

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-fourth Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2019

# **SENATE RESOLUTION 1001**

A RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1           Whereas, on February 26, 2019, Grand Canyon National Park marks 100  
2 years since its establishment as a national park; and

3           Whereas, the Grand Canyon's exposed geologic layers span nearly half  
4 of Earth's history and record environments from erupting volcanoes to  
5 quiet seas; and

6           Whereas, Grand Canyon National Park's centennial celebration is an  
7 acknowledgment of the Grand Canyon's place in American history, along with  
8 the park's historical association with eleven Native American tribes; and

9           Whereas, the Grand Canyon has been continuously inhabited by  
10 indigenous groups for almost 12,000 years. Six Native American tribes  
11 still live in and around the canyon, including the Hualapai, the "people  
12 of the pines," who make their home atop the West Rim, and the Havasupai,  
13 the "people of the blue-green waters," who live on the canyon floor; and

14           Whereas, in the early 1800s, expeditions sent by the United States  
15 government began to explore and map the Grand Canyon. In 1869, John  
16 Wesley Powell, a one-armed Civil War veteran, led a three-month  
17 exploratory river trip through the canyon. The voyage produced the first  
18 detailed descriptions of the Grand Canyon and garnered public interest in  
19 this natural wonder; and

20           Whereas, shortly after Powell's voyage, concern for preserving the  
21 Grand Canyon's unique resources began to grow as more people visited and  
22 settled there; and

23           Whereas, President Theodore Roosevelt declared the Grand Canyon a  
24 national monument in 1908, urging Americans to "let this great wonder of  
25 nature remain as it now is. Do nothing to mar its grandeur, sublimity and  
26 loveliness. You cannot improve on it."; and

27           Whereas, the Grand Canyon achieved national park status eleven years  
28 later, in 1919; and

29           Whereas, in 1979, Grand Canyon National Park was designated a World  
30 Heritage Site by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural  
31 Organization; and

32           Whereas, the Grand Canyon is Arizona's most famous natural landmark,  
33 one of the seven wonders of the natural world and a tourism destination  
34 that attracts visitors from around the world; and

35           Whereas, outdoor recreationists seek out the challenges,  
36 inspirations and life-altering experiences that the Grand Canyon  
37 wilderness provides; and

38           Whereas, according to the National Park Service, more than 6.2  
39 million people visited the Grand Canyon National Park in 2017, spending  
40 \$667 million in nearby communities. Visitor spending at Grand Canyon  
41 National Park supports more than 9,400 jobs and has a cumulative benefit  
42 to the local economy of \$938 million.

1 Therefore

2 Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Arizona:

3 That the Members of the Senate recognize the 100th anniversary of  
4 Grand Canyon National Park as an occasion to celebrate its incredible  
5 impact on Arizona's citizens, economy, history and global reputation, and  
6 to inspire future generations to experience the park and protect its  
7 beauty, natural resources and cultural significance.