

Amendment No. 749

Assembly Amendment to Senate Joint Resolution No. 1 (BDR R-257)

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

Amends: Summary: No Title: No 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.



SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1—SENATOR HANSEN

FEBRUARY 18, 2019

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources

SUMMARY—Urges Congress to require the Bureau of Land Management and the United States Forest Service to include cheatgrass in certain forage estimates. (BDR R-257)

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.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION—Urging Congress to require the Bureau of Land Management and the United States Forest Service to include cheatgrass in certain forage estimates.

WHEREAS, The Federal Government manages and controls approximately 86 percent of the land in the State of Nevada; and

WHEREAS, The health of those public lands is critical to a wide variety of activities vital for this State's economic success, such as agriculture, ranching, mining and outdoor recreation, as well as for the conservation of wildlife habitat and the preservation of our unique historical and cultural resources; and

WHEREAS, In recent years, wildfires, although they have always been a component of Nevada's natural ecology, have dramatically increased in both frequency and intensity, burning hundreds of thousands of acres of public and private lands, including more than 1.2 million acres in 2017 alone, degrading the land, destroying critical wildlife habitat, causing soil erosion and diminishing water quality; and

WHEREAS, The most significant single contributor to the increases of those wildfires and their harmful effects is the aggressive territorial expansion of cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*), a nonnative, invasive species of annual grass, which is progressively displacing native plant species, even becoming the dominant species on public lands in some areas of this State; and

WHEREAS, Research conducted by the University of Nevada, Reno, and elsewhere, has demonstrated that highly targeted and managed livestock grazing of cheatgrass can disrupt the life cycle of the cheatgrass and decrease the accumulation of cheatgrass on the rangelands as fuel, thus causing reductions in both the frequency and intensity of wildfires and contributing to the recovery of native plant species in the grazed areas; and

WHEREAS, The management and control of livestock grazing on the public lands of this State are primarily the responsibility of the Bureau of Land Management and the United States Forest Service; now, therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, JOINTLY,
2 That the members of the 80th Session of the Nevada Legislature hereby urge
3 Congress to work with the Bureau of Land Management and the United States
4 Forest Service to ensure that, in areas of cheatgrass monoculture, cheatgrass is
5 included in the calculation for temporary non-renewable (TNR) use in the
6 forage estimates that those agencies use in their management and control of
7 livestock grazing on the public lands of this State; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That Congress is further urged to ensure that any forage
9 estimates for an area of the public lands that have been increased by the
10 inclusion of cheatgrass in the calculation for temporary non-renewable (TNR)
11 use reflect the annual conditions of the area and consider perennial grasses
12 located in the area and the proportional abundance of forage within the area;
13 and be it further

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

18 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon passage.