

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version	CSSB 13(FIN)
Fiscal Note Number	2
(S) Publish Date	2/6/12

Identifier (file name)	CSSB013-DNR-PM-1-27-12	Dept. Affected	Natural Resources
Title	Waive park fees for disabled vets	Appropriation	Parks & Recreation Management
		Allocation	Parks Management
Sponsor	Senator French		
Requester	Senate Resources Committee	OMB Component Number	3001

Expenditures/Revenues	(Thousands of Dollars)
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Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	FY13 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY13 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
			FY13	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16
OPERATING EXPENDITURES							
Personal Services		206.0					
Travel							
Services	6.0		6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
Commodities	4.0		4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Capital Outlay							
Grants, Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
TOTAL OPERATING	10.0	206.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0

FUND SOURCE		(Thousands of Dollars)					
1002	Federal Receipts						
1003	GF Match						
1004	GF	216.0		216.0	216.0	216.0	216.0
1005	GF/Prgm (DGF)	(206.0)	206.0	(206.0)	(206.0)	(206.0)	(206.0)
1037	GF/MH (UGF)						
1178	temp code (UGF)						
TOTAL		10.0	206.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0

POSITIONS							
Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							
CHANGE IN REVENUES 1005		(206.0)	(206.0)	(206.0)	(206.0)	(206.0)	(206.0)

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY12) operating costs 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY13) costs 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)

A previous fiscal note for this proposed legislation was submitted by the department 3/18/2011 and included an estimate of revenue loss of \$252.0. This figure included combined revenue loss from day use, boat launch and dump station fees (\$160.0) and public use cabin reservation fees (\$92.0). An amendment to SB 13 approved by the Senate Resource committee changed the fee exemption for public use cabin reservations from 100% to 50%. The previous fiscal note included a one time \$10.0 in services to make programming changes to the online cabin reservation system.

Prepared by	Ben Ellis, Director	Phone 269-8700
Division	Parks and Outdoor Recreation	Date/Time 1/27/12 / 9:00 AM
Approved by	Daniel S. Sullivan, Commissioner	Date 1/27/2012
	Department of Natural Resources	

Analysis

Current statute provides that the “department shall issue free of charge to disabled veterans of this country an annual state park developed campsite permit” (AS 41.21.026(d)). The department issued a total of 2,962 DAV camping passes in 2010 and 2011.

The version of SB 13 that advanced from the Senate Resources committee on January 19, 2012 provides for an exemption to disabled veterans for 50% of fees for a public use cabin reservation. In addition, SB 13 would expand the exemption from state park fees for disabled veterans to include the following:

- Use of an RV dump station
- Admission or guided tours to a visitor center or historic site
- Use of an improved boat ramp
- Day use and
- Attendance at educational programs

This proposed legislation will result in an estimated loss of \$206.0 in fee revenue. This includes a loss of \$160.0 in day use, boat launch and dump station fees and \$46.0 in public use cabin reservation fees. This fiscal note includes \$206.0 in general funds to replace the anticipated loss in fee revenue and to allow the same level of service to be provided by state park staff. If the loss in fee revenue is not replaced, the division could lose approximately three positions that provide direct service to the public.

The fee exemptions provided for in this proposed legislation will be administered in the same way as the camping passes in order to prevent fraud. That is, disabled veterans will be asked to provide documentation of their status in person at one of the department’s public information centers. The \$6.0 services cost is for the administration of the fee exemption program. The \$4.0 in commodities is an estimate of the cost of making a tag to hang on a vehicle’s rear view mirror when the disabled veteran visits a state park facility that is road accessible and charges a fee.

The number of disabled veterans receiving free overnight camping passes has increased an average of 10% over the past four years.