



Legislative  
Council Staff

*Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature*

**FISCAL NOTE**

|                         |                            |                        |   |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|---|
| <b>Drafting Number:</b> | LLS 20-0133                | <b>Date:</b>           | January 17, 2020                                  |
| <b>Prime Sponsors:</b>  | Sen. Cooke<br>Rep. Beckman | <b>Bill Status:</b>    | Senate SVMA                                       |
|                         |                            | <b>Fiscal Analyst:</b> | Max Nardo   303-866-4776<br>max.nardo@state.co.us |

**Bill Topic:** NATIONAL GUARD PARKS AND WILDLIFE BENEFITS

**Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Revenue     | <input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer               | <input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity |

The bill grants active members of the National Guard the ability to obtain a free pass to state parks and recreation areas. It decreases state revenue and increases state expenditures on an ongoing basis.

**Appropriation Summary:** For FY 2020-21, the bill requires an appropriation of \$28,799 to the Department of Natural Resources.

**Fiscal Note Status:** The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

**Table 1  
State Fiscal Impacts Under SB 20-041**

|                     |                        | FY 2020-21        | FY 2021-22        |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Revenue</b>      | Cash Funds             | (\$20,712)        | (\$22,595)        |
|                     | <b>Total</b>           | <b>(\$20,712)</b> | <b>(\$22,595)</b> |
| <b>Expenditures</b> | General Fund           | \$28,799          | \$32,299          |
|                     | Centrally Appropriated | \$3,431           | \$3,658           |
|                     | <b>Total</b>           | <b>\$32,230</b>   | <b>\$35,957</b>   |
|                     | <b>Total FTE</b>       | <b>0.2 FTE</b>    | <b>0.2 FTE</b>    |
| <b>Transfers</b>    |                        | -                 | -                 |
| <b>TABOR Refund</b> |                        | -                 | -                 |

## **Summary of Legislation**

The bill grants active members of the National Guard the ability to obtain a free pass to state parks and recreation areas. To facilitate this, the Division of Parks and Wildlife (CPW) in the Department of Natural Resources must create a new pass type, called an Eagle Pass, and must distribute the pass to qualified individuals at the division's central office, regional offices, or any other location chosen by CPW. If the General Assembly does not appropriate funding to implement the bill, CPW is not required to offer the pass. National Guard members can demonstrate active status in a manner specified in the bill.

## **Background**

Colorado's 41 state parks have about 15 million visitors each year. Daily park passes range from \$8-10 per vehicle, and annual passes range from \$70 to \$120. There are currently about 5,600 active duty members of the National Guard in Colorado that would be eligible for free admission.

## **Assumptions**

The fiscal note assumes that National Guard members purchase park passes with similar frequency to the adult population of Colorado. Following this, the fiscal note estimates that about 25 percent of the state's 5,600 active National Guard members will obtain an Eagle Pass.

## **State Revenue**

The bill decreases cash fund revenue to the Department of Natural Resources by about \$20,712 in FY 2020-21, and \$22,595 in FY 2021-22 and future years. The foregone revenue is attributable to passes that would have been sold had they not been provided free-of-charge.

Because the state park system is designated as an enterprise, revenue is not subject to state revenue limits under TABOR.

## **State Expenditures**

The bill increases state General Fund costs in the Department of Natural Resources by \$32,230 in FY 2020-21, and \$35,957 in FY 2021-22. Each pass will require 15 minutes of administrative time to create and distribute, requiring 0.2 FTE Administrative Assistant III. Costs also include a General Fund backfill of foregone revenue for passes that would have been sold had they not been provided free-of-charge. These costs are shown in Table 2.

**Table 2  
Expenditures Under SB 20-041**

|  | <b>FY 2020-21</b> | <b>FY 2021-22</b> |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Department of Natural Resources</b> |                   |                   |
| Personal Services                      | \$8,087           | \$9,704           |
| Backfill foregone revenue              | \$20,712          | \$22,595          |
| Centrally Appropriated Costs*          | \$3,431           | \$3,658           |
| <b>Total Cost</b>                      | <b>\$32,230</b>   | <b>\$35,957</b>   |
| <b>Total FTE</b>                       | <b>0.2 FTE</b>    | <b>0.2 FTE</b>    |

\* Centrally appropriated costs are not included in the bill's appropriation.

**Centrally appropriated costs.** Pursuant to a Joint Budget Committee policy, certain costs associated with this bill are addressed through the annual budget process and centrally appropriated in the Long Bill or supplemental appropriations bills, rather than in this bill. These costs, which include employee insurance and supplemental employee retirement payments, are estimated to be \$3,431 in FY 2020-21 and \$3,658 in FY 2021-22 and future years.

### **Effective Date**

The bill takes effect August 5, 2020, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 6, 2020, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

### **State Appropriations**

For FY 2020-21, the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$28,799 to the Department of Natural Resources, and 0.2 FTE.

### **State and Local Government Contacts**

Information Technology      Natural Resources