

## **HOUSE BILL 140:** Authorize Gullah Geechee Heritage Trail.

## 2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee: House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the Date: April 29, 2025

House

Introduced by: Reps. Iler, Miller Prepared by: Brad Krehely
Analysis of: Second Edition Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: House Bill 140 would authorize the Gullah Geechee Heritage Trail (Heritage Trail) in Brunswick County. The bill would create the Heritage Trail but would not add it to the State Parks System as a State trail. The act would be effective when it becomes law.

**CURRENT LAW:** The Department of Natural and Cultural Resources must have the General Assembly's authorization to add new parks to the State Parks System. Additions must be consistent with and address the needs of the State Parks System. All additions must be accompanied by adequate authorization and appropriations for land acquisition, development, and operations. G.S. 143B-135.54(b).

**BILL ANALYSIS:** House Bill 140 would authorize the Gullah Geechee Heritage Trail in Brunswick County. It would require the State to support, promote, encourage, and facilitate the establishment of trail segments on State park lands and on other lands. On segments of the Heritage Trail that cross property controlled by agencies or owners other than the State, the laws, rules, and policies of those agencies or owners would control.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The act would be effective when it becomes law.

