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SECRETARY OF STATE
PUBLICATIONS

STATE OF TENNESSEE
EXECUTIVE ORDER
BY THE GOVERNOR

No. 76

**AN ORDER RENAMING THE ROCKY FORK STATE PARK AS THE
LAMAR ALEXANDER ROCKY FORK STATE PARK**

WHEREAS, Rocky Fork State Park is comprised of over 2,000 wilderness acres in the Appalachian Mountains in Unicoi County and was designated as a state park in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Rocky Fork State Park is one of Tennessee's newest state parks and features primitive land, pristine mountain streams, spectacular overlooks, miles of trails, and diverse plant and animal habitats; and

WHEREAS, several state and federal agencies and conservation groups led the effort to protect the Rocky Fork property for public use, resulting in the state purchasing the tract for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation is engaging stakeholders on long-term planning for sustainable recreation and infrastructure for Rocky Fork State Park; and

WHEREAS, Rocky Fork State Park can be a catalyst for outdoor recreation and tourism in the region; and

WHEREAS, Lamar Alexander was raised in Maryville, Tennessee in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains and has served as Governor of Tennessee, President of the University of Tennessee, and United States Secretary of Education and currently serves as United States Senator; and

WHEREAS, Lamar Alexander is a tireless advocate for the outdoors and has been a leader in protecting our state's and country's natural resources; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as governor, Lamar Alexander was recognized as the Tennessee Wildlife Federation's Conservationist of the Year in 1984 and the National Wildlife Federation's Conservationist of the Year in 1985; and

WHEREAS, Lamar Alexander served as chairman of President Ronald Reagan's Commission on Americans Outdoors in 1986; and

WHEREAS, while serving as United States Senator, Lamar Alexander has supported investment in national parks and measures to protect our environment for future generations; and

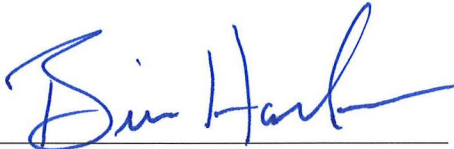
WHEREAS, Lamar Alexander has been recognized by numerous conservation organizations for his appreciation of, and extraordinary efforts to protect, public lands and national parks; and

WHEREAS, Lamar Alexander was a driving force behind the creation of Rocky Fork State Park and has led recent efforts to enhance the Cherokee National Forest, which neighbors Rocky Fork State Park; and

WHEREAS, permanently renaming the Rocky Fork State Park to honor Lamar Alexander is appropriate and fitting for a public servant and statesman who cares deeply about Tennessee and the outdoors.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Tennessee Constitution and applicable law, do hereby direct and order that the Rocky Fork State Park shall be known from this day forward as the Lamar Alexander Rocky Fork State Park, and all signage and other materials shall reflect this change.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my signature and caused the Great Seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed this 7th day of January, 2019.



GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

