

Fiscal Estimate - 2021 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 21-2376/1	Introduction Number AB-0285
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Description
 veteran boat launch permits

Fiscal Effect

State:

<input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate	<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues	
<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations		<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs
<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations		
<input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations		

Local:

<input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate	5. Types of Local Government Units Affected	
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs	3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Towns <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Counties <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Others <u>Lake Districts, etc.</u>
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs	4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	

Fund Sources Affected	Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations
<input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS	

Agency/Prepared By DNR/ Paul Neumann (608) 266-0818	Authorized Signature Paul Neumann (608) 266-0818	Date 4/29/2021
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DNR 4/29/2021

LRB Number	21-2376/1	Introduction Number	AB-0285	Estimate Type	Original
Description veteran boat launch permits					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The bill creates a program where resident veterans age 65 and older who provide the department a copy of their operator's license and a copy of their certificate of release or discharge from active duty may obtain a free boat launch permit valid for the calendar year in which it is issued. The permit would allow the qualified veteran to access any public boat launch owned or operated by a municipality, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation district, or town sanitary district without being required to pay any fee.

In addition, the bill specifies that veterans may apply in person or via mail to DNR or to the veterans' county of residence. If a county accepts an application, they are required to issue a permit and forward the application to the department.

I. Assumptions & Background Information

A. There are more than 2,000 identified public boat launches within the state. The free boat launch permit would allow access to all of these boat launches except for those that are located within State Parks or Forests.

B. Since the boat launch permit is not a hunt/fish/trap approval the department's on-line licensing system, GoWild, will not be used and separate tracking system will be required.

C. Given the requirement to affix the permit using its own adhesive, a sticker-type material would be required. The department would need to pre-print a supply of boat launch permit stickers at \$1.25 each and distribute a supply in advance of the boating season to 72 counties annually. Subsequent mailings to counties could be required to replenish inventory.

D. Given the monetary value of the boat launch permits, the department will need to issue inventory to counties and require counties return un-issued permits for account reconciliation.

E. It is anticipated two Natural Resource Specialist positions will be required to coordinate this program.

F. Any incomplete applications would require follow-up with the veteran by the county or the department.

G. One boat launch permit would be allowed per veteran per year.

H. The most recent veteran population data available from the U.S. Department of Veteran's Affairs (VETPOP2018) indicates there are approximately 188,000 Wisconsin resident veterans age 65 and older.

I. It's assumed that there will be strong demand for the permit because of its value (For example a non-Milwaukee County resident would have to pay \$265 a year for a seasonal boat launch pass). Therefore, the Department assumes that as many as 50% of the eligible veterans are anticipated to submit an application for a free boat launch permit. This translates to a minimum of 94,178 stickers ($0.5 * 188,355$) that will be required to fulfill anticipated orders.

J. It's assumed that an additional 50% of stickers must be produced to provide an ample inventory supply available for fulfillment by all counties and department Service Center locations, which translates to a total supply of 141,266 stickers ($94,178 * 1.5$) required annually.

K. The Department and county would be required to mail permits to those who applied by mail.

L. It's assumed that half of the applications received will be via mail. This translates to an estimated 47,089 ($0.5 * 94,178$) orders that will need to be mailed to qualified veterans.

M. It will cost the Department \$1.25 to mail each boat launch permit requested by mail. County issuance will decrease state mailing costs.

II. State Fiscal Impact:

A. One-time Costs--The Department expects to incur one-time implementation costs to develop a boat launch permit issuance tracking system, develop an application form, create web site content explaining the program and documentation requirements, and develop communication materials for the 72 Wisconsin counties.

1. Tracking system: \$5,000 (100 hours * \$50/hour Natural Resource Specialist rate plus fringe)

2. Application form development: \$2,000 (40 hours * \$50/hour Natural Resource Specialist rate plus fringe)

3. Web page development: \$1,000 (20 hours * \$50/hour Natural Resource Specialist rate plus fringe)

4. Communication to counties providing program details: \$2,000 (40 hours * \$50/hr Natural Resource

Specialist rate plus fringe)

5. Total one-time costs: \$10,000 (\$5,000 + \$2,000 + \$1,000 + \$2,000).

B. On-going costs

a. Two Natural Resource Program Specialist positions: (\$50/per hour including fringe * 2080 hrs. per position) = \$208,000

b. Sticker printing: \$176,600 (\$1.25 each sticker * 141,266 total sticker inventory required)

c. Annual bulk mailings of sticker inventory to 72 counties: \$3,600 (72 counties * \$50 each package)

d. Mailing costs to send sticker to those who submitted application via mail: \$58,900 (\$1.25 * 47,089 ordered by mail). Those costs would be reduced to the extent to which the permit is mailed by the county.

e. Total on-going costs: \$447,100 (\$208,000 + \$176,600 + \$3,600 + \$58,900).

C. Revenue

No impact.

III. Local Fiscal Impact

A. Costs

Counties will incur indeterminate costs to administer the free boat launch permit program, as the bill requires them to accept and fulfill applications received by veterans residing in that county. This will require staff time to accept applications, mail them to the Department, and communicate with the Department regarding the sticker inventory to fulfill the applications. Costs would vary from county to county.

B. Revenue

The bill would reduce revenue for local units of government that have opted to charge boat launch fees.

State statutes authorize governmental entities to charge reasonable fees for use of boat landings under their jurisdiction. The daily fee may not exceed the cost of a daily Wisconsin State Parks fee admission (\$8) or 10 times that amount (\$80) for a seasonal boat launch pass.

Additional fees may be included depending on the amenities offered at the launch, whether it is a launch into the Great Lakes, and larger sized boats may be assessed more fees with permission granted from the Department. In the last 5 fiscal years, 8 jurisdictions have applied and received permission to charge fees that range from \$5 to \$18 for resident daily, \$40 to \$180 for resident seasonal, \$7 to \$26 for non-jurisdiction residents daily, and \$50 to \$265 for non-jurisdiction resident seasonal.

The Department does not have information on boat launch fee revenues collected at the local level to understand the local revenue impact of the proposed exemption; therefore, the estimated revenue loss is considered to be indeterminate.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2021 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

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Description veteran boat launch permits		
I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect):		
One-time implementation costs of \$10,000 to develop a boat launch permit issuance tracking system, develop an application form, create web site content explaining the program and documentation requirements, and develop communication materials for the 72 Wisconsin counties.		
II. Annualized Costs:		Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:
	Increased Costs	Decreased Costs
A. State Costs by Category		
State Operations - Salaries and Fringes	\$208,000	\$
(FTE Position Changes)	(2.0 FTE)	
State Operations - Other Costs	239,100	
Local Assistance		
Aids to Individuals or Organizations		
TOTAL State Costs by Category	\$447,100	\$
B. State Costs by Source of Funds		
GPR		
FED		
PRO/PRS		
SEG/SEG-S	447,100	
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		
TOTAL State Revenues	\$	\$
NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT		
	<u>State</u>	<u>Local</u>
NET CHANGE IN COSTS	\$447,100	\$
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE	\$	\$
Agency/Prepared By Authorized Signature Date		
DNR/ Paul Neumann (608) 266-0818	Paul Neumann (608) 266-0818	4/29/2021