

As Introduced

136th General Assembly

Regular Session

2025-2026

H. B. No. 402

Representatives Brennan, Dovilla

To enact section 5.092 of the Revised Code to
declare the Cleveland Metroparks system as
"Ohio's Emerald Necklace."

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 5.092 of the Revised Code be
enacted to read as follows:

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Sec. 5.092. (A) The Cleveland metroparks system is
declared to be "Ohio's Emerald Necklace" for all of the
following reasons:

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(1) To acknowledge the system as a nationally recognized
network of natural spaces, trails, waterways, and recreational
amenities spanning more than twenty-five thousand acres across
northeast Ohio;

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(2) To honor the system's encircling layout of green
spaces that preserve natural beauty and provide public access to
nature, outdoor recreation, and environmental education;

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(3) In recognition of the system's significant
contribution to the quality of life, public health, ecological
resilience, and tourism in northeast Ohio;

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(4) In appreciation of the system, which serves over

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<u>nineteen million recreational visitors annually, and for being</u>	20
<u>an economic and cultural asset to this state.</u>	21
<u>(B) It is the intent of the general assembly that this</u>	22
<u>designation promotes continued appreciation, stewardship, and</u>	23
<u>investment in this state's natural heritage and public park</u>	24
<u>systems.</u>	25
<u>(C) The designation described in this section is honorary</u>	26
<u>in nature and shall not require the expenditure of state funds</u>	27
<u>for signage or other materials unless otherwise agreed upon by</u>	28
<u>public or private entities.</u>	29