

House Bill 2143

Sponsored by Representative JOHNSON (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 **as introduced**.

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

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to outdoor recreation; and declaring an emergency.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

30 Whereas it is appropriate that we designate an annual day to celebrate a facet of Oregon life
31 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,

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

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

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

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