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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8020**

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**State of Washington**

**54th Legislature**

**1995 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Ecology & Parks (originally sponsored by Senators Loveland, Hale, Rasmussen, A. Anderson, Newhouse, Bauer, Snyder, Morton, Sutherland, Finkbeiner, Hochstatter, Owen, Hargrove, Rinehart, Spanel, Drew, Sheldon, Fraser, Sellar and McDonald)

Read first time 03/01/95.

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, AND TO THE SECRETARY OF THE  
5 DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY:

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

9 WHEREAS, The federal government, in an effort to protect the  
10 national security of the United States, established the Hanford site in  
11 Central Washington in 1943; and

12 WHEREAS, During the course of the past five decades, many  
13 dangerous, toxic, and nuclear wastes were disposed of or stored at the  
14 site; and

15 WHEREAS, Two-thirds of the volume of nuclear waste in the entire  
16 United States is stored at Hanford; and

17 WHEREAS, The Department of Energy has been tasked with overseeing  
18 the cleanup of the site; and

19 WHEREAS, Millions of dollars have been expended at Hanford for  
20 environmental cleanup; and

1           WHEREAS, The United States General Accounting Office estimates that  
2 up to forty percent of the cleanup funds have been expended on  
3 administrative, legal, or regulatory compliance activities; and

4           WHEREAS, The federal government agreed under the "Tri-Party  
5 Agreement" to a series of milestones to clean up the site; and

6           WHEREAS, Key milestones in this agreement cannot be met if the  
7 Department of Energy follows through on its proposal to reduce cleanup  
8 funding at the Hanford site without reducing regulatory hurdles; and

9           WHEREAS, The federal government has now announced that four  
10 thousand five hundred jobs will be eliminated as a result of these  
11 cuts; and

12           WHEREAS, These cuts, unless accompanied by a significant  
13 streamlining of the federal regulatory burden, will delay the cleanup  
14 and increase its cost.

15           NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the  
16 federal government work with Washington State and local officials to  
17 eliminate duplicative Department of Energy orders, streamline paperwork  
18 requirements, and otherwise reduce unnecessary costs so that full and  
19 adequate funding may be available for environmental cleanup; that it  
20 begin immediately to construct the facilities necessary to implement  
21 cleanup of the Hanford site; and that it maintain its commitment to  
22 funding and implementing all the key milestones of the "Tri-Party  
23 Agreement."

24           BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
25 transmitted to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United  
26 States, the Secretary of the Department of Energy, the President of the  
27 United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and  
28 each member of Congress from the State of Washington.

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