

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To designate 2018 as "Ohio's Year of the Trails."

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Ohio (The House of Representatives concurring):

WHEREAS, Ohio has more than 3,500 miles of trail networks, the most of any state in the United States, and connecting trail segments is a powerful tool for economic and community development that should be actively facilitated; and

WHEREAS, Outdoor trails are used for a variety of activities, including walking, hiking, biking, rolling, paddling, and horseback riding, and the many miles of trails that exist throughout Ohio have allowed countless individuals to reflect on the splendor of our natural world. Without a doubt, these pathways are not only a source of pride for the communities they serve, providing significant economic and environmental benefits, but are also an important feature in helping to improve the quality of life in our society by promoting healthy lifestyles via recreation and active transportation; and

WHEREAS, Trails bring people together, as they not only connect physical locations but also represent the bonds that create communities. By highlighting the numerous trails in our state, we also praise the innumerable people who have helped make them a reality, and their efforts celebrate the beauty of the world around us by providing accessible and functional transportation to all people, regardless of age, background, or ability; and

WHEREAS, At a time when many communities seem more concerned with urbanization than with conservation, it is fitting that we salute the individuals who have served as the caretakers of our public resources. Through their hard work and enthusiasm, the citizens of Ohio have demonstrated an unparalleled spirit of cooperation, and we applaud and support all those responsible for the success of these noteworthy trails that serve to repurpose land in valuable ways; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 132nd General Assembly of the State of Ohio, in adopting this resolution, designate the year 2018 as "Ohio's Year of the Trails" and encourage all Ohioans to take advantage of their local and regional trail networks, do their part to further enhance Ohio's trail networks, and pay tribute to everyone who has labored to maintain and enlarge these public amenities; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the news media of Ohio.

Speaker _____ *of the House of Representatives.*

President _____ *of the Senate.*

Adopted _____, 20____