

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DNR 3/10/2023

LRB Number	23-1136/1	Introduction Number	AB-0071	Estimate Type	Original
Description the disability rating at which veterans qualify for certain hunting and fishing authorizations and exemptions from state park and trail admission fees					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

I. Bureau of Customer & Outreach Services

The bill establishes that a resident disabled veteran with a service-connected disability of 50% or greater or who is individually unemployable may purchase a conservation patron license for \$65 instead of the regular \$165 fee. In addition, it decreases the required veterans minimum disability rating from 70 percent to 50 percent to purchase a reduced fee annual fishing license for \$3 instead of the regular \$20 fee.

A. Fiscal Effect-Costs

1. Cost to program the GoWild licensing system for new or modified license discounts: 80 hours * \$51.59/hour (average business analyst rate plus applicable fringe) = \$4,100
2. Cost to update web pages, licensing agent resources and public communication materials: 32 hours * \$55.49/hour (average policy advisor rate plus applicable fringe) = \$1,800
3. Costs for training Customer Service Representatives (CSR) staff:
 - a. 40 hours training development * \$55.49/hour (average policy advisor rate plus applicable fringe) = \$2,200
 - b. 1 hour * 100 CSRs * \$24/hour (average CSR rate plus applicable fringe) = \$2,400
4. Total one-time implementation costs = \$10,500 (\$4,100 + \$1,800 + \$4,600)

B. Fiscal Effect-Revenue

1. Resident Disabled Veteran Annual Fishing License

The most recent data available from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs shows that in 2019 there were 36,962 Wisconsin resident veterans receiving compensation for a 50 percent or greater service-connected disability and 25,711 Wisconsin resident veterans receiving compensation for a 70 percent or greater service-connected disability. These numbers indicate 11,251 more veterans will be newly eligible to purchase the reduced fee fishing license at \$3 rather than \$20.

Assuming the disabled veteran population with a 50% disability rating will continue to purchase the reduced fee fishing license at the same rate as the disabled veteran population with a 70% disability rating--a 13.8% purchasing rate in recent years--the department could sell as many as 1,500 additional discounted fishing licenses per year (11,251 eligible veterans x 13.8% purchasing rate). Under these assumptions, the bill would reduce annual fishing license revenue by as much as \$25,500 (\$17 license fee reduction x 1,500 additional discounted licenses).

2. Reduce Fee Conservation Patron License

Under the bill the same 36,962 resident veterans with a 50 percent disability rating would be newly eligible to purchase a conservation patron license at a reduced fee of \$65 rather than \$165. The department does not have information of how many of its current Conservation Patrons meet the discount requirement of the bill nor how many individuals with the veteran's disability requirement would opt to apply for a conservation patron license; therefore, the revenue impact is indeterminate.

II. State Parks & Forests

The bill reduces the disability rating for a resident veteran from 70 percent to 50 percent to qualify for a state park, forest or natural area vehicle admission fee exemption or a state trail access fee exemption.

A. Fiscal Effect-Costs

1. The department estimates \$12,300/yr. of ongoing costs for LTE staff to fulfill newly qualifying vehicle admission and trail pass exemptions (500 hours x \$20/hour x 1.225 agencywide LTE fringe rate).

B. Fiscal Effect-Revenue

1. Assumptions

a. The most recent data available from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs shows that in 2019 there were 36,962 Wisconsin resident veterans receiving compensation for a 50 percent or greater service-connected disability and 25,711 Wisconsin resident veterans receiving compensation for a 70 percent or greater service-connected disability. These numbers indicate 11,251 more veterans will be newly eligible for a vehicle admission fee exemption or a state trail access fee exemption.

b. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Wisconsin had an estimated 2,401,818 households in 2021.

c. Based on the prior two assumptions, the department estimates that 0.5% of Wisconsin households include a disabled veteran with a disability rating between 50-70% ($11,251/2,401,818$).

d. Trail pass fees are the same for both residents and nonresidents; therefore, the department assumes that the percentage split between resident vs. non-resident vehicle admission sales can be applied to estimate resident vs. nonresident trail pass revenues.

2. Revenue Estimates

a. The department collected a total of \$11,239,347 in resident vehicle admission fee revenue in calendar year 2022, comprised of the following three subcategories:

--Full-priced resident: \$9,067,264 (\$1,684,840 daily + \$7,382,424 annual)

--Reduced rate resident for second household vehicle: \$1,031,895

--Senior resident for residents 65 or older: \$1,140,188 (\$81,223 daily + \$1,058,965 annual)

b. The department collected a total of \$1,142,478 in annual and daily trail pass revenue in calendar year 2022 from both residents and non-residents. Since the exemption proposed in the bill applies only to resident veterans, annual resident trail pass revenues for 2022 are estimated to be \$914,653 based on the following two subcategories:

--85% of annual vehicle admission stickers were sold to residents in calendar year 2022. Assuming that 85% of annual trail passes are also sold to residents, resident annual trail pass revenues are estimated to be \$821,154 ($\$966,064$ total revenue x 85%).

--53% of daily vehicle admission stickers were sold to residents in calendar year 2022. Assuming 53% of daily trail passes are also sold to residents, resident daily trail pass revenues are estimated to be \$93,499 ($\$176,414$ total revenue x 53% residents).

3. Full Priced Vehicle Admission Fee Revenue Reduction

$\$9,067,264 \times 0.5\% = \$45,336$

4. Second Household Vehicle Admission Fee Revenue Reduction

$\$1,031,895 \times 0.5\% = \$5,159$

5. Senior Resident Admission Fee Revenue Reduction

$\$1,140,188 \times 0.5\% = \$5,700$

6. State Trail Passes Fee Revenue Reduction

$\$914,653 \times 0.5\% = \$4,573$

7. Total estimated revenue reduction = \$60,768 (rounded to \$60,800)

III. Overall Fiscal Effect (Customer & Outreach Services and State Parks & Forests)

A. One-time implementation costs of \$10,500

B. Ongoing implementation costs of \$12,300

C. Ongoing revenue reduction of \$86,300 (\$25,500 for reduced fishing license revenue + \$60,800 for reduced vehicle admission and trail pass revenue)

D. Indeterminate impact on conservation patron license revenue

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2023 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

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Description
 the disability rating at which veterans qualify for certain hunting and fishing authorizations and exemptions from state park and trail admission fees

I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect):

 Estimated one-time implementation costs of \$10,500 for proposed patron license and fishing license changes.

II. Annualized Costs:	Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:	
	Increased Costs	Decreased Costs

A. State Costs by Category			
	State Operations - Salaries and Fringes	\$12,300	\$
	(FTE Position Changes)		
	State Operations - Other Costs		
	Local Assistance		
	Aids to Individuals or Organizations		
	TOTAL State Costs by Category	\$12,300	\$

B. State Costs by Source of Funds			
	GPR		
	FED		
	PRO/PRS		
	SEG/SEG-S	12,300	

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		-86,300
TOTAL State Revenues	\$	-\$86,300

NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT		
	State	Local
NET CHANGE IN COSTS	\$12,300	\$
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE	-\$86,300	\$

Agency/Prepared By DNR/ Paul Neumann (608) 266-0818	Authorized Signature Paul Neumann (608) 266-0818	Date 3/10/2023
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