



Legislative
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SB 20-041

FINAL FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number:	LLS 20-0133	Date:	September 16, 2020
Prime Sponsors:	Sen. Cooke; Zenzinger Rep. Garnett	Bill Status:	Signed into Law
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Bill Topic: NATIONAL GUARD PARKS AND WILDLIFE BENEFITS

Summary of Fiscal Impact:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Revenue (<i>conditional</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure (<i>conditional</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Government
	<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

Conditional upon the General Assembly appropriating funding for this purpose, the bill grants active members of the National Guard the ability to obtain a free pass to state parks and recreation areas. If implemented, it decreases state revenue and increases state expenditures.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the enacted bill..

Summary of Legislation

Conditional upon the General Assembly appropriating funds for implementation, 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, which the bill designates as the 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

Conditional upon the implementation of the Eagle Pass, the bill decreases cash fund revenue to the Department of Natural Resources by an estimated \$22,595 in per year. 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

Conditional upon the implementation of the Eagle Pass, the bill increases state General Fund costs in the Department of Natural Resources by up to \$35,957 annually. Each pass will require 15 minutes of administrative time to create and distribute, requiring 0.2 FTE Administrative Assistant III. Costs may 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

	Annual Cost
Department of Natural Resources	
Personal Services	\$9,704
Backfill of Foregone Revenue	\$22,595
Centrally Appropriated Costs*	\$3,658
Total Cost	\$35,957
Total FTE	0.2 FTE

* 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 \$3,658 per year of implementation.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on July 2, 2020, and it took effect on September 14, 2020.

State and Local Government Contacts

Information Technology Natural Resources