



2025 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 62

May 30, 2025 - Introduced by Senators HABUSH SINYKIN, CABRAL-GUEVARA, CARPENTER, DASSLER-ALFHEIM, DRAKE, HESSELBEIN, KEYESKI, LARSON, PFAFF, RATCLIFF, ROYS, SPREITZER and WIRCH, cosponsored by Representatives PALMERI, MURSAU, ANDRACA, ARNEY, BARE, CLANCY, CRUZ, DESANTO, DESMIDT, DITTRICH, EMERSON, FITZGERALD, JOERS, JOHNSON, KAUFERT, KIRSCH, MADISON, MCCARVILLE, MELOTIK, MIRESE, MURPHY, PHELPS, ROE, SHEEHAN, SINICKI, SNODGRASS, STROUD, STUBBS, TENORIO and UDELL. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** proclaiming January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, as Wisconsin
2 State Park System 125th Anniversary.

3 Whereas, for 125 years, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources State
4 Park System has provided high-quality outdoor recreation, education experiences,
5 natural resource stewardship, and other services for visitors throughout the state;
6 and

7 Whereas, Interstate Park—the oldest state park in Wisconsin—was
8 established in 1900, marking the formation of the Wisconsin State Park System,
9 which has since grown to include state parks, forests, trails, and recreation areas
10 comprising over 307,000 acres of public land; and

11 Whereas, Wisconsin's 50 state parks exemplify the state's proud and rich
12 history of conservation and protecting natural resources, and the Wisconsin State
13 Park System welcomes more than 20 million visitors each year; and

14 Whereas, the Wisconsin State Park System recognizes the important work of

1 its staff, partners, Friends Groups, and volunteers in supporting and furthering
2 the mission of the DNR to preserve and promote public lands for generations to
3 come and provide safe, accessible, and affordable spaces for all to enjoy year-round;
4 and

5 Whereas, Wisconsinites are encouraged to participate in outdoor recreation
6 offerings, such as hiking, biking, horseback riding, fishing, paddling, and more, to
7 support their health and wellness through the Wisconsin State Park System's
8 OutWiGo initiative; and

9 Whereas, the Wisconsin State Park System boasts roughly 22 million visits
10 annually, with around \$20 million spent on our state parks yearly, and in recent
11 years, about 500,000 state park annual admission stickers were sold per year; and

12 Whereas, due to legislation passed by the 2023 Legislature, a person may
13 purchase a 12-month admission sticker to enjoy our state parks year-round; and

14 Whereas, the Wisconsin State Park System is a key part of the overall outdoor
15 and recreation industry's large economic impact on the state, generating \$11.2
16 billion in state gross domestic product and supporting 97,000 jobs in the state; and

17 Whereas, on this occasion, the state of Wisconsin joins all Wisconsinites,
18 outdoor enthusiasts, and the DNR in celebrating 125 years of the Wisconsin State
19 Park System and commends everyone involved for their many contributions to
20 recreation, tourism, and stewardship in the state; now, therefore, be it

21 ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the Wisconsin
22 Legislature hereby proclaims January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, as Wisconsin
23 State Park System 125th Anniversary.

24 (END)