

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 143 Session of  
2011

INTRODUCED BY PIPPY, FONTANA, SOLOBAY, BOSCOLA, RAFFERTY,  
ARGALL, ALLOWAY, DINNIMAN AND BREWSTER, JUNE 17, 2011

REFERRED TO ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, JUNE 17, 2011

## A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to study  
2 the economic impact of recreational water trails on local  
3 communities in this Commonwealth.

4 WHEREAS, The Great Outdoors America report published by the  
5 Outdoor Resources Review Group recommended development of a  
6 nationwide water trails network; and

7 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth has an abundance of natural  
8 resources that are enjoyed by residents and visitors alike with  
9 86,000 miles of rivers and streams; and

10 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is a recognized leader in the  
11 development of water trails with an active Statewide water  
12 trails effort and more than 20 water trails developed or under  
13 development totaling nearly 2,000 river miles; and

14 WHEREAS, Several of this Commonwealth's water trails have  
15 gained national attention with National Recreation Trail  
16 designation; and

17 WHEREAS, Tourism, including outdoor tourism, is the second  
18 largest industry in Pennsylvania, generating \$5.1 billion in

1 payroll and jobs for this Commonwealth; and

2 WHEREAS, The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
3 and the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission are partners in  
4 these efforts along with other public and private entities to  
5 develop water trails in Pennsylvania; and

6 WHEREAS, Several studies have demonstrated the significant  
7 economic importance to local communities of land-based  
8 recreational trails; and

9 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth should have a full appreciation of  
10 the economic value of water trails on its communities to help  
11 target future investments; therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That the Senate direct the Legislative Budget and  
13 Finance Committee to study the economic impact of recreational  
14 water trails on local communities in this Commonwealth; and be  
15 it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee  
17 report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly  
18 within a year of the passage of this resolution.