

A-Engrossed
House Bill 2143

Ordered by the House February 28
Including House Amendments dated February 28

Sponsored by Representative JOHNSON; Representative GOMBERG (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Designates [*second*] **first** Saturday in June of each year as Oregon Outdoor Recreation Day.
Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to outdoor recreation; and declaring an emergency.

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

6 Whereas Oregon's culture and history are deeply tied to an active outdoor lifestyle, and over
7 90 percent of Oregonians report that they engage in at least one form of outdoor recreation; and

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

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

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

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

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

22 Whereas outdoor recreation fosters a deep connection with nature; and

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

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

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

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

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

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

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

11 _____