

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 32—Assemblymen Buckley; Aizley, Anderson, Arberry, Atkinson, Bobzien, Carpenter, Christensen, Claborn, Cobb, Conklin, Denis, Dondero Loop, Gansert, Goedhart, Goicoechea, Grady, Gustavson, Hambrick, Hardy, Hogan, Horne, Kihuen, Kirkpatrick, Koivisto, Leslie, Manendo, Mastroluca, McArthur, McClain, Mortenson, Munford, Ocegueda, Ohrenschall, Parnell, Pierce, Segerblom, Settelmeyer, Smith, Spiegel, Stewart and Woodbury

FILE NUMBER.....

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Urging Congress to provide financial assistance for the repair of the Truckee Canal.

WHEREAS, The Federal Reclamation Act, 32 Stat. 388, which was passed on June 17, 1902, authorized the Newlands Project, designed to irrigate thousands of acres in western-central Nevada by the construction of dams and distribution and drainage systems; and

WHEREAS, The Federal Government funded and built the original system and still holds title to the Newlands Project and its facilities; and

WHEREAS, The Truckee-Carson Irrigation District, chartered in 1918 to represent the water right holders within the boundaries of the Newlands Project, has operated and managed the Project since 1926 under contract with the Federal Government and generates the money necessary to pay for all operation and maintenance costs; and

WHEREAS, In spite of regular inspections, a break that was likely caused by burrowing rodents occurred in January 2008 in the Truckee Canal, a major distribution canal in the system, and the flooding that resulted from that break caused considerable damage to 580 homes in a housing development downstream which was declared a federal and state disaster area; and

WHEREAS, The Truckee Canal must be repaired to prevent future flooding and to restore the full flow of water because the court-ordered drastically reduced flow, which is well below capacity, is creating an artificial drought which places in jeopardy the welfare and livelihood of farmers, homeowners, Native American tribes, state and federal governmental entities, municipal and industrial interests, the military facility and wildlife within the boundaries of the Newlands Project; and

WHEREAS, A planned governmental or environmental study that would delay repairs for 3 to 5 years is not a viable option because the farmers cannot farm with years of reduced water delivery, nor



can the cities of Fallon and Fernley and the surrounding areas continue to function efficiently without relief; and

WHEREAS, Because the Newlands Project is a federal reclamation project, the repair of the Canal should be the obligation of the Federal Government; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That the members of the Nevada Legislature hereby urge Congress to provide financial assistance for the repair of the Truckee Canal; and be it further

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

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