

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

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SENATE BILL DRS35234-MH-84

Short Title: Authorize Northern Peaks Trail. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Ballard (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE ADDITION OF NORTHERN PEAKS STATE TRAIL TO
3 THE STATE PARKS SYSTEM.
4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:
5 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly authorizes the Department of Natural and
6 Cultural Resources to add the Northern Peaks State Trail to the State Parks System as a State
7 trail, as provided in G.S. 143B-135.54(b). The Department shall support, promote, encourage,
8 and facilitate the establishment of trail segments on State park lands and on lands of other federal,
9 State, local, and private landowners. On segments of the Northern Peaks State Trail that cross
10 property controlled by agencies or owners other than the Department's Division of Parks and
11 Recreation, the laws, rules, and policies of those agencies or owners shall govern the use of the
12 property. The requirement of G.S. 143B-135.54(b) that additions be accompanied by adequate
13 appropriations for land acquisition, development, and operations shall not apply to the
14 authorization set forth in this act; provided, however, that the State may receive donations of
15 appropriate land and may purchase other needed lands for the Northern Peaks State Trail with
16 existing funds in the Clean Water Management Trust Fund, the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund,
17 the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, and other available sources of funding. For
18 purposes of this act, the "Northern Peaks State Trail" refers to the proposed trail connecting
19 Rivers Park in downtown Boone in Watauga County to the Mount Jefferson State Natural Area
20 in Ashe County.
21 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

