
HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4044

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2004 Regular Session

By Representatives Romero, Dickerson, Moeller, O'Brien, Santos, Lovick, Dunshee, McIntire, Kenney, Hunter, Chase, Clibborn, Ruderman, Veloria, Hudgins, McCoy, Darneille, Simpson, G., Upthegrove, Lantz, Hunt and Wood

Read first time 02/02/2004. Referred to Committee on Fisheries, Ecology & Parks.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
2 AND 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, Washington state is the gateway to Alaska, with our fates
9 intertwined and our economies, people, and ecologies interdependent;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Workers in Washington state depend upon the healthy
12 wildlife protected by the National Wildlife Refuge System established
13 by President Theodore Roosevelt when he visited Pelican Island a
14 hundred years ago; and

15 WHEREAS, Our wildlife refuge system has grown through the work of
16 common Americans with uncommon dedication and perseverance; and

17 WHEREAS, The refuges now number more than 500 and cover every
18 state; and

19 WHEREAS, Here in Washington state, volunteers work hard to protect

1 the wildlife refuge lands at the Nisqually River, Willapa Bay, the
2 Hanford Reach, and other important locations throughout our state; and

3 WHEREAS, Hunters, birdwatchers, kayakers, and hikers all enjoy the
4 benefits of these wildlife refuges; and

5 WHEREAS, Americans built this refuge system because of their love
6 of wildlife and the promise made by Congress that it would serve as a
7 good steward of those lands; and

8 WHEREAS, Congress and the Bush Administration is breaking that
9 promise by authorizing a massive oil drilling operation in the Arctic
10 National Wildlife Refuge; and

11 WHEREAS, This breach of trust undermines 100 years of cooperation
12 and progress;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the
14 federal government abandon plans to open any national wildlife refuge,
15 including the Arctic Wildlife National Refuge, to industrial
16 development like drilling or mining.

17 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
18 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, 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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