

through today.

SENATOR NELSON: Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Wesely, please.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. Speaker, members, I will just take one brief moment. Senator Warner raised some question and the only thing I would add to that is that the last time we accepted a gift like this for the park system was the Mahoney State Park and, of course, that is being developed now with private funds. And one thing I would put in for the record is my hope that we can continue that proud tradition of trying to, as much as we can, raise private funding for some of the development of these parks. Mr. Mahoney is no longer over there. He was a tremendous fund raiser, but I would like to ask Senator Bernard-Stevens and those individuals who do develop the plans for this park to consider private sources, to consider private contributions first before coming to the state for public monies for the development of this park. I think it is wise to accept this gift. I will support the resolution. I think it is wise to look at developing that park. It is an important park. It is nationally known and would be good for the state, but, again, I think we, just because Mr. Mahoney is no longer at Game and Parks, ought not to stop what I think he started in a very positive way and try and solicit private monies for a lot of the development of our parks. So that is just a comment for the record, and I do look forward with the passage of this resolution to the future development of that park.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Seeing no further discussion, Senator Bernard-Stevens, would you care to close?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Just briefly, Mr. President, and members of the body, I appreciate the comments and the concerns and support of my colleagues in the Legislature this morning. And, again, I would have to concur with Senator Warner and Senator Wesely that the spirit of Mahoney State Park on the private funding and the nonstate funding that has gone into that, and the tremendous amount of work that has gone to get those funds from other sources, I think is a tradition and something that could be carried on and should be in the spirit of these types of gifts, and I concur with Senator Wesely and agree with the concern of Senator Warner. With that, Mr. President, I would move the adoption of LR 4.