

House Concurrent Resolution No. 52

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES COOKSON (Sponsor), RICHARDSON, FITZWATER, FRANZ,
SMITH (150), WELLS, SWINGER AND WRIGHT (Co-sponsors).

6219L.03I

1 **WHEREAS**, in 1959, Senate Resolution No. 33 and House Resolution No. 19,
2 recognizing the importance of the extraordinary manifestations of nature and recreational
3 attributes of the Current and Eleven Point Riverways, requested Congress to enact legislation to
4 preserve the natural resources and provide recreational development and other improvements for
5 the public use; and

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7 **WHEREAS**, in 1964, Congress answered Missouri's request by enacting legislation to
8 establish the Ozark National Scenic Riverways; and

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10 **WHEREAS**, the riverways within the Ozark National Scenic Riverways are, and remain,
11 public highways of the State of Missouri, subject to concurrent jurisdiction between the State of
12 Missouri and the United States under Missouri Senate Bill No. 362 enacted in 1971; and

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14 **WHEREAS**, in 2005, the National Park Service began researching for the purpose of
15 drafting a new general management plan for the Ozark National Scenic Riverways; and

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17 **WHEREAS**, the general management plan for the Ozark National Scenic Riverways will
18 ensure that the National Park Service managers and stakeholders share a clearly defined
19 understanding of the resource conditions, opportunities for recreational use, and managerial
20 methodology for access, and development designed to successfully achieve the national
21 riverways' purpose; and

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23 **WHEREAS**, in keeping with the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978, the general
24 management plan will serve as a guideline which will be relied upon as a basis for decisions
25 affecting the riverways and for decisions which serve to preserve resources for the enjoyment of
26 future generations; and

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28 **WHEREAS**, every national park system unit has been asked to prepare this kind of
29 document since 1976 when Congress passed a law to that effect. The general management plan
30 will guide decisions related to the Ozark National Scenic Riverways for the next 15 to 20 years;
31 and

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33 **WHEREAS**, the Missouri Conservation Commission is charged with the control,
34 management, restoration, conservation and regulation of the bird, fish, game, forestry and all
35 wildlife resources of the state, including hatcheries, sanctuaries, refuges, reservations and all
36 other property owned, acquired or used for such purposes; and

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38 **WHEREAS**, in September of 2009, the Missouri Department of Conservation
39 recommended that "hunting, fishing and trapping continue to be allowed throughout the ONSR
40 except in highly developed areas where a reasonable safety zone for public protection may be
41 required" and supported the "No-Action Alternative" released in 2009 by the National Park
42 Service as an appropriate balance between preservation of resource conditions and opportunities
43 for recreational use; and

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45 **WHEREAS**, the recreational resources afforded by the riverways are an economic staple
46 to the citizens of the surrounding communities with the State of Missouri; and

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48 **WHEREAS**, the State of Missouri and a majority of the citizens of Missouri agree that
49 the citizens of Missouri and those Missouri citizens most impacted in their daily lives are in the
50 best position to formulate policy and regulations to manage and protect Missouri's natural
51 resources as opposed to a federal agency headquartered in Washington, D.C.:

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53 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
54 Representatives of the Ninety-sixth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate
55 concurring therein, hereby strongly urge the National Park Service to draft its final General
56 Management Plan to recognize the importance the riverways provides to the State of Missouri
57 not only for the preservation of those extraordinary manifestations of nature, but also recreational
58 use and enjoyment; and

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60 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Missouri General Assembly finds that the
61 previously announced "No Action Alternative" provides the best balance to maintain the
62 riverways' purposes; and

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64 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Missouri General Assembly stand prepared
65 to utilize its concurrent jurisdiction to assure this balance is properly maintained; and

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67 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
68 Representatives be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for Jonathan
69 B. Jarvis, Director of the National Park Service, and Bill Black, Interim Superintendent of Ozark
70 National Scenic Riverways.

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