

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 10—Assemblymen Pierce, Parks,
Koivisto, Arberry, Claborn, McClain, Ohrenschall and
Segerblom

FILE NUMBER.....

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION—Urging Congress to
reevaluate the “fast track” approval of international trade
agreements.

WHEREAS, As international trade has evolved in recent years
under the “fast track” authority by which Congress reviews
international trade agreements involving the United States, the
authority for which will expire on June 30, 2007, significant
questions have developed with respect to the continuing ability of
states to retain their character, environmental controls and quality of
life; and

WHEREAS, Under “fast track” rules, the review of complex
trade agreements by Congress is limited to a vote to approve or
reject the agreements, after limited time for consideration, without
the possibility of amendments; and

WHEREAS, Trade agreements today have an impact which
extends significantly beyond the bounds of traditional trade matters
such as tariffs and quotas, and instead grant foreign investors and
service providers certain rights and privileges regarding acquisition
of land and facilities and regarding operations within a state’s
territory, subject state laws to challenge as “non-tariff barriers to
trade” in the binding dispute resolution bodies that accompany the
pacts and place limits on the future policy options of state
legislatures; and

WHEREAS, Despite the demonstrated variety of significant
impacts that trade and investment agreements have on state
governance, taxation authority, environmental protection, land use
regulation and many other areas of state interest, states and local
governments have not received assurances that their concerns will
be adequately addressed in any “fast track” renewal process; and

WHEREAS, Federal legislation should clarify the negotiating
agenda of the United States in a manner that establishes a stronger
role for states and should include an explicit mechanism for the
prior informed consent of affected state legislatures; now, therefore,
be it

RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE OF THE STATE OF
NEVADA, JOINTLY, That the Nevada Legislature hereby urges
Congress to reevaluate the “fast track” approval of international
trade agreements, and to consider replacing that authority with a



more democratic, inclusive and deliberative mechanism which takes into consideration the concerns of state legislatures and authorizes their participation in the international trade agreement process; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to the Vice President of the United States as the presiding officer of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and each member of the Nevada Congressional Delegation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon passage.

