

Amendment No. 119

Assembly Amendment to Assembly Joint Resolution No. 2	(BDR R-112)
Proposed by: Assembly Committee on Natural Resources	
Amends: Summary: Yes Title: Yes Preamble: No 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.



ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2—
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES(ON BEHALF OF THE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT
AN INTERIM STUDY CONCERNING WILDFIRES)

FEBRUARY 10, 2021

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources

SUMMARY—Recognizes that ~~[forest health and water quality]~~ the health of forests, rangelands and soils are inextricably linked ~~[]~~ to the quantity and quality of water. (BDR R-112)

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—Recognizing that ~~[forest health and water quality]~~ the health of forests, rangelands and soils are inextricably linked ~~[]~~ to the quantity and quality of water.

WHEREAS, Healthy forests, , rangelands and soils work as filters to keep sediment and other contaminants out of water, leaves, ~~[and]~~ branches and other residual vegetation reduce the erosive power of rainfall, roots secure soil against erosion, and plant debris improves soil structure and helps absorb nutrients and sediment; and

WHEREAS, Healthy forests, , rangelands and soils operate as natural sponges by collecting snow and rainfall, filtering out sediment and other pollutants, and slowly releasing the filtered ~~[rainfall]~~ water into rivers, lakes and streams; and

WHEREAS, Healthy forests, rangelands and soils help to recharge depleted ground water; and

WHEREAS, The ability of forests, , rangelands and soils to aid in the metered release and filtration of water provides enormous benefits to both public health and the overall health of an ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, Through this filtration process, forests, , rangelands and soils reduce both sediment and turbidity in drinking water sources, which ~~[results]~~ may result in a decrease in water treatment costs; and

WHEREAS, The loss or degradation of forests, , rangelands and soils from catastrophic wildfires in watersheds diminishes water quality, and thereby ~~[increasing]~~ may increase the ~~[costs]~~ cost of water treatment; and

WHEREAS, Climate change is exacerbating drought and increasing the size and intensity of wildfires in our forests and rangelands, presenting a direct threat to water resources from deforestation, soil erosion and post-fire runoff; and

1 WHEREAS, Fire suppression has resulted in the proliferation of closed-
2 canopied forests, which have reduced snow accumulation on the forest floor
3 and accelerated the timing of snowmelt in a manner that is incongruous with
4 the needs of the ecosystem and humans; and

5 WHEREAS, ~~{In addition to filtering water, healthy forests help to recharge~~
6 ~~depleted groundwater;}~~ Healthy forests, rangelands, soils, water quantity and
7 water quality are important for economic development, the economy and the
8 management of wildlife species; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, JOINTLY,
10 That the 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature recognizes that ~~{forest health and~~
11 ~~water quality;}~~ the health of forests, rangelands and soils are inextricably linked
12 ~~{}~~ to water quality and quantity; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature expresses its
14 support for the Federal Government, state agencies, conservation districts and
15 local governments to work collaboratively with water purveyors, land managers,
16 private landowners, land users and other stakeholders to identify watersheds that
17 can be improved by better forest, rangeland and soil health measures ~~{}~~ and to
18 identify or establish voluntary programs, within the limits of legislative
19 appropriations and other available money, to address the health of forests,
20 rangelands and soils; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon passage.