

Amendment No. 50

Assembly Amendment to Assembly Joint Resolution No. 2 (BDR R-33)

Proposed by: Assembly Committee on Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Mining

Amends: Summary: Yes Title: Yes Preamble: Amend Joint Sponsorship: No Digest: No

ASSEMBLY ACTION				Initial and Date	SENATE ACTION				Initial and Date
Adopted	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lost	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Adopted	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lost	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Concurred In	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Concurred In	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Receded	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Receded	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

EXPLANATION: Matter in (1) *blue bold italics* is new language in the original bill; (2) variations of *green bold underlining* is language proposed to be added in this amendment; (3) ~~red strikethrough~~ is deleted language in the original bill; (4) ~~purple double strikethrough~~ is language proposed to be deleted in this amendment; (5) *orange double underlining* is deleted language in the original bill proposed to be retained in this amendment.

RAE/JRS



Date: 3/25/2015

A.J.R. No. 2—Urges the United States Congress and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to take certain actions to reduce the impact of common ravens on the greater sage grouse population in this State. (BDR R-33)



ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2—COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND MINING

PREFILED JANUARY 30, 2015

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources,
Agriculture, and Mining

SUMMARY—Urges the United States Congress and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to take certain actions to reduce the impact of common ravens on the greater sage grouse ~~(population)~~ and desert tortoise populations in this State. (BDR R-33)

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 United States Congress and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to take certain actions to reduce the impact of common ravens on the greater sage grouse ~~(population)~~ and desert tortoise populations in this State.

WHEREAS, The greater sage grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*) is a species of bird that inhabits much of the sagebrush habitat in Nevada as well as other western states; and

WHEREAS, The United States Fish and Wildlife Service has determined that the greater sage grouse is warranted for listing as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1531 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, Through the enactment of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 15, File Number 48, Statutes of Nevada 2005, at page 3022, the members of the 73rd Session of the Nevada Legislature found that the listing of the greater sage grouse as an endangered or threatened species would have a devastatingly negative impact on Nevada's land development, land use, water use, mining, recreational activities and local economies; and

WHEREAS, The desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) is a species of tortoise that inhabits the desert habitat of the southwestern United States, including the Mojave desert region of southern Nevada; and

WHEREAS, The desert tortoise is listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1531 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, The common raven (*Corvus corax*) is a species of bird that inhabits Nevada and much of the western United States, Mexico, Canada, Europe and Asia; and

1 WHEREAS, The International Union for Conservation of Nature estimates the
2 global population of the common raven as greater than 16 million and trending
3 upwards, thus classifying it as a species of least concern; and

4 WHEREAS, A known cause of decline in the sage grouse population is egg
5 depredation by the common raven, and research conducted at Idaho State
6 University has suggested that reductions in the raven population significantly
7 increase sage grouse nest success; and

8 WHEREAS, The United States Fish and Wildlife Service has identified the
9 common raven as the most highly visible predator of hatchling and juvenile
10 desert tortoises, and research published by the Western Ecological Research
11 Center of the United States Geological Survey recommends controlling certain
12 raven populations to assist in the recovery of desert tortoise populations; and

13 WHEREAS, The common raven is a protected species under regulations adopted
14 pursuant to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, 16 U.S.C. §§ 703 et seq., which
15 drastically curtails the ability of this State to manage the population of the common
16 raven in order to protect sage grouse nests ~~and~~ and desert tortoises; now, therefore,
17 be it

18 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, JOINTLY,
19 That the members of the 78th Session of the Nevada Legislature urge the United
20 States Congress to amend the Migratory Bird Treaty Act or take any other
21 appropriate action to ensure that the common raven is not a protected species under
22 that Act; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the members of the 78th Session of the Nevada Legislature
24 urge the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to:

25 1. Work with the Nevada Department of Wildlife to decrease common raven
26 populations in this State; and

27 2. Adopt regulations allowing the State of Nevada to manage the common
28 raven population and reduce the number of common ravens in this State; and be it
29 further

30 RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and transmit a copy
31 of this resolution to the Vice President of the United States as the presiding officer
32 of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, each member of the
33 Nevada Congressional Delegation, ~~and~~ the Director of the United States Fish and
34 Wildlife Service, ~~and~~ the President of the Nevada Cattlemen's Association, the
35 President of the Nevada Farm Bureau Federation, the Chair of the Sagebrush
36 Ecosystem Council and the Executive Director of the Western Governors'
37 Association; and be it further

38 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon passage.