

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 9—Assemblyman Mortenson

FILE NUMBER.....

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION—Urging Congress to allow certain proceeds from the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998 to be used for Nevada’s state parks.

WHEREAS, In 1998, Congress passed the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998, Public Law 105-263, which allows the Secretary of the Interior to sell certain federal lands in Clark County, Nevada, for possible development and authorizes use of the proceeds to acquire, conserve and protect environmentally sensitive lands in the State of Nevada; and

WHEREAS, Under the provisions of the Act, 5 percent of the profits from sales of the land is allocated to help fund education, 10 percent is allocated for water and airport infrastructure projects and the remaining 85 percent is deposited into a special account for disbursement; and

WHEREAS, The money in the special account is specified for certain capital improvement projects, including projects at Lake Mead, Red Rock Canyon, the Desert National Wildlife Refuge and other federally managed recreational areas, the development of parks, trails and a multispecies habitat conservation plan in and around Clark County, the acquisition of environmentally sensitive lands, and restoration and conservation of the Lake Tahoe Basin; and

WHEREAS, Since the first auction of land in 1999, this Act has generated approximately \$3 billion, \$2.5 billion of which has been disbursed from the special account; and

WHEREAS, Although the money distributed pursuant to the Act has been used for the enhancement and conservation of many federally managed areas in Nevada, there are numerous state parks in Nevada which could also benefit from this money; and

WHEREAS, With the growing popularity of the many rural recreational and historic sites in Nevada, it is vital that Nevada’s state parks be maintained and preserved for the continued enjoyment of the residents of Nevada and its tourists; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, JOINTLY, That the members of the Nevada Legislature urge Congress to amend the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998 to authorize the State of Nevada to use a portion of the money in the special account for the improvement and preservation of Nevada’s state parks; 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.

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