

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DNR 7/15/2013

LRB Number	13-1938/1	Introduction Number	AB-0254	Estimate Type	Original
Description Free admission to state parks and state trails for veterans					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

SUMMARY: The bill eliminates admission fees at state parks, state forests, state recreation areas, certain state natural areas as well as all trail pass requirements on state trails for state resident veterans discharged under all conditions other than dishonorable. Under current law, the Department does not charge admission fees to the above areas to former prisoners of war or veterans with a 70% or greater disability. Additionally, 2011 Act 168 established a \$7 annual disabled veterans recreation card that provides veterans with a 50% or greater disability admission to all state parks and trails, in addition to fishing and small game hunting privileges.

FISCAL EFFECT--REVENUES: It is difficult to accurately estimate the revenue impact of the bill. However, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs, National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics, 418,461 veterans were living in Wisconsin as of September 30, 2012. Assuming that the percentage of veterans visiting recreational fee areas mirrors the percentage of all Wisconsinites over the age of 18 that paid for admission to state parks and forests (12.4%) and state trails (2.7%), the admission fee exemptions in the bill would reduce revenues by as much as \$968,300 annually. These revenue losses would be split between the Parks and Forestry Accounts of the Conservation Fund.

FISCAL EFFECT--COSTS: The Department would incur both one-time and on-going administrative expenses as a result of this bill. One-time costs are estimated to be \$20,000 to implement the requirements of the bill which include updates to the sticker inventorying system and staff time and materials to update all internet and printer materials. The Department estimates the annual supplies and services cost to implement this policy, under its existing remittance process will be \$48,900. These costs include: 0.5 LTE salary and related costs, new sticker printing, developing training materials for existing and seasonal staff on the certification process, salary and fringe costs for seasonal staff to attend training or to receive training on-line, travel costs for permanent and seasonal field staff to receive training and travel costs for central office employees to ensure implementation.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2013 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

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Description Free admission to state parks and state trails for veterans			
I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect): \$20,000			
II. Annualized Costs:		Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:	
		Increased Costs	Decreased Costs
A. State Costs by Category			
State Operations - Salaries and Fringes	\$18,100		\$
(FTE Position Changes)			
State Operations - Other Costs	30,800		
Local Assistance			
Aids to Individuals or Organizations			
TOTAL State Costs by Category	\$48,900		\$
B. State Costs by Source of Funds			
GPR			
FED			
PRO/PRS			
SEG/SEG-S (Conservation)	48,900		
III. State Revenues - Complete this only when proposal will increase or decrease state revenues (e.g., tax increase, decrease in license fee, etc.)			
	Increased Rev	Decreased Rev	
GPR Taxes	\$	\$	
GPR Earned			
FED			
PRO/PRS			
SEG/SEG-S		-968,300	
TOTAL State Revenues	\$	\$-968,300	
NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT			
	<u>State</u>	<u>Local</u>	
NET CHANGE IN COSTS	\$48,900	\$	
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE	\$-968,300	\$	
Agency/Prepared By Authorized Signature Date			
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