

## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. SJ0007

Bark beetle mitigation.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Dockstader and Cooper and  
Representative(s) Davison and McKim

A Bill

for

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION requesting Congress, state and local  
2 authorities to take action to mitigate damages caused by  
3 bark beetles and to prevent future damages and epidemics.

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5 WHEREAS, it is recognized that bark beetles exist in  
6 epidemic quantities in Wyoming and that this epidemic  
7 represents a significant threat to the use and enjoyment of  
8 Wyoming's lands; and

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10 WHEREAS, this epidemic has killed or is threatening  
11 approximately one million (1,000,000) acres of forested  
12 lands in Wyoming; and

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14 WHEREAS, as this epidemic kills trees in Wyoming's forests,  
15 those trees eventually fall and block roadways and trails,

1 close campgrounds, destroy utilities, threaten structures  
2 and other property and jeopardize utility and other rights-  
3 of-way; and  
4

5 WHEREAS, this epidemic presents a significant threat to  
6 Wyoming's environmental and economic prosperity due to the  
7 threat of wildfires, destruction of wildlife habitat,  
8 threat of mudslides, decreases in water and air quality,  
9 loss of recreational areas, loss of tourism and outfitting  
10 revenue and the staggering costs of remediation; and  
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12 WHEREAS, federal, state and local agencies have begun  
13 working together to address the problems created by the  
14 epidemic and have enjoyed success in starting to remediate  
15 the damages being caused by the epidemic; and  
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17 WHEREAS, significant additional remediation efforts are  
18 necessary to minimize the impacts of this epidemic and to  
19 assure Wyoming's continued environmental and economic  
20 prosperity.  
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22 *NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE*  
23 *LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING:*  
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1       **Section 1.**     That the Wyoming Legislature calls on  
2 Congress and federal agencies to fund and support, at  
3 heightened levels, efforts to remediate damages caused by  
4 the bark beetle epidemic in Wyoming and surrounding states.

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6       **Section 2.**     That the Wyoming Legislature calls on  
7 Congress in conjunction with all appropriate state and  
8 local governments to engage in cooperative efforts to  
9 remediate and minimize the impacts of the bark beetle  
10 epidemic. These efforts should include the development and  
11 improvement of short and long range planning to limit the  
12 present and future spread of the epidemic and to limit the  
13 impacts and costs associated with the epidemic. These  
14 efforts should include work to stop the spread of the  
15 epidemic and prevent its reoccurrence through preventative  
16 vegetation management practices.

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1           **Section 3.**     That the Secretary of State of Wyoming  
2     transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the  
3     United States, to the President of the Senate and the  
4     Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United  
5     States Congress and to the Wyoming Congressional  
6     Delegation.

7

8 (END)