

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

Current law provides fee entrance into any Minnesota State Park to any Minnesota resident who is a veteran with a 100% total and permanent service-connected disability rating, as determined by the US/VA.

This bill would extend that privilege to non-Minnesota residents with the same 100% total and permanent disability rating from the US/VA.

The Minnesota DNR website lists the current fees for admission of a vehicle into a Minnesota State Park as:

\$5 – Daily permit

\$12 – Minnesota annual permit for persons with disabilities

\$25 – Annual regular permit

Note: By way of comparison, many or most national parks regularly charge a vehicle access fee of \$25 per week, plus a camping fee of \$14 per day. However, the U.S. Park Service provides an *Access Pass* free of charge to all disabled veterans (at any disability rating), providing full access without fee to any national park, national monument or national recreation area, along with a discount for certain activities within those facilities (e.g., camping, and certain other events).