

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 1—Assemblymen McArthur, Hafen, Gray, O’Neill, Yeager; Anderson, Backus, Bilbray-Axelrod, Considine, DeLong, Dickman, D’Silva, Duran, Gallant, Gurr, Hansen, Hardy, Hibbetts, Kasama, Koenig, La Rue Hatch, Marzola, Monroe-Moreno, Mosca, Newby, Nguyen, Peters, Summers-Armstrong, Taylor, Thomas, Torres and Yurek

Joint Sponsors: Senators Krasner, Titus, Spearman, Buck, Flores; Dondero Loop, Goicoechea, Hansen, Nguyen, Ohrenschall, Scheible, SeEVERS Gansert and Stone

FILE NUMBER.....

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION—Urging the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to study the effectiveness and use of hyperbaric oxygen therapy for veterans.

WHEREAS, Hyperbaric oxygen therapy involves breathing pure oxygen in a pressurized room or tube to temporarily increase the blood oxygen levels of a person to promote healing and fight infection; and

WHEREAS, The United States Food and Drug Administration approved the use of hyperbaric oxygen therapy to treat certain disorders or conditions, including, among others, carbon monoxide poisoning, decompression sickness, enhanced healing of some wound problems, skin grafts, heat burns, crush injuries and other acute health care issues that involve not enough blood flow to a part of the body; and

WHEREAS, The United States Food and Drug Administration has not approved hyperbaric oxygen therapy to treat post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury; and

WHEREAS, Some studies found a positive benefit by using hyperbaric oxygen therapy to treat post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury; and

WHEREAS, The 22 Project, a veteran-centered nonprofit organization, conducted a study which used hyperbaric oxygen therapy to treat 39 veterans diagnosed with mild traumatic brain injury with hyperbaric oxygen therapy; and

WHEREAS, Researchers determined that hyperbaric oxygen therapy could be a useful treatment for mild traumatic brain injury in veterans because results of the study demonstrated a 46.6 percent improvement in measured symptoms, including significant improvement in brain perfusion, reduced pain, improved mood and better sleep; and



WHEREAS, A study conducted by the Shamir Medical Center in Israel determined that use of hyperbaric oxygen therapy to treat veterans diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder improved brain activity; and

WHEREAS, Researchers conducting a pooled analysis of results from the United States Department of Defense and other studies concluded that a definitive clinical trial should be considered to identify the optimal hyperbaric oxygen dosing regimen for individuals diagnosed with mild traumatic brain injury associated with post-traumatic stress disorder; and

WHEREAS, The 114th Congress of the United States established the Creating Options for Veterans' Expedited Recovery Commission to examine the evidence-based therapy treatment model used by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs for treating mental health conditions and to examine available research on the use of complementary and alternative medicine therapies, including hyperbaric oxygen therapy; and

WHEREAS, The Commission's final report set forth 11 recommendations addressing mental health, including that the United States Department of Veterans Affairs conduct further studies on the use of hyperbaric oxygen therapy; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, JOINTLY, That the members of the 82nd Session of the Nevada Legislature hereby urge the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to study the effectiveness and use of hyperbaric oxygen therapy for veterans and share the results of the study with the State of Nevada; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, and each member of the Nevada Congressional Delegation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon passage.

