

From: Douglas Domenech
To: randal_bowman@ios.doi.gov
Subject: FYI monuments
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State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-third Legislature
First Regular Session
2017

SENATE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 1011

A CONCURRENT MEMORIAL

URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO REPEAL OR AMEND THE 1906 ANTIQUITIES ACT TO REQUIRE CONGRESSIONAL, STATE, COUNTY AND LOCAL APPROVAL IN ORDER TO DESIGNATE A NATIONAL MONUMENT.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 To the Congress of the United States of America:

2 Your memorialist respectfully represents:

3 Whereas, Arizona's great strength lies in the value of its public
4 lands and the public's ability to access and use those lands for a variety
5 of recreational uses; and

6 Whereas, nearly 50% of all land in Arizona is already under federal
7 management, and the majority of Arizona's lands are restricted from public
8 access and recreation; and

9 Whereas, the 1906 Antiquities Act directs the President of the
10 United States to limit the designation of national monuments to the
11 smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the
12 objects to be protected; and

13 Whereas, the Antiquities Act is inconsistent with the principles of
14 a government by and for the people; and

15 Whereas, Arizona currently has 18 monument designations, the most of
16 any state, and there are more than 285 million acres of land and marine
17 areas in monument status; and

18 Whereas, the Arizona Game and Fish Department is statutorily charged
19 with managing, conserving and protecting Arizona's 800 wildlife species,
20 and these monument designations have negatively impacted the department in
21 carrying out its statutory duty by impeding its ability to develop and
22 maintain critical water resources, manage wildlife, restore habitat and
23 perform wildlife translocations; and

24 Whereas, the federal government is unable to financially support and
25 maintain the existing national parks and monuments and often ends up
26 closing or restricting the use of these lands; and

27 Whereas, the designation of national monuments and subsequent
28 closure or restricted use of public lands significantly interferes with
29 Arizona's economic well-being as over 2.1 million Arizonans and
30 nonresident hunters, anglers, boaters, wildlife watchers and off-highway
31 vehicles enthusiasts contributed over \$2.4 billion and supported 27,000
32 Arizona jobs in 2011; and

33 Whereas, the designation of monuments interferes with Arizona's
34 ability to mitigate the risk of wildfire by thinning overly dense forests
35 and adversely affects grazing practices, water conservation and proper
36 soil erosion controls and practices; and

37 Whereas, designating an area as a national monument adds additional
38 land use restrictions, prevents the multiple use of this land and curbs
39 the use of the land's abundant natural resources; and

40 Whereas, land is a significant asset for states, and Congress should
41 repeal the Antiquities Act or at the very least amend it to require
42 congressional approval of, as well as state and local approval and consent
43 of, any future monument of federal designation; and

44 Whereas, the greatest threat to the lands of Arizona is the
45 intrusion and overreach of the federal government.

46 Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House
47 of Representatives concurring, prays:

48 1. That the United States Congress act to protect local economies
49 and to preserve local customs, cultures and historical uses by repealing
50 or amending the Antiquities Act to require congressional, state, county
51 and local approval in order to designate a national monument.

52 2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit
53 copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States, the
54 President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States

- 1 House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of
- 2 Arizona.

PASSED BY THE HOUSE MARCH 21, 2017.

PASSED BY THE SENATE FEBRUARY 23, 2017.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE MARCH 22, 2017.