

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rep. Palmeri Celebrates 125 Years of Wisconsin State Parks

OSHKOSH, WI- Rep. Lori Palmeri (D-Oshkosh) kicked off the New Year by participating in a First Day Hike at High Cliff State Park, a beloved tradition in Wisconsin. This initiative is organized by America's State Parks, which encourages people to explore the beauty of state parks at the start of each year.

As the newly appointed minority-ranking member of the Forestry, Parks, and Outdoor Recreation Committee, Rep. Palmeri is excited to help lead the charge in preserving and enhancing Wisconsin's state parks.

Rep. Palmeri released the following statement:

"We're thrilled to celebrate 125 years of Wisconsin's state parks, and we encourage everyone to take advantage of the new opportunities to enjoy them," said Rep. Palmeri. "Thanks to recent legislation signed by Gov. Evers, State Park admission passes are now valid for a full year from the date of purchase. This change makes it easier for people to enjoy our parks at any time of the year, and we hope more Wisconsinites will take advantage of these incredible natural spaces."

The 125th Anniversary marks a major milestone for Wisconsin's state parks, which have served as a testament to the state's longstanding commitment to conservation and environmental stewardship. As Rep. Palmeri noted, "Wisconsin's state parks have played a vital role in preserving our natural heritage, while providing outdoor spaces where families can come together and create lifelong memories."

Throughout 2025, the state will celebrate this milestone by highlighting the cultural, environmental, and economic impact of the State Park System. Gov. Evers recently announced that the outdoor recreation industry in Wisconsin contributed a record \$11.2 billion to the state's economy in 2023, a 9.4% increase over the previous year.

Wisconsinites and visitors are encouraged to learn more about the 2025 State Park admission pass, available for purchase <u>here</u>.

"We look forward to continuing our work in the legislature to support policy that protects and enriches our parks," said Palmeri. "Throughout 2025, the DNR will be hosting special events, and the First Day Hike was just the first of the many ways we will be celebrating these beloved public spaces."



Photo Inclusion:

Rep. Lori Palmeri (D-Oshkosh) kicked off the New Year January 1st by participating in a "First Day Hike" at High Cliff State Park, a beloved tradition in Wisconsin