
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8005

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Senators Oke, Owen, Hargrove, Amondson, Erwin, Haugen, Snyder, Hochstatter, Deccio, M. Rasmussen and Roach

Read first time 01/25/93. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

1 TO THE HONORABLE BILL CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND
2 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, Harbor seals and sea lion populations have greatly
9 expanded in recent years due to protective federal legislation; and

10 WHEREAS, Seals and sea lions are active predators upon salmon and
11 steelhead trout; and

12 WHEREAS, Salmon and steelhead trout are significantly reduced in
13 numbers throughout Washington state and some stocks have been listed as
14 threatened or endangered species; and

15 WHEREAS, In order to allow salmon and steelhead trout populations
16 to recover to normal levels it will be necessary to control seals and
17 sea lions in areas where they cause significant mortality to anadromous
18 fish; and

19 WHEREAS, The well known situation of "Hershall the seal lion", at
20 the Ballard Locks in Seattle, is an excellent example of sea mammal
21 predation that is seriously harming an anadromous fish population; and

1 WHEREAS, A long-term member of the Washington State Senate, who
2 recently passed away, Senator A.L. "Slim" Rasmussen, had long
3 championed the ultimate solution to the "Hershall" problem, lethal
4 removal; and

5 WHEREAS, It is time that the federal government allow that
6 predacious seals and sea lions be killed in order for salmon and
7 steelhead to be allowed a reasonable chance to survive;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the
9 President and congress will recognize the wisdom of Senator A.L. "Slim"
10 Rasmussen and grant the state of Washington the authority to protect
11 its anadromous fish stocks by lethal removal of problem seals or sea
12 lions.

13 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
14 transmitted to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United
15 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
16 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of
17 Washington.

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