

2017 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 30

BY SENATOR MORRELL

CONGRESS. Memorializes Congress to create a reliable and predictable stream of resources to address deferred maintenance needs in the National Park System and designates April 15 through April 23, 2017, as National Park Week in Louisiana.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To memorialize Congress to create a reliable, predictable stream of resources to address deferred maintenance needs in America's National Park System and to designate April 15, 2017, through April 23, 2017, as "National Park Week" in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, on August 25, 1916, Congress established the National Park Service with the mission to preserve unimpaired natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of current and future generations; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, the National Park Service began its second century of stewardship of the National Park System after the 2016 National Park Service Centennial, which celebrated one hundred years of the work of the National Park Service to protect and manage majestic landscapes such as Barataria Preserve, hallowed battlefields such as Chalmette Battlefield, and iconic cultural and historical sites of the United States such as Poverty Point and the Cane River National Heritage Area; and

WHEREAS, the National Park Service's employees, volunteers, and park supporters continue to dedicate themselves to serving the parks' national and international visitors and to maintaining and improving the national parks for all to enjoy; and

WHEREAS, the national parks of the United States attracted record-breaking

1 visitation during the National Park Service Centennial, with three hundred thirty-one million  
2 recreational visits in 2016; and

3 WHEREAS, in 2015, National Park Service estimates indicate that park visitors  
4 spent more than sixteen billion nine hundred million dollars at the sites and in the states and  
5 local communities adjacent to national parks; and

6 WHEREAS, in 2015, National Park Service estimates indicate that park visitors  
7 spent more than twenty-eight million dollars at the sites in and local communities adjacent  
8 to Louisiana's national parks; and

9 WHEREAS, in 2016, the National Park Service estimated a deferred maintenance  
10 backlog of nearly twelve billion dollars, which includes repairs to aging historical structures,  
11 trails, sewers, drainage, thousands of miles of roads, bridges, tunnels, and other vital  
12 infrastructure needs; and

13 WHEREAS, in 2016, the National Park Service estimated a deferred maintenance  
14 backlog of over fifteen million dollars in Louisiana's national parks, which includes repairs  
15 to aging historical structures, trails, sewers, drainage, thousands of miles of roads, bridges,  
16 tunnels, and other vital infrastructure needs; and

17 WHEREAS, it has been found that every public dollar invested in the National Park  
18 Service returns ten dollars because of visitor spending that works through local, state, and  
19 national economies; and

20 WHEREAS, the people of the United States have inherited the remarkable legacy of  
21 the National Park System and are entrusted with its preservation as the United States marks  
22 the beginning of the second century of the National Park System.

23 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
24 memorialize the Congress of the United States to create a reliable, predictable stream of  
25 resources to address deferred maintenance needs in America's National Park System.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
27 designate April 15, 2017, through April 23, 2017, as "National Park Week" in Louisiana and  
28 encourages the people of the United States and the world to visit and experience the  
29 treasured national parks of the state of Louisiana.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted

1 to the secretary of the United States Senate and the clerk of the United States House of  
2 Representatives and to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States  
3 Congress.

---

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Leonore Heavey.

---

	DIGEST	
SCR 30 Original	2017 Regular Session	Morrell

Memorializes Congress to create a reliable, predictable stream of resources to address deferred maintenance needs in the National Park System, designates April 15, 2017, through April 23, 2017, as National Park Week in Louisiana, and encourages the people of the United States and the world to visit and experience the treasured national parks of the state of Louisiana.