

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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nineteen million recreational visitors annually, and for being 20
an economic and cultural asset to this state. 21

(B) It is the intent of the general assembly that this 22
designation promotes continued appreciation, stewardship, and 23
investment in this state's natural heritage and public park 24
systems. 25

(C) The designation described in this section is honorary 26
in nature and shall not require the expenditure of state funds 27
for signage or other materials unless otherwise agreed upon by 28
public or private entities. 29