

# 1998 SESSION

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 193

Offered January 26, 1998

*Requesting the Department of Conservation and Recreation to study the feasibility of creating a state park along the banks of the Rappahannock from its confluence with the Hazel River above Remington to the City of Fredericksburg.*

Patrons—Davies, Howell and Orrock; Senator: Houck

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the area surrounding Fredericksburg has abundant historical resources of national and state significance, many of which are located on rivers such as the Rappahannock; and

WHEREAS, tourism is an important element of the region's economy and is likely to benefit from more Virginians seeking opportunities to visit gardens, historic sites, and natural areas as indicated in the 1992 "Virginia Outdoors Survey"; and

WHEREAS, the placing of a state park along the banks of the Rappahannock will connect the Civil War battlefield at Brandy Station with the City of Fredericksburg, providing residents and tourists with thirty miles of historical attractions and scenic natural beauty ; and

WHEREAS, such a park would help meet the recreational needs for the counties of Prince William, Fauquier, Culpeper, and Madison, while preserving a number of Civil War and Indian village sites; and

WHEREAS, the 1996 Virginia Outdoor Plan notes that opportunities exist in the region to meet the increasing public demand for greater access to water-related recreation, but that additional lands will have to be acquired or use agreements arranged to meet the demand; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Department of Conservation and Recreation be requested to study the feasibility of creating a state park along the banks of the Rappahannock from its confluence with the Hazel River above Remington to the City of Fredericksburg. The study shall examine the use of easement, donations of land, and land purchases as options in developing the site. In conducting the study, the Department of Conservation and Recreation shall seek and consider the views of local citizens, local governments, and regional organizations before making its final recommendations.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Department of Conservation and Recreation for this study, upon request.

The Department of Conservation and Recreation shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1999 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.

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