



April 9, 2010

## Parks Talk!

**Forward this issue to your email address book today!**

**In this issue...**

- **Senate Amendment to HB2464**
- **HCR 2040**
- **From ASPF President Bill Meek**
- **Upcoming events at Arizona State Parks**

### 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

**April 10**

**Hike to support Lost Dutchman State Park**

[Link here for registration info](#)

**April 24**

**Lost Dutchman State Park Run presented by Superstition Harley Davidson to benefit Lost Dutchman State Park**

[Douglas Mansion at Jerome State Historic Park, Jerome, AZ](#)

**P.O. Box 4216, Phoenix, Arizona 85030-4217**

**(602) 920-4505**

[azstateparksfnd@yahoo.com](mailto:azstateparksfnd@yahoo.com)

[www.arizonastateparksfoundation.org](http://www.arizonastateparksfoundation.org)

## Senate Amendment to HB2464 (Lake Havasu State Park Lease) will close YOUR state park.

A [Senate Amendment to House Bill 2464 \(Strike Everything\)](#) forces the Arizona State Parks Board to lease Lake Havasu State Park to the City of Lake Havasu creating a loss in revenue to the state park system of \$1million.

This striker, sponsored by Senator Ron Gould (R-Dist.3), directs the Arizona State Parks Board of Directors to enter into a lease agreement with Lake Havasu City for Lake Havasu State Park for a term of 25 years with a lease payment of no more than \$50,000 annually.

Lake Havasu State Park is a linchpin in the state park system and is anticipated to generate \$1.1million in gross revenue (\$400,000 - \$500,000 in net revenue) next fiscal year. Net revenue created by this park funds the operation of numerous other state parks throughout the system. Without it, the state parks scheduled to remain open will undoubtedly close and those currently closed will remain gated for an undetermined period of time.

Currently, HB2464 is held in the Senate Rules committee. If it is heard and passes through that committee, it moves to Caucus and then to the Senate Floor. Passage of this measure in the Senate would be the final devastating blow to our beloved Arizona State Parks system.

ASPF urges you to contact [Senate Rules Committee Chair Bob Burns](#) and encourage him to hold this measure in committee. If Representative John Kavanagh can play that game, so can we!

### 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

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

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](http://www.arizonastateparksfoundation.org)