



Legislative  
Council Staff

*Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature*

**SB 20-041**

# REVISED FISCAL NOTE

(replaces fiscal note dated January 17, 2020)

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<b>Drafting Number:</b>	LLS 20-0133	<b>Date:</b>	June 5, 2020
<b>Prime Sponsors:</b>	Sen. Cooke; Zenzinger Rep. Garnett	<b>Bill Status:</b>	House SVMA
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**Bill Topic:** NATIONAL GUARD PARKS AND WILDLIFE BENEFITS

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**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 funds 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 funded by the General Assembly, it decreases state revenue and increases state expenditures on an ongoing basis.

**Appropriation Summary:** No appropriation is required.

**Fiscal Note Status:** The revised fiscal note reflects the reengrossed bill, as amended by the House State, Veterans, and Military Affairs committee.

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## 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, 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. Further, the fiscal note assumes the bill will not be funded in FY 2020-21.

## **State Revenue**

Should the General Assembly appropriate funds for the Eagle Pass, the bill decreases cash fund revenue to the Department of Natural Resources by \$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**

Should the General Assembly appropriate funds for the Eagle Pass, the bill increases state General Fund costs in the Department of Natural Resources by \$35,957 annually. 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>Annual Cost</b>
<b>Department of Natural Resources</b>	
Personal Services	\$9,704
Backfill foregone revenue	\$22,595
Centrally Appropriated Costs*	\$3,658
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$35,957</b>
<b>Total 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 \$3,658 in FY 2021-22 and future years.

## **Effective Date**

The bill takes effect on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the General Assembly if no referendum petition is filed.

**State and Local Government Contacts**

Information Technology      Natural Resources