

**Enrolled
House Bill 2143**

Sponsored by Representative JOHNSON; Representative GOMBERG (Presession filed.)

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to outdoor recreation; and declaring an emergency.

Whereas with its unsurpassed diversity of landscapes, Oregon offers unparalleled opportunities for outdoor recreation, as canyons and mountains, ocean and deserts, lakes, grasslands, rivers and ridges grace this state with an astonishing abundance of places to play and relax; and

Whereas Oregon’s culture and history are deeply tied to an active outdoor lifestyle, and over 90 percent of Oregonians report that they engage in at least one form of outdoor recreation; and

Whereas Oregon is recognized as a world-class recreational venue where visitors travel from all parts of the earth to hike, ski, camp, boat, climb, bike, windsurf, fish and run, all against a backdrop of breathtaking scenery; and

Whereas outdoor recreation is an important but often underestimated driver of the state and local economies; and

Whereas according to the Outdoor Industry Association, outdoor recreation in Oregon annually generates \$12.8 billion in consumer spending, creates 141,000 direct Oregon jobs that pay \$4 billion in wages and salary, and provides \$955 million in state and local revenues that in return support many of Oregon’s outdoor recreation spaces, as well as its schools and communities; and

Whereas the numerous physical and mental health benefits of outdoor recreation are widely recognized, among them reduced stress, lower susceptibility to disease, longer life and increased feelings of happiness and satisfaction; and

Whereas outdoor recreation furnishes friends and families a chance to strengthen relationships and build lasting memories as they play together; and

Whereas outdoor recreation fosters a deep connection with nature; and

Whereas the myriad opportunities for outdoor recreation make Oregon one of the best places on earth to live; and

Whereas while the easy accessibility and variety of outdoor recreation across this state mean that Oregonians enjoy outdoor recreation year round, June signals a boost in activity as school vacations and long summer days provide even more time and great weather to enjoy the outdoors; and

Whereas it is appropriate that we designate an annual day to celebrate a facet of Oregon life that is so essential to its culture, economy and livability and that enhances the well-being of all who live in or visit this state; now, therefore,

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. The first Saturday in June of each year is designated as Oregon Outdoor Recreation Day to encourage Oregonians and visitors to enjoy the many spectacular opportunities for outdoor recreation that this state offers.

SECTION 2. This 2017 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2017 Act takes effect on its passage.

Passed by House March 6, 2017

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Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

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Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Passed by Senate May 11, 2017

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Received by Governor:

.....M,....., 2017

Approved:

.....M,....., 2017

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Kate Brown, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M,....., 2017

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Dennis Richardson, Secretary of State