
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8030

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Senators Oke, Owen, Hochstatter, Hargrove, Roach, Erwin, L. Smith, Spanel, Haugen and Snyder

Read first time 01/21/94. 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 absolute protection afforded them under
10 the Federal Marine Mammals Protection Act; and

11 WHEREAS, Seals and sea lions are active predators upon anadromous
12 fish such as salmon and steelhead trout; and

13 WHEREAS, Anadromous fish populations are significantly reduced in
14 numbers throughout Washington state and some stocks have been listed as
15 threatened or endangered species; and

16 WHEREAS, Many more stocks of anadromous fish have been requested
17 for listing as threatened or endangered species; and

18 WHEREAS, Many more anadromous fish stocks are likely to be listed
19 as threatened or endangered; and

20 WHEREAS, In order to allow certain salmon and steelhead populations
21 to recover to, and be sustained at, viable levels it will be necessary

1 to have more flexibility to actively manage seals and sea lions in
2 identifiable areas where they cause unacceptable mortality levels in
3 specific fish runs; and

4 WHEREAS, The lethal removal of seals and sea lions is currently
5 prohibited under the Federal Marine Mammals Protection Act in most all
6 cases; and

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

10 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the Marine
11 Mammal Protection Act be modified to provide for reasonable, balanced,
12 and prudent population levels of seals and sea lions in the state of
13 Washington and also provide for the active management of abundant
14 populations at set levels determined with modern wildlife management
15 science by federal and state management agencies, including the use of
16 lethal removal when and where necessary.

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

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