

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DNR 3/26/2007

LRB Number	07-1752/1	Introduction Number	AB-0108	Estimate Type	Original
Description					
Free access to state parks and state trails by certain disabled veterans and former prisoners of war					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

SUMMARY: The bill exempts Wisconsin residents who were prisoners of war (POWs) and residents with a 70 percent or greater military-related disability from the requirement that they have a vehicle admission sticker to enter state parks (including Heritage Hill State Park) or that they pay a fee to use state trails. In addition, the bill requires that the Department issue a card to those residents who qualify for these exemptions.

FISCAL EFFECT: This bill will decrease Department revenues, generate one-time costs, and increase annual operating costs. The Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) reports that 9,415 veterans would now qualify for free admission to state parks and trails on the basis of disability. (The DVA does not have precise data on the number of POWs among Wisconsin residents, but assumes the number to be less than 100. For purposes of this fiscal estimate the Department assumes there are 85 POWs that are Wisconsin residents.) The Department assumes that the percentage of former POWs and disabled veterans visiting state parks and southern forests mirrors the percentage of all Wisconsinites over age 18 that visited state parks (9.58%) and southern forests (2.96%) in 2006. The Department further assumes that the participation rate for disabled veterans using state trails will be further reduced by 30%. Based on these assumptions, the Department assumes that the Wisconsin State Park System would generate approximately \$42,300 less in admission revenues annually as a result of this bill.

The Department assumes that the Department of Veterans' Affairs would issue documentation to disabled veterans and former POWs that those persons would present to the Department to certify their eligibility for free state park and trail admission. The Department further assumes that one-half, or 4,750, of the 9,500 eligible veterans would request a card in the first year, generating one-time expenses of \$28,000 in salary and fringe, data processing, and other supplies related expenditures such as updating manuals and training materials and card design and printing. The Department further assumes that it will annually issue stickers and trail passes to eligible card-holding veterans, and that the number of additional card holding veterans will grow by 200 annually, resulting in ongoing annual staff, administrative and supplies costs of approximately \$6,000.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

None

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2007 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

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Description Free access to state parks and state trails by certain disabled veterans and former prisoners of war			
i. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect): \$28,000			
ii. Annualized Costs:		Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:	
		Increased Costs	Decreased Costs
A. State Costs by Category			
State Operations - Salaries and Fringes	\$5,000		\$
(FTE Position Changes)			
State Operations - Other Costs	1,000		
Local Assistance			
Aids to Individuals or Organizations			
TOTAL State Costs by Category	\$6,000		\$
B. State Costs by Source of Funds			
GPR			
FED			
PRO/PRS			
SEG/SEG-S	6,000		
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			-42,300
TOTAL State Revenues	\$		\$-42,300
NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT			
	State	Local	
NET CHANGE IN COSTS	\$6,000		\$
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE	\$-42,300		\$
Agency/Prepared By		Authorized Signature	Date
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