

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**SESSION 1997**

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**SENATE BILL 537\***

Short Title: Addition to State Parks System.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Senator Jenkins.

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Referred to: Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources.

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March 27, 1997

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**

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2 **AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE ADDITION TO THE STATE PARKS SYSTEM OF**  
3 **CERTAIN LANDS LOCATED IN TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY ADJACENT TO**  
4 **JOCASSEE LAKE.**

Whereas, Section 5 of Article XIV of the Constitution of North Carolina states that it shall be a proper function of the State of North Carolina to acquire and preserve park, recreational, and scenic areas and, in every other appropriate way, to preserve as a part of the common heritage of this State its open lands and places of beauty; and

Whereas, the General Assembly enacted the State Parks Act in 1987, declaring that the State of North Carolina offers unique archaeological, geological, biological, scenic, and recreational resources and that such resources are part of the heritage of the people of the State to be preserved and managed by those people for their use and for the use of their visitors and descendants; and

Whereas, lands currently owned by Duke Power Company in Transylvania County adjacent to Jocassee Lake contain examples of outstanding scenic beauty, harbor many rare species and natural communities that are unique and irreplaceable, and have been found to possess geological, biological, scenic, and recreational resources of statewide or even nationwide significance; Now, therefore,

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

1           Section 1. The General Assembly authorizes the Department of Environment,  
2 Health, and Natural Resources to add lands currently owned by Duke Power Company in  
3 Transylvania County adjacent to Jocassee Lake to the State Parks System, as provided in  
4 G.S. 113-44.14(b).

5           Section 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 1997.