



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
SENATE BILL 541
2022 Maryland Legislative Session

Great Maryland Outdoors Act

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President

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That is me on the left
being backed up by
Natural Resource Police
Officer Josh Keeny.

I am Dan Spedden and I
managed Greenbrier State
Park for 23 years from 1990
until my retirement in 2013.





Greenbrier State Park opens at 8:00 am, this is the scene at the park entrance at 6:00 am.
This is US Rt 40 a 50 mile per hour State Highway.



A closer view on the entrance to Greenbrier State Park.



People wait patiently for the line to move.



The line continues over the gently rolling hills



2.5 miles into
adjoining
Frederick County



MESSAGE CENTER

TRIP: 2.5
78420 mi

It is two hours before opening time and there are 706 vehicles in line for 570 spaces in Greenbrier State Park. 136 cars are turned away immediately, Rangers will turn away would be visitors for the next 7 hours. This happened a record 25 times in 2016, 22 closures is a good average.



After entering Greenbrier State Park, cars meander along the entrance lane to the contact booth.

The traffic control operation has a high manpower demand.





This scenario is playing out all over the State with 18 State Parks reporting “Park Full” closures 12 of these parks experience closures with similar frequency to Greenbrier State Park.



The smiling
faces of the
occupants of
the last car in.



The reward for being up early enough to make the 570-car cut.
