

**SENATE RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING CONGRESS TO
PASS RECOMMENDED LEGISLATION ON NATIONAL
PARKS**

2015 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Jim Dabakis

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This resolution of the Senate encourages the United States Congress to approve legislation granting all children in the fourth grade, and their families, free admission to the national parks of the United States during the 2015-2016 school year.

Highlighted Provisions:

This resolution:

- ▶ encourages the United States Congress to approve legislation granting all fourth grade children in the United States, and their families, free admission to the national parks of the United States during the 2015-2016 school year; and
- ▶ invites President Obama to travel to Utah during the coming months with the First Family to experience the natural beauty of the “Mighty Five” national parks within the state of Utah.

Special Clauses:

None

Be it resolved by the Senate of the state of Utah:

WHEREAS, a 2010 Kaiser Family Foundation study found that young people now devote, on average, more than seven hours per day to electronic media use;

WHEREAS, President Obama has taken significant steps to promote the use of



America's national parks;

WHEREAS, on February 19th, 2015, President Obama established the "Every Kid in a Park" initiative;

WHEREAS, the "Every Kid in a Park" initiative would grant all fourth grade students in the United States, and their families, free admission to all national parks and federal lands and waters during the 2015-2016 school year;

WHEREAS, President Obama has stated that the purpose of the initiative is to inspire the next generation to discover all that America's public lands and waters have to offer;

WHEREAS, the "Every Kid in a Park" initiative coincides with the 100th Anniversary of the establishment of the National Park Service in 2016;

WHEREAS, President Obama has visited 48 countries during his seven years of presidency, including two separate trips to the country of India;

WHEREAS, President Obama has visited 47 states since taking office in January 2009, leaving out only the states of South Carolina, South Dakota, and Utah;

WHEREAS, the state of Utah holds five national parks, known commonly as "The Mighty Five," which is more than any other state except California and Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Utah's tourism industry employs 132,000 Utahns and provides over \$1 billion in revenue to the state of Utah:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the state of Utah encourages the United States Congress to approve legislation granting all children in the fourth grade in the United States, and their families, free admission to the national parks of the United States during the 2015-2016 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of the state of Utah invites President Obama to travel to Utah during the coming months with the First Family to experience the natural beauty of Utah's five national parks, known commonly as "The Mighty Five."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of Utah's congressional delegation in accordance with [JR4-1-303](#).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, inviting him and his family to explore the five national parks in Utah.

Legislative Review Note
as of 2-26-15 1:41 PM

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel