

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 moose and deer population, moose and deer habitats and elk  
5 feed grounds are preserved and to reimburse the state for  
6 the loss of elk, moose and deer to wolves.

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

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11 WHEREAS, elk, moose and deer are important to the  
12 recreational and economic interests of the people of the  
13 state of Wyoming;

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15 WHEREAS, the use of elk feed grounds provides positive  
16 benefits for the people of the state of Wyoming by

1 maintaining elk population objectives at different  
2 locations in the state;

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4 WHEREAS, the introduction of wolves creates a negative  
5 impact on habitats for moose and deer and wolves kill and  
6 displace moose and deer, thereby posing a threat to the  
7 maintenance of moose and deer population objectives in the  
8 state;

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10 WHEREAS, wolves kill and displace elk, moose and deer,  
11 thereby posing a threat to the maintenance of elk  
12 population objectives in the state and the use of elk feed  
13 grounds to achieve those objectives;

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

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20 WHEREAS, the state of Wyoming does not have jurisdiction to  
21 regulate wolves while they remain on the federal list of  
22 threatened species.

23

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

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4       **Section 1.**       That the Wyoming state legislature  
5 recognizes the importance of elk, moose and deer to the  
6 people of the state and the use of elk feed grounds and the  
7 importance of habitats for moose and deer to maintain elk,  
8 moose and deer population objectives at various locations  
9 in the state of Wyoming.

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11       **Section 2.**       That the federal authorities responsible  
12 for the management of wolves in the state of Wyoming must  
13 manage wolves in a manner consistent with maintaining elk,  
14 moose and deer population objectives, preserving the  
15 habitats of moose and deer and the use of elk feed grounds,  
16 as determined by state wildlife officials.

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18       **Section 3.**       That the federal government should annually  
19 reimburse the state of Wyoming for the loss to the state  
20 caused by the killing of elk, moose and deer by wolves.

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1           **Section 4.**    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, to the United States Secretary of Interior  
6 and to the Wyoming Congressional Delegation.

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(END)