the
3 Bureau of the Census from the 2000 decennial census; and

4 WHEREAS, In the last 6 years, the population of many of those
5 districts has since become unequal as Nevada's population has
6 grown unevenly by an estimated 21 to 31 percent; and

7 WHEREAS, The significant disparities in the population of
8 legislative districts violate the "one man, one vote" principle of the
9 Equal Protection Clause; and

10 WHEREAS, The United States Supreme Court has stated that it is
11 acceptable for the overall range of deviation to be at or below 10
12 percent, and when reapportioned in 2001:

13 1. For Assembly Districts, the overall range of deviation was
14 1.97 percent, and now, based on current population estimates, that
15 range is 356 percent; and

16 2. For Senate Districts, the overall range of deviation was 9.91
17 percent, and now, based on current population estimates, that range
18 is 213 percent; and

19 WHEREAS, Although the United States Supreme Court has held
20 that once-per-decade redistricting meets minimum constitutional
21 requirements, the Court has also indicated that more frequent
22 redistricting is not only permissible, but may be desirable; and



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1 WHEREAS, Because of the disproportionate growth in some
2 legislative districts, the votes of persons in those districts are only
3 worth, on average, one-third or one-fourth of that of the votes cast in
4 districts which have experienced lesser population growth; and

5 WHEREAS, Because of the difficult nature of redistricting, it is
6 vital that states have accurate population figures when performing
7 that task; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE OF THE STATE OF
9 NEVADA, JOINTLY, That the members of the Nevada Legislature
10 urge the Congress of the United States to assist fast-growing states
11 such as Nevada in keeping with the spirit of the "one man, one vote"
12 principle and provide for the census to be completed every 5 years
13 or, in the alternative, provide some other form of population figures
14 that are similarly accurate, will uphold the "one man, one vote"
15 principle and can withstand legal challenge; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and
17 transmit a copy of this resolution to the President of the United
18 States, the Vice President of the United States as the presiding
19 officer of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of
20 Representatives and each member of the Nevada Congressional
21 Delegation; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That this act becomes effective upon passage.

