

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 48

Senator Wojno, Alexander, Ananich, Bayer, Bizon, Brinks, Bullock, Bumstead, Chang, Daley, Hollier, Horn, Johnson, LaSata, Lauwers, Lucido, MacDonald, McMorrow, Moss, Outman, Polehanki, Santana, Stamas, VanderWall and Zorn offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to commemorate the 100th anniversary of
2 Michigan's state parks system.

3 Whereas, Michigan's state parks system was established with
4 the passage of Public Act 218 of 1919. The new law created the
5 Michigan State Park Commission on May 12, 1919, to acquire land for
6 state parks; and

7 Whereas, The establishment of Michigan's state parks system is
8 designed to provide recreation opportunities for the citizens of

1 Michigan, as well as preserving Michigan's beautiful natural
2 splendor for future generations; and

3 Whereas, The park system operates 103 state park and
4 recreation areas covering more than 306,000 acres and 16 state
5 harbors on the Great Lakes. In addition to offering recreational
6 facilities, some parks focus on historically significant events,
7 contain museums where artifacts are exhibited, and host special
8 presentations that bring history to life for the more than 26
9 million visitors per year; and

10 Whereas, Camping is a major activity at most parks, with
11 14,100 campsites in 142 campgrounds and over 900 miles of trails
12 with facilities ranging from modern to rustic; and

13 Whereas, Michigan's state parks hold in trust for future
14 generations many of the irreplaceable natural resources to be found
15 in our outdoors. They offer a wide array of educational
16 opportunities amid a scenic background that may include mountains
17 of sand dunes, an eighteenth century farm, or wilderness
18 waterfalls; and

19 Whereas, Whether visiting the parks in the winter, spring,
20 summer, or autumn, the citizens of Michigan have been making
21 memories and parks have played an important role in vacation plans
22 for families and friends; and

23 Whereas, The state parks system has been instrumental in
24 protecting our natural wonders for our citizens and sharing the
25 magic of "Pure Michigan" with our neighbors from other states and
26 countries. State parks are closely linked to the tourism industry
27 and are vital assets to our state's economy. We must continue to
28 protect and support these great natural and historic resources;
29 now, therefore, be it

1 Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative
2 body commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Michigan state parks
3 system; and be it further

4 Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
5 officials in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.