



# SOLICITING LEGISLATOR SUPPORT FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION

## TELEPHONE PROTOCOL

We are asking people in the Network for Arizona Trails to contact their local legislators (both House and Senate) to sign on as co-sponsors to the concurrent resolution. Here's what you can do if you telephone your legislators:

**Step 1.** Introduce yourself, giving your full name and mentioning that you are a constituent who lives in Legislative District \_\_\_\_\_. You can also mention any affiliation that you would want to share, such as a member of a "Friends" group, mountain bike club, outdoor organization or even just a concerned citizen.

**Step 2.** Ask your local legislator to support either HCR 2034 or SCR 1046 (depending on which chamber they are in) by considering signing on as a co-sponsor to the resolution.

**Step 3.** Share why this resolution is important to you, personally. A personal message is always more effective, however we have a few talking points that might help you decide what to share.

Why are more than 30 recreation and conservation groups supporting the 2021 "Get Outdoors Arizona" Concurrent Resolution HCR #2034 and SCR #1046?

### HERE'S WHY

- **ECONOMICS:** The outdoor industry in Arizona employs over 200,000 people, generates \$4.8 million in wages and salaries, and generates \$21.2 billion in consumer spending annually, and \$1.4 billion in local and state tax revenues annually.<sup>1</sup>
- **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT:** Outdoor recreation in Arizona is a major economic engine that brings jobs, prosperity and wellness to our residents, particularly in rural areas where outdoor recreation can serve to diversify job opportunities and attract new business ventures.
- **HEALTH & WELL-BEING:** Communities, particularly those in rural areas, recognize that outdoor recreation supports health lifestyles. Research shows that time spent outdoors can lead to physical, developmental, emotional and behavioral health benefits.
- **LEARNING:** Quality time in the outdoors encourages curiosity and provides hands-on field experiences resulting in improved childhood learning across all fields of science.
- **WONDER & BEAUTY:** Supporting outdoor recreation, particularly during these times of COVID, offers safe avenues for residents to experience awe-inspiring moments while reflecting upon the natural beauty of our state's numerous outdoor places.
- **PUBLIC LANDS:** Arizona's public lands represent an important component of healthy outdoor environments that are low cost to access and offer equity of opportunities to all residents.

**Step 4.** You might close with this statement: "The concurrent resolution is a result of the NETWORK FOR ARIZONA TRAILS to bring the importance of outdoor recreation and trails to the political forefront and affirm its importance to Arizona.

Please take a stand and express your support for the importance of outdoor recreation to Arizona's future by **signing on as a legislative co-sponsor to HCR 2034 or SCR 1046. And then vote YES on HCR2034 or SCR1046.**"

**Step 5.** Say thank you.

## EMAIL MESSAGING

Phone calls are the most effective communication tool with legislators at all levels. However, if you decide to email as well as call, here is a sample email that you could modify to suit your own messaging:

Dear Rep. Friese,

I am contacting you to ask you to sign on as a co-sponsor for House Concurrent Resolution 2034 introduced by Rep. Regina Cobb in the House and a mirror resolution also introduced in the Senate by Sen. Engel. As you will see below, I am a member of the Network for Arizona Trails, and this concurrent resolution arose out of our work to raise up the importance of outdoor recreation and trails here in Arizona,

As a resident of <<insert district>>, I would love to see you listed as a co-sponsor because this resolution emphasizes the importance of outdoor recreation for the health and well-being of people, particularly in these times of COVID-19. Outdoor recreation can improve the social, emotional, behavioral and developmental health of all people-- young and old.

In addition, though, the outdoor recreation industry in Arizona is a vital economic engine for the state, employing more than 200,000 people and generating \$4.8 billion in wages and salaries.

I hope you will consider signing on as a co-sponsor to the resolution. Thank you for considering my request.

[Your Name, Affiliation (if desired), Address, Telephone)

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[Here](#) is a link to 2021 AZ House & Senate Committee assignments and contact information.

[Here](#) is a link to a map of the Capitol area, with parking.

[Here](#) is a link to a directory of AZ Senate members, with phone & email

[Here](#) is a link to a directory of AZ House members, with phone & email

[Here](#) is a link to the Capitol monthly schedule

Thank you for using your voice in our government. Your engagement matters!