



March 9, 2010

Parks Talk!

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Your Voice Needed Now!

Arizonans cannot afford closed parks!

Arizona State Parks are an Economic Engine worth \$290M to AZ

2.3 million Arizonans and tourists visit our state parks annually and spend money in the parks and throughout communities that surround state parks creating \$290 million in positive economic impact to our state. That's jobs, taxes and rural development.

Tell your Legislators TODAY to support HCR2040 and help Save our State Parks!

Link to our website for talking points and contacts in the Arizona State [Senate](#) and [House of Representatives](#).

Upcoming Events

Arizona State Parks & Arizona State Parks Foundation present

Civil War in the Southwest at Picacho Peak State Park
March 13-14

Sponsored by Union Pacific Railroad

Mariachi Festival at Patagonia Lake State Park
March 20

For details, visit our [Events](#) webpage



Douglas Mansion at Jerome State Historic Park, Jerome, AZ
P.O. Box 4216, Phoenix, Arizona 85030-4217
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URGENT CALL TO ACTION!

As currently crafted HB2001 and SB1001 call for more sweeps from Arizona State Park funds. HB2012 and SB1012 ABOLISH THE HERITAGE FUND FOR NOW AND EVER. If you are registered to comment online at the Arizona State Legislature, NOW is the time to oppose these measures. Login at the Legislature through the [Request To Speak portal](#) and object to these sweeps.

We suggest the following comments for HB2001 and SB1001:

Sweeps to Arizona State Parks contained in this budget are unnecessary and irreversibly damaging to a state park system that belongs to all Arizonans. These actions virtually kills the ability of the state park system to operate. Amend this budget now to eliminate all confiscation of park funds.

HCR2040 is in Trouble!

This is no way to run a Legislature!

Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee Representative John Kavanagh is refusing to allow his committee to hear [House Concurrent Resolution 2040](#). Further, he will not permit the measure to be withdrawn from his committee. Mr. Kavanagh is manipulating Legislative procedure to kill this funding solution for YOUR Arizona State Parks.

All Arizonans own the right of access to our state park system and should have the opportunity to support or oppose HCR2040 as a sustainable funding solution for Arizona State Parks.

Mr. Kavanagh's actions are deliberate and directed. He engineered the destruction of Arizona State Parks through fund sweeps without giving voters any say in the matter and now he won't let them decide whether to save the park system. Rep. Kavanagh says he favors HB2060, but he knows it has no chance of passage because it raids funds that are voter protected, which requires a 3/4 vote of the Legislature, and there are no Democratic votes for it. His greatest fear is that a voter approved and protected ballot measure will create a pool of funds that the Legislature cannot access or "sweep" into the general fund. Of course, that is exactly the goal of HCR2040; to create a sustained & protected funding stream for YOUR Arizona State Parks, not a remedy for budget deficits.

Should HCR 2040 be heard in the House Appropriations Committee and by the full House, it would move on to the Senate. If successful there, it would be referred to voters in the November general election. It now sets an annual fee at \$12.00 per non-commercial vehicle, dedicating \$9 to Arizona State Parks and \$3 to ADOT. Vehicles displaying Arizona license plates would be provided free day-use access to Arizona State Parks.

The most important thing you can do today for Arizona State Parks is to tell your Legislative Representatives (House and Senate), particularly Speaker of the House Kirk Adams, that you will not tolerate a totalitarian legislative system and demand the immediate hearing of HCR2040 in the House Appropriations Committee. See ASPF's website page "[Advocacy Alerts](#)" for a sample letter and contact information.

[See article by Howard Fischer in March 8, 2010 East Valley Tribune](#)

Arizona State Parks Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded in 2004 to serve as a key partner to Arizona State Parks. For more information on ASPF, visit: www.arizonastateparksfoundation.org