
Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO



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2019 Senate Bill 212

**Senate
Amendment 1**

2019 SENATE BILL 212

2019 Senate Bill 212 creates two new requirements benefiting visitors of state parks, forest, recreation areas, and trails. First, the bill requires the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to publish an online visitor activities guide for state parks, forests, recreation areas, and trails.

Second, the bill creates an entrance fee waiver option for parents and guardians of fourth grade students, funded through a new sum-sufficient appropriation. Specifically, the bill requires the DNR to waive its vehicle admission fee for any vehicle, except a motor bus, that has Wisconsin registration plates and is owned by a person who produces evidence that the person is the parent or guardian of a public or private school pupil who is enrolled in fourth grade on January 1 of the year for which the vehicle admission receipt is issued. The bill specifies that a parent or guardian may receive only one such fee waiver in the parent or guardian's lifetime. The bill also limits the fee waiver under the bill to one waiver per household.

SENATE AMENDMENT 1

Senate Amendment 1 modifies the provisions of the bill relating to the entrance fee waiver to add more specific eligibility and application requirements. Specifically, the amendment:

- Incorporates existing, statutory definitions of the terms “guardian” and “parent.”
- Makes the fee waiver available to parents and guardians of fourth graders enrolled in any school, including an authorized home school program.
- Specifies that applications must be submitted to the DNR's central office.
- Requires applications to be submitted on a form provided by the DNR.
- Requires applications to include: (1) the name of the fourth grade pupil; (2) the pupil's date of birth; (3) the name of the pupil's school or a certification of home schooling; and (4) a certification that the child is, was, or will be a fourth grade pupil on January 1 of the calendar year for which the fee waiver is issued.
- Limits the waiver to a single vehicle per eligible parent or guardian.

The amendment retains the lifetime and household limits provided under the bill.

Finally, the amendment provides a delayed effective date of January 1, 2020 for the bill.

BILL HISTORY

Senator Cowles introduced 2019 Senate Bill 212 on May 15, 2019 and convened a public hearing on the bill in the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on May 30, 2019. Senators Cowles and Smith introduced Senate Amendment 1 on August 28, 2019. On September 3, 2019, the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy voted to recommend adoption of the amendment and passage of the bill, as amended, both on votes of Ayes, 5; Noes, 0.

AH:jal