

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. SJ0004

Wolf reintroduction-effect on elk populations.

Sponsored by: Joint Travel, Recreation, Wildlife and Cultural Resources Interim Committee

A Bill

for

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION requesting Congress to direct all
2 federal authorities responsible for wolf reintroduction in
3 the state of Wyoming to manage wolves so that the elk
4 population and elk feed grounds are preserved and to
5 reimburse the state for the loss of elk to wolves.

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7 WHEREAS, the federal government is responsible for the
8 reintroduction of wolves in the state of Wyoming;

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10 WHEREAS, elk are important to the recreational and economic
11 interests of the people of the state of Wyoming;

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13 WHEREAS, the use of elk feed grounds provides positive
14 benefits for the people of the state of Wyoming by
15 maintaining elk population objectives at different
16 locations in the state;

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2 WHEREAS, wolves kill and displace elk, thereby posing a
3 threat to the maintenance of elk population objectives in
4 the state and the use of elk feed grounds to achieve those
5 objectives;

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7 WHEREAS, wolves kill approximately three hundred thirty (330)
8 elk annually in Wyoming, costing the owner of those elk, the
9 state of Wyoming, an estimated one million three hundred
10 twenty thousand dollars (\$1,320,000.00);

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12 WHEREAS, the state of Wyoming does not have jurisdiction to
13 regulate wolves while they remain on the federal list of
14 threatened species.

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16 *Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved By The Members of the*
17 *Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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19 **Section 1.** That the Wyoming state legislature
20 recognizes the importance of elk to the people of the state
21 and the use of elk feed grounds to maintain elk population
22 objectives at various locations in the state of Wyoming.

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1 **Section 2.** That the federal authorities responsible
2 for the management of wolves in the state of Wyoming must
3 manage wolves in a manner consistent with maintaining elk
4 population objectives and the use of elk feed grounds, as
5 determined by state wildlife officials.

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7 **Section 3.** That the federal government should annually
8 reimburse the state of Wyoming for the loss to the state
9 caused by the killing of elk by wolves.

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11 **Section 4.** That the Secretary of State of Wyoming
12 transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the
13 United States, to the President of the Senate and the
14 Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United
15 States Congress, to the United States Secretary of Interior
16 and to the Wyoming Congressional Delegation.

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(END)