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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

**H.B. 402**  
**136<sup>th</sup> General Assembly**

## Bill Analysis

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primary Sponsors:** Reps. Brennan and Dovilla

Amanda Goodman, Attorney

### SUMMARY

- Declares the Cleveland Metroparks system as “Ohio’s Emerald Necklace.”

### DETAILED ANALYSIS

#### “Ohio’s Emerald Necklace”

The bill declares the Cleveland Metroparks system as “Ohio’s Emerald Necklace” for all of the following reasons:

1. To acknowledge the system as a nationally recognized network of natural spaces, trails, waterways, and recreational amenities spanning more than 25,000 acres across northeast Ohio;
2. To honor the system’s encircling layout of green spaces that preserve natural beauty and provide public access to nature, outdoor recreation, and environmental education;
3. In recognition of the system’s significant contribution to the quality of life, public health, ecological resilience, and tourism in northeast Ohio; and
4. In appreciation of the system, which serves over 19 million recreational visitors annually, and for being an economic and cultural asset to Ohio.

The bill states that it is the intent of the General Assembly that this designation promotes continued appreciation, stewardship, and investment in Ohio’s natural heritage and public park systems. Additionally, the designation is honorary in nature and does not require the expenditure of state funds for signage or other materials unless otherwise agreed upon by public or private entities.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> R.C. 5.092.

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## HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	07-30-25

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