

Resolution of Support for the California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights

Whereas, SFSU Dept. of Recreation, Parks, and Tourism recognizes the significant concern about youth detachment from the outdoors, lack of physical exercise and the increased health risks associated with childhood obesity; and

Whereas, SFSU Dept. of Recreation, Parks, and Tourism recognizes that unstructured play in the great outdoors can be a wonderful experience for people of all ages, and especially for our youth; and

Whereas, participating in outdoor activities is not only enjoyable, but also develops an appreciation of California's unique environment; and

Whereas, the California Roundtable on Recreation, Parks and Tourism, a volunteer consortium of public and private organizations has created the California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights; and

Whereas, the Bill of Rights provides that youth between the ages of four and fourteen should have the opportunity to:

1. Play in a safe place
2. Explore nature
3. Learn to swim
4. Go fishing
5. Follow a trail
6. Camp under the stars
7. Ride a bike
8. Go boating
9. Connect with the past
10. Plant a seed

Whereas, numerous studies document that children who participate in these outdoor recreation activities are healthier, do better in school, have better social skills and self image, and lead more fulfilled lives; and

Whereas, SFSU Dept. of Recreation, Parks, and Tourism is committed to these goals;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that SFSU Dept. of Recreation, Parks, and Tourism supports and endorses the California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights as a guideline for parents, guardians, parks, communities, health professionals, private enterprises and other entities to encourage children to experience each of the activities listed by the completion of their 14th year.

Signed

Patrick Lemmy, Chairman

Date

10/18/12