

1 AN ACT relating to the establishment of the Kentucky State Parks Centennial  
2 Commission.

3 WHEREAS, the parks system of the Commonwealth of Kentucky will reach 100  
4 years of service to the citizens of the Commonwealth in 2024; and

5 WHEREAS, since its commencement in 1924 with the creation of Cumberland  
6 State Park, now known as Pine Mountain State Park, the parks system has grown to  
7 include 46 resorts, recreational parks, and historic sites throughout the Commonwealth;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the parks system provides recreational opportunities for hiking,  
10 camping, boating, fishing, golfing, horseback riding, and caving within the naturally  
11 beautiful landscapes of the Commonwealth; and

12 WHEREAS, the parks systems provides educational opportunities for the public to  
13 experience the history of the Commonwealth; and

14 WHEREAS, the parks system has contributed to the economic well-being of the  
15 Commonwealth by drawing out-of-state tourists to its lakes, trails, and campgrounds; and

16 WHEREAS, the Commonwealth would be the poorer if the Kentucky State Parks  
17 system had not been established;

18 NOW, THEREFORE,

19 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

20 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 148 IS CREATED TO  
21 READ AS FOLLOWS:

22 *(1) The Kentucky State Parks Centennial Commission is established to plan and*  
23 *implement events to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the state parks system in*  
24 *2024. To accomplish its charge, the commission shall:*

25 *(a) Assist local governments and organizations with planning, preparation, and*  
26 *grant applications for parks centennial events and projects;*

27 *(b) Coordinate events and activities with parties, commissions and*

- 1           organizations wishing to participate in the centennial celebration;
- 2           (c) Seek funding sources such as foundations, line items, federal grants, and
- 3           philanthropic organizations;
- 4           (d) Create press, print, and electronic contacts that generate stories on a
- 5           continual basis; and
- 6           (e) Perform other duties necessary to highlight Kentucky's parks system during
- 7           its 100th year.
- 8           (2) The Kentucky State Parks Centennial Commission shall consist of the following
- 9           eleven (11) members:
- 10           (a) The secretary of the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet or his or her
- 11           designee;
- 12           (b) One (1) additional member from the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet,
- 13           appointed by the secretary;
- 14           (c) One (1) member from the Kentucky Historical Society, appointed by the
- 15           head of that agency;
- 16           (d) One (1) member from the Kentucky Heritage Council, appointed by the
- 17           head of that agency;
- 18           (e) Three (3) members selected by the secretary of the Tourism, Arts and
- 19           Heritage Cabinet who work in onsite park leadership;
- 20           (e) Two (2) citizen members, one (1) of whom shall be designated as the
- 21           chairperson and appointed by the Governor;
- 22           (f) One (1) member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker
- 23           of the House; and
- 24           (g) One (1) member of the State Senate appointed by the President of the
- 25           Senate.
- 26           (3) The Kentucky State Parks Centennial Commission shall be attached to the
- 27           Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet for administrative purposes only.

1 *(4) The provisions of this section shall expire on December 31, 2024.*