2007 SENATE BILL 49

February 20, 2007 – Introduced by Senators Lehman, Miller, Coggs, Risser, Kedzie, Lassa, Erpenbach, Kreitlow, Breske, Plale, Roessler and Schultz, cosponsored by Representatives Musser, Gronemus, Boyle, Hebl, Hubler, Berceau, Sheridan, Petrowski, Nerison, Kleefisch, Turner, Bies, Hines, Cullen, Sinicki, Steinbrink, Townsend, Seidel, Hraychuck, M. Williams, Owens, Hahn, Lemahieu, Lothian, Gunderson and Albers. Referred to Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs, Biotechnology and Financial Institutions.

- 1 **AN ACT** to create 27.01 (7) (c) 11., 27.01 (7) (c) 12., 27.01 (8) (b) 4. and 27.01 (8)
- 2 (b) 5. of the statutes; **relating to:** free access to state parks and state trails by certain disabled veterans and former prisoners of war.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Currently, most vehicles entering state parks must have a vehicle admission receipt (sticker), either for annual use or for one-day use. Some vehicles are exempt from having a sticker, including vehicles operated by a unit of government, vehicles occupied by an adult holding a conservation patron license, vehicles occupied by a person who holds a senior citizen recreation card, and vehicles operated for transporting pupils of a public or private school. This bill adds to those exemptions vehicles occupied by a resident who is a veteran with a 70 percent or greater military-related disability and vehicles occupied by a resident who was a prisoner of war.

Currently, a fee is charged for admission to Heritage Hill State Park and to state trails. There are exemptions from the admission fee, including persons who hold a senior citizen recreation card and adults holding a conservation patron license. This bill adds to those exemptions residents who are veterans with a 70 percent or greater military–related disability and residents who were prisoners of war.

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For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 27.01 (7) (c) 11. of the statutes is created to read:

27.01 (7) (c) 11. Any vehicle, except a motor bus, occupied by a state resident who holds a card issued by the department that shows that he or she is a veteran, as defined in 38 USC 101, and is receiving disability compensation benefits under 38 USC 1101 to 1163 for disabilities that result in a disability rating that is 70 percent or greater under 38 USC 1114.

SECTION 2. 27.01 (7) (c) 12. of the statutes is created to read:

27.01 (7) (c) 12. Any vehicle, except a motor bus, occupied by a state resident who holds a card issued by the department that shows that he or she was a member of the U.S. armed services and was held as a prisoner of war during a war period, as defined in s. 45.01 (13), or while in service in a crisis zone, as defined in s. 45.01 (11).

SECTION 3. 27.01 (8) (b) 4. of the statutes is created to read:

27.01 (8) (b) 4. Any state resident who holds a card issued by the department that shows that he or she is a veteran, as defined in 38 USC 101, and is receiving disability compensation benefits under 38 USC 1101 to 1163 for disabilities that result in a disability rating that is 70 percent or greater under 38 USC 1114.

Section 4. 27.01 (8) (b) 5. of the statutes is created to read:

27.01 (8) (b) 5. Any state resident who holds a card issued by the department that shows that he or she was a member of the U.S. armed services and was held as a prisoner of war during a war period, as defined in s. 45.01 (13), or while in service in a crisis zone, as defined in s. 45.01 (11).

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1	SECTION	5.	Effective	date.
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- 2 (1) This act takes effect on first day of the 6th month beginning after
- 3 publication.
- 4 (END)