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**SR-117** (2023-2024)

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ENROLLED AUGUST 16, 2024

PASSED IN SENATE AUGUST 15, 2024

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2023–2024 REGULAR SESSION

## SENATE RESOLUTION

**NO. 117**

Introduced by Senator Skinner  
(Principal coauthor: Senator Wahab)

August 08, 2024

Relative to the East Bay Regional Park District's 90th anniversary.

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SR 117, Skinner.

WHEREAS, The East Bay Regional Park District has reached a significant milestone, marking 90 years of public service as the largest regional park district in the nation; and

WHEREAS, The East Bay Regional Park District has grown to encompass 73 regional parks, spanning 126,000 acres of parklands, 55 miles of shoreline, and over 1,300 miles of trails in the Counties of Alameda and Contra Costa, offering diverse recreational opportunities such as hiking, biking, swimming, horseback riding, boating, fishing, picnicking, camping, and discovering nature; and

WHEREAS, The East Bay Regional Park District's commitment to environmental conservation and the provision of positive experiences in nature has been a cornerstone of its history and mission; and

WHEREAS, The visionary efforts of civic leaders in the late 1920s, who, faced with the sudden availability of watershed land in the East Bay Hills, came together to preserve the land forever, balancing environmental conservation with public benefit; and

WHEREAS, The collaboration with renowned landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. and National Park Service's Chief Naturalist Ansel Hall, resulting in the 1930 Olmsted-Hall Report, laid the foundation for the East Bay Regional Park District, bringing national credibility to the cause; and

WHEREAS, During the challenging times of the Depression, civic leaders demonstrated unwavering dedication by placing a measure on the ballot in 1934 to establish the East Bay Regional Park District and tax themselves for land preservation, with a resounding 71 percent approval on November 6, 1934; and

WHEREAS, On June 4, 1936, the East Bay Regional Park District made its first land acquisitions from the East Bay Municipal Utility District, establishing the inaugural parks, Upper Wildcat Canyon (Tilden) Temescal, and Roundtop (Sibley); and

WHEREAS, For nine decades, the East Bay Regional Park District has remained steadfast in its commitment to preserving and protecting open space, providing safe and welcoming parks for recreation, and enhancing the quality of life for the community; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, That the Senate hereby celebrates and commends the East Bay Regional Park District on its 90th anniversary, recognizing its significant contributions to environmental conservation, recreation, and community well-being; and be it further

Resolved, That the Senate extends its sincere gratitude to the East Bay Regional Park District for its dedication to preserving natural beauty, fostering outdoor enjoyment, and creating a lasting legacy for generations to come; and be it further

Resolved, That the Senate encourages all East Bay communities to join in the celebration of the East Bay Regional Park District's 90 years of milestones and history, participating in the various events and programs throughout the year; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the East Bay Regional Park District as a gesture of our appreciation for its enduring commitment to public service and environmental stewardship and to the author for appropriate distribution.