

By Senator Brodeur

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Senate Resolution

A resolution designating February 4, 2026, as "Florida State Parks Day" in Florida.

WHEREAS, Florida's state park 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 \$3.6 billion in economic impact and \$234 million in sales tax revenue while attracting more than 28 million visitors and supporting 49,910 jobs in fiscal year 2024-2025, and

WHEREAS, Florida's state park system is the only four-time winner of the National Gold Medal for Excellence in Parks and Recreation Management and was one of three finalists for the gold medal in 2025, 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 dedicated statewide citizen support organizations, such as the Florida State Parks Foundation, and

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

WHEREAS, 75 of Florida's 175 state parks lie within the footprint of the Florida Wildlife Corridor, with many more located nearby, and

WHEREAS, the year 2025 marked 25 years of Florida Forever,

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30 the landmark conservation program that has protected more than 1
31 million acres of land across this state for the benefit of
32 people and nature, and

33 WHEREAS, Florida Forever has helped to acquire or expand
34 dozens of Florida's state parks to increase opportunities for
35 outdoor recreation as well as to preserve crucial habitat, NOW,
36 THEREFORE,

37

38 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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40 That February 4, 2026, is designated as "Florida State
41 Parks Day" in Florida.