

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 7—Assemblymen Parnell, Marvel,
Anderson, Gansert, Grady, Bobzien, Carpenter, Cobb,
Goedhart, Goicoechea, Leslie, Settelmeyer and Smith

Joint Sponsor: Senator Amodei

FILE NUMBER.....

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION—Urging the Secretary of the Interior to fully fund the interagency airtanker base programs for wildland fire suppression in Battle Mountain, Minden and Stead.

WHEREAS, The United States Department of the Interior, through the Bureau of Land Management, has provided vital fire suppression services to the State of Nevada; and

WHEREAS, These services include air support for wildland fire suppression in northern Nevada through interagency airtanker base operations at the Battle Mountain, Minden-Tahoe and Reno Stead Airports; and

WHEREAS, The areas of service include the forests and watershed surrounding Lake Tahoe, one of the nation's premiere natural treasures, and the wildland urban interface along the Sierra Front in both Nevada and California; and

WHEREAS, In July 2006, Nevada ranked first in the nation in the amount of wildland acreage burned by wildfire in the United States; and

WHEREAS, The Federal Government owns and manages 87 percent of the land in Nevada; and

WHEREAS, The Bureau of Land Management has provided exemplary air support for fighting the wildland fires which have threatened Nevada's residents, private property, public lands and other valuable natural resources; and

WHEREAS, The Sierra Front has complex and challenging conditions that generate volatile and high-intensity wildland fires which are fought over rugged terrain, and airtankers are a critical component of the fight, being used primarily for initial attack and support; and

WHEREAS, Continued funding for the full operation of the interagency airtanker base programs in Battle Mountain, Minden and Stead with single-engine airtankers that can provide the quick response needed for early suppression of a wildland fire is critical; and



WHEREAS, The Secretary of the Interior has the authority to authorize the expenditure of money to provide full funding for the interagency airtanker base programs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, JOINTLY, That the members of the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature hereby urge the Secretary of the Interior to fully fund the interagency airtanker base programs for wildland fire suppression in Battle Mountain, Minden and Stead; and be it further

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

RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon passage.

