

Citizen Resolution # 170320

(For Hearing Officer completion)



Every Kid Outdoors Pass for Wisconsin State Parks

Resolution: At present, the Wisconsin DNR does not accept the national Every Kid Outdoors pass at Wisconsin state parks.

The Every Kid Outdoors pass (formally called "Every Kid in a Park") is part of a federal initiative that was created to give free access to national parks to every 4th grade student and their family. The initiative's goal is to increase accessibility of public lands and to encourage children and families to build positive experiences in parks. It was wildly successful, with 2 million kids accessing the pass nationwide within the first two years of the program.

Inspired by this program, several states (including Idaho, Maryland, Nevada, New Mexico) have begun accepting the pass at state parks. These states have seen negligible financial impacts from implementing this program, and this program provides an important way to connect children with the outdoors.

For many Wisconsin residents a sense of conservation begins at home. Wisconsin's state parks are beautiful and are an important part of the state's tourism economy. Limitations of income should not prevent children and their families from enjoying Wisconsin state parks.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Conservation Congress recommends that the Wisconsin DNR accept Every Kid Outdoors passes at state parks, allowing free state park entrance for 4th graders and their families.

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Resolutions introduced at each Spring Hearing are public documents under Wisconsin's Open Records law [ss. 19.31-19.39, Wis. Stats.] and will be posted online for the public to review. Any personally identifiable information will be available to the public but will only be used by the Department for administrative purposes.

Please print typed resolution on 8 ½ X 11 white paper (one-sided) and provide the WCC County Chair with TWO COPIES at the spring hearing. Only the individual author or designated representative may present the resolution. The

author or designated representative must be present at the time the resolution is introduced. No more than two resolutions may be introduced by any person during the Congress portion of the spring hearings.

Contact one of your [local WCC delegates](#) with questions or for assistance with writing your resolution.