
1 Relating to: a Wisconsin children’s outdoor bill of rights.

Whereas, Wisconsin is a land rich in natural beauty and glorious landscapes, which should be shared with the children and families of the state; and

Whereas, Wisconsin has led the nation in a long tradition of environmental protection and conservation, boasting leaders such as Aldo Leopold, John Muir, and Gaylord Nelson; and

Whereas, Wisconsin has a long standing commitment to its natural heritage, connecting its people to the land, and passing its heritage and traditions to future generations; and

Whereas, children are losing their connection to the natural world, which threatens their health, quality of life, readiness for future job opportunities, and the future of our natural resources; and

Whereas, children who frequently spend time outdoors have significantly less stress, develop enhanced sensory perception, and experience fewer attention
difficulties and decreased rates of physical and emotional illness and obesity; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the members of the Wisconsin legislature recognize that every Wisconsin child should have the opportunity to:

discover Wisconsin’s diverse wilderness: prairies, forests, wetlands, and beaches;
breathe clean air and drink clean water;
splash, play, and swim in safe, clean lakes and rivers;
visit a working farm;
share a hunting or fishing experience with a family member, friend, or mentor;
follow a trail — ride it or walk it;
play, snowshoe, ski, snowboard, or sled in the snow;
camp out under the stars;
eat meals made from local products and ingredients;
play in the dirt, plant a seed, and grow a garden; and
explore and connect with Wisconsin’s natural spaces and wild places; and, be it further

Resolved, That the members of the Wisconsin legislature encourage children’s participation in outdoor activities.

(END)