

Enrolled
House Joint Memorial 5

Sponsored by Representatives BOQUIST, KROPF (at the request of Greg Addington of Oregon Farm Bureau)

To the President of the United States and the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

We, your memorialists, the Seventy-third Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

Whereas Oregon farmers understand the important role that the Canada goose plays in the subsistence lifestyle of Alaskan Natives; and

Whereas migratory and resident Canada geese cause a significant negative economic effect to agricultural crops in Oregon; and

Whereas goose depredation of seed and grain yields is a serious issue for farmers and calls for a comprehensive solution; and

Whereas goose feces pose a health and safety risk to humans and to livestock; and

Whereas in 1998 the Pacific Flyway Council developed a management plan for Canada goose depredation control; and

Whereas federal funding for research, monitoring, program development and damage assistance has been inadequate to meet the needs specified in the management plan; and

Whereas there is pressure from some federal agencies to increase the numbers of geese in some subspecies; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

(1) The federal government is respectfully urged:

(a) To provide sufficient funds to the United States Department of Agriculture to contract with farmers in Oregon and Washington to purchase growing crops to feed Canada geese; or

(b) To develop a program and timeline to reduce the number of wintering Canada geese in Oregon to the levels agreed upon in the 1998 Pacific Flyway Council management plan.

(2) The federal government is urged to adopt the following principles as part of any program and timeline developed:

(a) The Canada goose population should be reduced so that there are fewer geese on agricultural lands.

(b) Statewide hunting opportunities should be maximized and hunting should be maintained at a level that will effectively harass geese from agricultural lands.

(c) Game bird refuges should be maintained at optimal levels to attract geese to the refuges.

(d) Game bird refuges should be farmed with crops that will attract and feed geese.

(e) Stable funding should be sought for programs that pay for damage to seed and grain crops.

(3) A copy of this memorial shall be sent to the President of the United States and to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation.

Adopted by House April 6, 2005

Chief Clerk of House

Speaker of House

Adopted by Senate June 2, 2005

President of Senate