

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DNR 10/10/2023

LRB Number	23-0196/1	Introduction Number	AB-0425	Estimate Type	Original
Description annual vehicle admission receipt validity period					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under this bill, the validity of an annual state park and forest vehicle admission pass would change from calendar years to a 12-month period from the date of purchase. Annual state trail passes are not included in this bill and would remain a calendar year pass.

I. Assumptions

Under current law, state park and forests annual admission passes are valid only during the calendar year for which they are purchased. Department staff quickly identify the validity of vehicle admission stickers by their color and design from a distance, whereas under the proposed date-of-purchase passes, smaller markings that reflect a date-of-purchase would require physically closer inspections and additional time to closely verify the validity of the passes upon property entrance and during other enforcement checks.

II. Fiscal Effect

A. Background Information

The change to a date-of-purchase pass would result in additional expenses from the current system. Currently, there are four primary methods for purchasing an annual vehicle admission sticker:

1. In person sales at park and forest properties or DNR Service Centers; punching month and date of purchase on stickers will add significant staff costs.
2. Online sales: currently annual stickers are sold online and are mailed directly to the customer through a contract with the DOA fulfillment center. Since this is an automated process, there is no current function for stickers to be punched with a month or date before mailing. Significant changes to the fulfillment process would need to be put in place to either add manual fulfillment or a pre-stamped or printed sticker, both of which would add significant staff or manufacturing costs for five different annual vehicle admission stickers.
3. Electronic payment kiosks: The Wisconsin State Parks System (WSPS) has expanded the availability of electronic payment kiosks to over 40 state properties. These kiosks process credit card payments and dispense a resident annual vehicle admission sticker at the time of sale. Kiosks can only dispense a resident annual sticker, which make up ~75% of kiosk sales. The other four annual vehicle admission passes can also be purchased at a kiosk; however since the kiosk can only dispense one type of sticker, these other types are fulfilled by providing a temporary proof-of-purchase receipt that is subsequently exchanged for an actual sticker during a later in-person visit with DNR staff. There is no available technology for kiosks to punch dates on dispensed stickers, thus kiosks would have to dispense a receipt in-lieu-of an actual sticker for the 75% of kiosk sales that currently operate independently: resident annual vehicle admission stickers will have to be punched in-person at a DNR property desk, adding work to DNR staff and reducing time available for non-vehicle admission duties. Increased LTE staffing costs would be required to maintain current service levels system wide. Kiosks are designed to provide customer convenience with low staff time and in lieu of a larger and more expensive public entrance stations.
4. Self-registration envelopes: Envelopes are available in remote locations for cash purchases at state properties. Since these envelopes are processed by staff and the sticker or trail pass mailed to the customer, a month/date could be punched at the time of fulfillment. This will require visitor accurately and completely filling out the envelopes; daily collections by DNR staff is not always possible and incomplete envelopes will require DNR staff to make assumptions or to follow up with the customer. As with online sales, this will require additional staff time and effort to punch stickers to reflect the date of sale prior to mailing.

B. Cost Estimate

1. Printing Costs

The department estimates that it will incur additional printing costs of \$10,000/yr. to add the month/date on five different annual stickers that are sold in person.

In addition, the current printing contract would need to be revised accordingly. There may be an indeterminate, one-time penalty for re-bidding an existing printing contract for the vehicle admission sticker, which has a multi-year printing contract currently in place.

2. Staffing Costs

a. Marking Admissions Stickers: There would be an increase in staff time to mark each sticker sold and to provide an explanation to the customer of the new expiration date. The department estimates an additional 1,500-2,250 hours across the system to mark the proposed stickers, at an estimated cost of \$27,750 - \$41,625 (note that the department is using the midpoint of this range--\$34,700--for total cost estimate below). This estimate is based on an average salary and fringe of \$18.50/hour multiplied by an estimated additional 20-30 seconds per sticker sold.

b. Inspecting Admissions Stickers: There will also be an increase in staff time to more closely inspect each sticker to confirm its validity. The department estimates that an additional 3,000 hours in additional time to properly check the validity of the proposed stickers at a work-effort cost of \$55,500 that would not be available for current workload (estimated average salary and fringe of \$18.50/hr.).

e. Manual Fulfillment of Online Sales: Since stickers sold from online sales need to be punched in the same manner as in-person sales, the bill would require additional LTE staff to manage and complete the manual fulfillment process. The department estimates an additional 3,117 hours of staff time at a cost of \$57,665/yr. (Estimated at 40 hours per week year-round, with an additional 40 hours per week during peak times, with an estimated average salary and fringe of \$18.50/hour.)

3. Total Estimated Costs

Total printing and staffing costs are estimated at \$157,900/yr. (\$10,000 for printing + \$147,900 for staffing).

C. Revenue Estimate

The revenue impact of the bill is indeterminate. It may be more likely that autumn visitors will purchase an annual pass instead of a daily pass. An increase in annual pass sales during the fall would result in fewer daily pass sales and could increase revenue by an indeterminate amount.

Over time, sales of annual admissions stickers is assumed to be similar but would be dispersed throughout the year rather than front-loaded at the beginning of the outdoor recreational season.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2023 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 23-0196/1	Introduction Number AB-0425	
Description annual vehicle admission receipt validity period		
I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect):		
II. Annualized Costs:		
	Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:	
	Increased Costs Decreased Costs	
A. State Costs by Category		
State Operations - Salaries and Fringes (FTE Position Changes)	\$147,900	\$
State Operations - Other Costs	10,000	
Local Assistance		
Aids to Individuals or Organizations		
TOTAL State Costs by Category	\$157,900	\$
B. State Costs by Source of Funds		
GPR		
FED		
PRO/PRS		
SEG/SEG-S	157,900	
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		
TOTAL State Revenues	\$	\$
NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT		
	<u>State</u>	<u>Local</u>
NET CHANGE IN COSTS	\$157,900	\$
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE	\$	\$
Agency/Prepared By		
Authorized Signature		Date
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