

10 A RESOLUTION CONCERNING  
20 THE DESIGNATION OF WILDLANDS IN GARRETT COUNTY

30 WHEREAS: Old-growth forests are estimated to comprise less than half a percent  
40 of all forests east of the Mississippi River; and,

50 WHEREAS: Old-growth forests provide a more suitable habitat for many animal species  
60 than logged forests, and are home to many species of plant life that  
70 are recognized by the State as endangered or protected; and,

80 WHEREAS: The Potomac-Garrett State Forest contains a significant number of acres  
90 of undisturbed old-growth trees, located in the area east of Crabtree  
100 Creek; and,

110 WHEREAS: This land is currently publicly owned, but the old-growth forest is not  
120 permanently protected from logging operations or the building of new  
130 roads; and,

140 WHEREAS: Wildland designation of old-growth forests ensures that these regions  
150 may not be disturbed or destroyed by logging, development, or excessive  
160 vehicle traffic; and,

170 WHEREAS: The preservation of old-growth forests and the ecology they support  
180 should be an environmental legislative priority for the State of Maryland.

190 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature  
200 urges the Maryland General Assembly to designate the Crabtree  
210 Creek area of the Potomac-Garrett State Forest as a Type 1 Wildland,  
220 to be named the "Crabtree Creek Wildland;" and,

230 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the boundaries of the Wildland should be derived  
240 from a metes and bounds survey conducted by the Department of Natural  
250 Resources; and,

260 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the designated Wildland should incorporate  
270 significant buffers to prevent the boundaries of the old-growth forest  
280 from receding; and,

290 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the legislative designation of the Crabtree Creek  
300 Wildland should include provisions allowing for scientific research within  
310 the boundaries of the Wildland, provided that such research does not  
320 adversely impact the ecological sanctity of the region, and is subject to  
330 approval by the Department of Natural Resources.

340 MANDATES: Governor Robert L. Ehrlich  
350 Lieutenant Governor Michael S. Steele  
360 Senator Paula Hollinger, Chair, Education, Health & Environmental Affairs  
370 Delegate Maggie McIntosh, Chair, Environmental Matters Committee  
380 State Senator John Hafer  
390 Delegate Kevin Kelly  
400 Delegate George Edwards  
410 Bob DeGroot, Maryland Alliance for Greenway Improvement and Conservation  
420 Sue Brown, Maryland League of Conservation Voters

Sponsor:

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