

Introduced by Senator Pavley

June 9, 2016

Senate Resolution No. 80—Relative to the Santa Monica Mountains Backbone Trail.

1 WHEREAS, On June 4, 2016, the Backbone Trail, a spectacular
2 67-mile route among the canyons and mountains of the Santa
3 Monica Mountains officially opened; and

4 WHEREAS, The Backbone Trail began as a dream in 1944 with
5 the establishment of Will Rogers State Historic Park which is now
6 the eastern end of the Backbone Trail. Over the decades, the
7 Department of Parks and Recreation established Topanga State
8 Park, Malibu Creek State Park, and Point Mugu State Park; and

9 WHEREAS, In 1978, the United States Congress established
10 the Santa Monica Mountain National Recreation Area to be
11 managed by the National Park Service in partnership with state
12 and local governments. Additionally, the Santa Monica Mountains
13 Conservancy, the Mountain Recreation and Conservation
14 Authority, and the National Park Service acquired numerous
15 properties for the Backbone Trail; and

16 WHEREAS, An essential contribution to the trail came from
17 volunteers whose work began long before the trail was pieced
18 together by public agencies and whose volunteer contributions are
19 an unsung success story that made it possible for the trail to open
20 to the public this year; and

21 WHEREAS, Financial grants from local governments, such as
22 the City of Los Angeles, and property grants from private donors,
23 including a donation of one of the final parcels by former California
24 Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and fitness pioneer Betty

1 Weider, completed the acquisitions necessary to complete the trail;
 2 and
 3 WHEREAS, Trails and greenways have a beneficial impact on
 4 the quality of life in California, including the environment,
 5 economy, health, education, and community livability; and
 6 WHEREAS, The recognition and completion of the Backbone
 7 Trail, which has been designated as an official California trail
 8 corridor in the California State Recreation Trails Plan, and which
 9 the National Park Service may designate as a National Recreation
 10 Trail, is an integral part of government's responsibility to provide
 11 public access to parklands; now, therefore, be it
 12 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California*, That the Senate
 13 recognizes the California Department of Parks and Recreation for
 14 its contribution of integral parts of the Backbone Trail in the Santa
 15 Monica Mountains, declares the Backbone Trail an official
 16 interagency and state trail, and urges all affected public agencies
 17 to work collaboratively on the successful management of the trail
 18 for the perpetual use and enjoyment of the public; and be it further
 19 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
 20 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.