

By Senator Bean

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Senate Resolution

A resolution celebrating the 20th anniversary of the opening of the George Crady Bridge Fishing Pier State Park and the 35th anniversary of the leasing of Amelia Island State Park.

WHEREAS, the George Crady Bridge Fishing Pier State Park, located northeast of Jacksonville, is a mile-long, pedestrian-only fishing bridge that spans Nassau Sound and provides access to one of the best fishing spots in this state, and

WHEREAS, known for many years as the Old Nassau Sound Bridge, the structure was closed to traffic and opened to pedestrians, bicyclists, and fishermen in 1999 when construction of a new bridge was completed and, in 2000, was renamed in honor of former Representative George Crady, and

WHEREAS, today, anglers catch a variety of fish from the George Crady Bridge Fishing Pier, including whiting, jack, drum, and tarpon, and have access to the pier 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and

WHEREAS, the George Crady Bridge Fishing Pier State Park was used as a link in the Timucuan Trail, a proposed bicycle/pedestrian path connecting four state park units, the Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve, and several City of Jacksonville parks, and

WHEREAS, Amelia Island State Park, an easy drive from Jacksonville or Fernandina Beach, encompasses more than 200 acres of unspoiled wilderness along the southern tip of Amelia Island, and

WHEREAS, with beautiful beaches, salt marshes, and coastal

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30 maritime forests, Amelia Island State Park was leased to the  
31 Division of Recreation and Parks in November 1984, with the goal  
32 of protecting and restoring the natural and cultural values of  
33 the property and providing the greatest benefit to the residents  
34 of this state, and

35 WHEREAS, Amelia Island State Park is the only state park in  
36 Florida offering horseback riding on its beaches, which has  
37 become a favorite pastime of visitors, and

38 WHEREAS, George Crady Bridge Fishing Pier State Park and  
39 Amelia Island State Park are two of Florida's environmental and  
40 recreational treasures, enjoyed by residents and tourists alike,  
41 NOW, THEREFORE,

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43 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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45 That the 20th anniversary of the opening of the George  
46 Crady Bridge Fishing Pier State Park and the 35th anniversary of  
47 the leasing of Amelia Island State Park are celebrated.