

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 404 Session of  
2015

INTRODUCED BY TEPLITZ, WOZNIAK, DINNIMAN, GREENLEAF, BROWNE,  
RAFFERTY, COSTA, RESCHENTHALER, FONTANA, BREWSTER,  
VULAKOVICH, KITCHEN, TARTAGLIONE, HUGHES AND HAYWOOD,  
JUNE 28, 2016

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JUNE 28, 2016

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of August 2016 as "National and State Park  
2 Month" in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the  
3 National Park Service and the important role the 29 National  
4 parks and 120 State parks play in our communities and our  
5 lives.

6 WHEREAS, The National Park Service was founded on August 25,  
7 1916, by President Woodrow Wilson with the mission to "conserve  
8 the scenery and the natural and historic objects and wildlife  
9 therein, and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such  
10 manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the  
11 enjoyment of future generations"; and

12 WHEREAS, To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the National  
13 Park Service, all its sites that charge an entrance fee will  
14 offer free admission days to everyone; and

15 WHEREAS, The National Park System covers more than 84 million  
16 acres and is comprised of 409 sites with 28 different  
17 designations, including: 128 historical parks or sites, 78  
18 national monuments, 59 national parks, 25 battlefields or

1 military parks, 19 preserves, 18 recreation areas, 10 seashores,  
2 4 parkways, 4 lakeshores and 2 reserves; and

3 WHEREAS, In 2015 more than 305 million people visited a  
4 national park; and

5 WHEREAS, Annual visitor spending in communities within 60  
6 miles of National Park Service sites supports more than 240,000  
7 jobs, mostly local, and contributes approximately \$27 billion to  
8 the National economy; and

9 WHEREAS, In Pennsylvania, the first State park at Valley  
10 Forge opened in 1893 and was given to the National Park Service  
11 for America's bicentennial in 1976; and

12 WHEREAS, Since 1893 the Pennsylvania Bureau of State Parks  
13 has blossomed into one of the largest state park systems in the  
14 nation with 121 parks covering 61 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, State and national parks are dedicated to enhancing  
17 our quality of life through recreation programming, leisure  
18 activities and conservation efforts; therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of August 2016  
20 as "National and State Park Month" and affirm the great societal  
21 value these parks play in the lives of the citizens of the  
22 United States and of this Commonwealth.