

Amendment No. 429

Assembly Amendment to Assembly Joint Resolution No. 4	(BDR R-467)
<b>Proposed by:</b> Assembly Committee on Natural Resources	
<b>Amendment Box:</b> Replaces Amendment No. 109.	
<b>Amends:</b> 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. 4–  
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES(ON BEHALF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE  
ON PUBLIC LANDS)

FEBRUARY 24, 2021

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources

SUMMARY—Urges Congress and the President of the United States to ~~{designate}~~ protect certain land containing swamp cedars in Spring Valley, ~~{as a National Heritage Area.}~~ (BDR R-467)

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 Congress of the United States ~~{of America}~~ and the President of the United States to ~~{designate}~~ protect certain land containing swamp cedars in Spring Valley, ~~{as a National Heritage Area.}~~

WHEREAS, ~~{The}~~ Spring Valley ~~{population of Rocky Mountain junipers (Juniperus scopulorum) known as swamp cedars, are sacred to the}~~ located in White Pine County, Nevada, has been a central part of the traditional homelands of certain indigenous Newe peoples, including the Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation, the Ely Shoshone, ~~{Tribe and}~~ the Duckwater Shoshone ~~{Tribe}~~ and ~~{are part of their spiritual}~~ certain Paiute peoples, since time immemorial and remains a place of current cultural ~~{practices;}~~ uses for these peoples; and

WHEREAS, The indigenous Newe peoples continue to use an area in Spring Valley known as Bahsahwahbee, ~~{the Newe word for the location of the swamp cedars in Spring Valley, has been a meeting place for intertribal}~~ locally known as Swamp Cedars but traditionally known as the Sacred Water Valley, to hold religious and ceremonial gatherings ~~{since time immemorial;}~~ pass down traditional knowledge, honor their ancestors and mourn for their relatives; and

WHEREAS, ~~{The swamp cedar trees are believed to be the spiritual embodiment of tribal ancestors who were killed during three separate massacres}~~ A massacre of indigenous people occurred at Bahsahwahbee in the Spring Valley Massacre of 1859 and ~~{the Tribes use the swamp cedar trees in their}~~ was committed during a religious and ceremonial ~~{practices;}~~ gathering; and

1 WHEREAS, Two subsequent massacres occurred at Bahsahwahbee at times  
2 of religious and ceremonial gatherings, the Swamp Cedars Massacre of 1863  
3 and the Swamp Cedars Massacre of 1897; and

4 WHEREAS, The ~~{spiritual and cultural heritage of the Tribes would be~~  
5 ~~irreparably damaged without the swamp cedar trees;~~ Rocky Mountain juniper  
6 trees, locally known as swamp cedars, that grow on the valley floor in Spring  
7 Valley are believed by the Newe peoples to embody the spirits of the  
8 indigenous Newe who were killed during those massacres; and

9 WHEREAS, The ~~{swamp cedar trees in Spring Valley are a rare occurrence of}~~  
10 Swamp Cedars is a globally and nationally unique grove of Rocky Mountain  
11 ~~{junipers and may be on their way to becoming a new species because the trees}~~  
12 juniper trees that exists at the valley bottom, unlike Rocky Mountain juniper  
13 trees elsewhere in the western United States, which largely grow ~~{at a low~~  
14 elevation and depend on a unique perched water table;} in the mountains; and

15 WHEREAS, ~~{The swamp cedars are at risk of extinction due to groundwater~~  
16 ~~pumping and drought;} A large portion of Bahsahwahbee is listed on the~~  
17 National Register of Historic Places as a Traditional Cultural Property and a  
18 much smaller portion lies within the boundaries of an Area of Critical  
19 Environmental Concern administered by the Bureau of Land Management;  
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Bahsahwahbee, and the swamp cedar trees therein, faces  
22 threats from climate change and development; and

23 WHEREAS, Neither being listed on the National Register of Historic Places  
24 nor being designated as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern provides  
25 legal protections to ensure the survival of Bahsahwahbee and the indigenous  
26 Newe peoples' continued religious and ceremonial use of the site; and

27 WHEREAS, The Federal Government has a fiduciary relationship with all  
28 federally recognized Indian tribes, including tribes of the indigenous Newe  
29 peoples; and

30 WHEREAS, Federal protection of Bahsahwahbee would be strengthened by  
31 collaborative management with the sovereign tribal nations that share  
32 ancestral and ongoing ties to the site; now, therefore, be it

33 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, JOINTLY,  
34 That members of the 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature hereby urge the  
35 Congress of the United States ~~{of America}~~ and the President of the United  
36 States to ~~{designate the land in Spring Valley that contains the swamp cedar trees~~  
37 ~~as}~~ take action to further protect Bahsahwahbee, including, without limitation,  
38 designating Bahsahwahbee as a National ~~{Heritage Area}~~ Monument or  
39 expanding Great Basin National Park to include Bahsahwahbee; and be it  
40 further

41 RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and transmit a copy  
42 of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Vice President of the  
43 United States as the presiding officer of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of  
44 Representatives and each member of the Nevada Congressional Delegation; and be it  
45 thus

46 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon passage.