



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

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Legislature Gives Approval for Niagara Falls Tightrope Walk

JOSEPH E. ROBACH June 22, 2011

| ISSUE: **RECREATION AND TOURISM**

You might have seen this story on NBC's Today Show Wednesday morning, June 22nd regarding Nik Wallenda and his attempt to tightrope walk across the Niagara Gorge at Niagara Falls. The Legislature gave final approval earlier this afternoon.

New York lawmakers have voted to allow a member of the daredevil Wallenda family to attempt a tightrope walk across the Niagara Gorge at Niagara Falls.

The state Assembly on Wednesday passed a bill directing parks officials to write regulations allowing Nik Wallenda to traverse the gorge. The Senate already approved the measure.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo hasn't said yet whether he'll sign it.

There are strict laws against stunts at Niagara Falls, but supporters of the Wallenda walk say it would boost tourism and the city of Niagara Falls in general.

A daredevil known as the "Great Blondin" was the first to cross the gorge on a wire in 1859, but it's been more than 100 years since anyone has repeated the feat.