

**SENATE RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_**

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DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the Legislative Council to assign to the appropriate study committee the topic of the feasibility and necessity of a wilderness preservation system for Indiana's public lands.

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**STEELE**

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\_\_\_\_\_, read first time and referred to Committee on

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1           A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the Legislative Council  
2 to assign to the appropriate study committee the topic of the  
3 feasibility and necessity of a wilderness preservation system for  
4 Indiana's public lands.

5           *Whereas, The benefits of wilderness areas and their*  
6 *continued maintenance are numerous, as such areas clean our*  
7 *air, filter our water, provide habitats for wildlife, protect*  
8 *watersheds, and are enjoyed by all for their pure aesthetic*  
9 *beauty as well;*

10           *Whereas, Indiana is comprised of 23,103,300 acres,*  
11 *394,631 of which are owned by the state of Indiana and*  
12 *470,000 of which are owned by the United States;*

13           *Whereas, To protect these public lands and to ensure*  
14 *certain wilderness areas are set aside for future generations to*  
15 *enjoy, a study would be beneficial in determining the need for*  
16 *and the costs, benefits, and impacts of a wilderness*  
17 *preservation system for Indiana's public lands; and*

18           *Whereas, A study would also be informative in determining*  
19 *all of the options as to how much wilderness should be*



1 *managed by traditional forestry methods; how much, if any,*  
2 *should be set aside and left to its natural state, free of*  
3 *management; and the desired locations of any such set aside:*  
4 *Therefore,*

5 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*  
6 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

7 SECTION 1. That the Indiana Senate urges the Legislative  
8 Council to assign to the appropriate study committee the topic of the  
9 need for and the costs, benefits, and impacts of wilderness preservation  
10 and fully study the set aside of certain wilderness areas, whether the  
11 same is desired by Hoosiers, the pros and cons of any set aside to be  
12 left to the natural course of the wooded environment, the amount of any  
13 possible set aside, and the various locations of any such set aside.

14 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to  
15 transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Legislative Council.

