
HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4008

State of Washington 56th Legislature 1999 Regular Session

By Representatives Regala, Sump, Linville, G. Chandler and Haigh

Read first time 02/01/1999. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

1 TO THE HONORABLE WILLIAM J. CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
2 STATES, AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
3 OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
4 THE 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, The introduction of aquatic nuisance species, such as the
9 zebra mussel, European green crab, and the mitten crab have the
10 potential to cause significant environmental and economic damage to our
11 state and nation; and

12 WHEREAS, Aquatic nuisance species can spread from any state within
13 our nation causing harm to all; and

14 WHEREAS, The Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control
15 Act of 1990 authorizes the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force to
16 approve aquatic nuisance species management plans that are submitted by
17 state governors, and authorizes the United States Fish and Wildlife
18 Service to fund up to seventy-five percent of the implementation cost
19 of approved plans; and

1 WHEREAS, An important function of aquatic nuisance species
2 management plans is to encourage state and regional jurisdictions to
3 respond to aquatic nuisance species problems; and

4 WHEREAS, Congress has authorized four million dollars annually to
5 fund the implementation of state management plans to minimize the
6 environmental and economic damage caused by aquatic nuisance species to
7 our state and nation; and

8 WHEREAS, In recent years only two hundred thousand dollars has been
9 appropriated annually to fund the implementation of aquatic nuisance
10 species management plans; and

11 WHEREAS, The Washington State Aquatic Nuisance Species Management
12 Plan alone identified one million seven hundred thousand dollars in
13 additional funding needed to address aquatic nuisance species problems;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Two hundred thousand dollars is inadequate to allow fifty
16 states, as well as interstate organizations, to implement effective
17 programs identified in aquatic nuisance species management plans; and

18 WHEREAS, The appropriation of the full four million dollars
19 authorized to fund aquatic nuisance species management plans would
20 encourage development of plans, and thereby serve to reduce the
21 destructive impact of aquatic nuisance species and minimize the risk of
22 their spread to other states;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the
24 President and Congress should recognize the destructive potential of
25 aquatic nuisance species and act to minimize this destruction by
26 supporting appropriation of the four million dollars authorized to fund
27 state aquatic nuisance species management plans in fiscal year 2000 and
28 future years.

29 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
30 transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the
31 United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker
32 of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the
33 State of Washington.

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