

State Parks Youth Corps Resolution

1 WHEREAS, the Missouri State Parks Youth Corps (SPYC) was initiated in 2010 and
2 proved to be an outstanding success with benefits to Missouri State Parks and
3 others;
4 AND WHEREAS, the SPYC provided summer jobs to more than 1,000 youths between
5 17-24 from May 1 through Sept. 30, 2010;
6 AND WHEREAS, these youths worked to enhance and improve state parks and
7 historic sites, performing duties ranging from routine maintenance work and trail
8 construction to giving guided tours and social media efforts;
9 AND WHEREAS, the SPYC provided work experience and the opportunity to learn
10 new skills to young adults while introducing them to possible careers in natural
11 resources and state parks and letting them “Think Outside” for the summer;
12 AND WHEREAS, the SPYC helped the local economy by providing jobs to local
13 youth and creating a need to buy local products and supplies;
14 AND WHEREAS, the SPYC was a good example of a cooperative partnership
15 between the Division of State Parks and the Division of Workforce Development
16 with its local Workforce Investment Boards using federal American Recovery and
17 Reinvestment Act funds;
18 AND WHEREAS, SPYC members contributed more than 187,500 hours to the state
19 park system and produced 145 videos for the state park system website; replaced
20 roofs on 25 buildings; applied 2,000 gallons of paint and stain; and signed or blazed
21 almost 650 miles of trail in 58 parks and sites;
22 AND WHEREAS, the State Parks Youth Corps breathed new life into the state park

23 system and provided a way to accomplish numerous projects that had not been
24 possible because of limited resources;

25 AND WHEREAS, the SPYC has been compared to the Civilian Conservation Corps,
26 which developed many state parks in the 1930s;

27 AND WHEREAS, the National Association of State Parks Directors recognized the
28 program with its President's Award for most outstanding contribution to a state park
29 system in the nation;

30 AND WHEREAS, the Conservation Federation of Missouri was a valuable partner for
31 the State Parks Youth Corps in 2010, and helped raise funds for equipment;

32 AND WHEREAS, it has been announced that the State Parks Youth Corps will return
33 in 2011 with a target of providing jobs for 600 youths between 17 and 21 years of
34 age;

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Conservation Federation of Missouri
36 assembled at the Lodge of Four Season, Lake Ozark, MO, this 27th day of February,
37 2011, fully support and be a valuable partner once again for the 2011 State Parks
38 Youth Corps.