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House Resolution

A resolution recognizing March 19, 2025, as "Florida State Parks Day" in Florida.

WHEREAS, Florida's state parks system manages and protects 175 parks, trails, and historic sites that span over 815,000 acres, including 100 miles of white sand beaches, and

WHEREAS, Florida's state parks generated an estimated \$3.7 billion in economic impact and nearly \$250 million in sales tax revenue and attracted more than 30 million visitors while supporting 52,648 jobs in the 2023-2024 fiscal year, and

WHEREAS, Florida's state park system is the only four-time winner of the National Recreation and Park Association's Gold Medal for Excellence in the Field of Parks and Recreation Management, and is eligible to receive a potential fifth gold medal in 2025, and

WHEREAS, Florida's state parks are celebrating 90 years of history, having been created out of the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1935, and

WHEREAS, Florida's state parks are known for outdoor recreation, including hiking, camping, swimming, paddling, fishing, horseback riding, and many other activities, and

WHEREAS, Florida's state parks inspire thousands of volunteers, as well as multiple dedicated, statewide citizen

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2025

25 | support organizations such as the statewide Florida State Parks
26 | Foundation, and

27 | WHEREAS, beloved native wildlife, including Florida
28 | panthers, manatees, sea turtles, black bears, alligators, and
29 | many species of birds, find critical habitat in lands and waters
30 | managed by Florida's state park system, and

31 | WHEREAS, 75 of Florida's 175 state parks lie within the
32 | footprint of the Florida Wildlife Corridor, with many more
33 | located nearby, NOW, THEREFORE,

34 |

35 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
36 | Florida:

37 |

38 | That March 19, 2025, is recognized as "Florida State Parks
39 | Day" in Florida.