

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 326

Designating the Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Elko, Nevada, as the “National Cowboy Poetry Gathering”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 22, 2000

Mr. BRYAN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

RESOLUTION

Designating the Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Elko, Nevada,
as the “National Cowboy Poetry Gathering”.

Whereas working cowboys and the ranching community have contributed greatly to the establishment and perpetuation of western life in the United States;

Whereas the practice of composing verses about life and work on the range dates back to at least the trail drive era of the late 19th century;

Whereas the Cowboy Poetry Gathering has revived and continues to preserve the art of cowboy poetry by increasing awareness and appreciation of this tradition-based art form;

Whereas the reemergence of cowboy poetry both highlights recitation traditions that are a central form of artistry in

communities throughout the West and promotes popular poetry and literature to the general public;

Whereas the Cowboy Poetry Gathering serves as a bridge between urban and rural people by creating a forum for the presentation of art and for the discussion of cultural issues in a humane and non-political manner;

Whereas the Western Folklife Center in Reno, Nevada, established and hosted the inaugural Cowboy Poetry Gathering in January of 1985;

Whereas since its inception 16 years ago, some 200 similar local spin-off events are now held in communities throughout the West; and

Whereas it is proper and desirable to recognize Elko, Nevada, as the original home of the Cowboy Poetry Gathering:
Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That the Senate designates the Cowboy Po-
- 2 etry Gathering in Elko, Nevada, as the “National Cowboy
- 3 Poetry Gathering”.

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